EMERSON VALLEY INFORM

Issue 9: Friday 6th November 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we begin our first week back after half term, it has been wonderful to see the children settle quickly back into their routines and demonstrate such enthusiasm for learning. Our Year 4 pupils have particularly enjoyed their recent visit to **Bradwell Abbey**, where they consolidated their learning about the Romans through a range of engaging activities. Thank you to families who continue to support school visits and experiences. A gentle reminder that contributions towards trips help us to continue providing these valuable opportunities, which enrich our curriculum and bring learning to life for our children.

As we head closer to Winter, **we have been asked by the NHS to remind all Parents and Carers that all school aged children are offered a free Flu vaccine through school**. Flu is highly contagious and can spread quickly through schools and households. Vaccination helps reduce the risk of children becoming seriously unwell, missing valuable time in education, and passing the virus on to others. It also helps protect elderly relatives, vulnerable family members, and those who are unable to receive the vaccination themselves. **The next clinic at EVS is on 30th November.**

Today your child will have had their **individual school photograph taken**. They will come home with a QR code which will enable you to view and order their photograph online. Please allow a couple of days for the image to be uploaded to the website. If you are unable to view their photograph on the website by Monday, please contact a member of the office team who will be happy to help with this.

Next Friday, 13th November, we will be supporting **Children in Need** and invite children to come to school in their own clothes. There is no specific theme, although children are very welcome to wear spots if they wish! Families can make a donation via the **Arbor Shop**, with a suggested donation of **£1**. If you would like to donate more, simply select and purchase multiple donation items. **Please do not send cash into school.** Thank you for your support in helping us raise funds for this worthwhile cause.

Have a good weekend!

Mrs White

Executive Headteacher

Anti-Bullying Week



On Monday 16th November, we will be celebrating **Odd Socks Day** to mark the start of **Anti-Bullying Week 2026**. Children and staff are encouraged to wear odd socks to celebrate what makes us all unique. This year's theme, **'Break the Silence'**, encourages everyone to speak up, listen to others and take positive action to create a kinder and more inclusive community where bullying is never ignored. We look forward to seeing everyone's colourful and creative socks!

🧦 Check out the Antibullying 'Design a Poster Competition' that our Antibullying Ambassadors are running attached separately to this newsletter.

Christmas card competitions

Children have the opportunity to take part in two exciting Christmas card competitions this year. The first is the Mayor of Milton Keynes Christmas Card Competition, where pupils can design a festive card for the chance to have their artwork used by the Mayor, with the winning design also being printed and sold to raise funds for MK Food Bank. More information can be found here. We will be submitting entries directly from school, and these must come to Mrs Avola by 12th November. If you wish to submit your own entry, the deadline is 15th November. In addition, all pupils will be creating festive card designs through Purple Mash as part of the national 'Festive Card' competition. Winning entries will become official festive cards, with prizes including printed copies of the card, an Amazon voucher and a goody bag. The competition closes on 20th November 2026. Details of this are attached to this newsletter.

Changes to First Aid



As mentioned in the newsletter before half term, we are now using **Smartlog** to record first aid incidents electronically. Parents will receive an **email notification** whenever first aid has been administered to their child in school. We will continue to contact Parents by telephone if a child requires further medical attention, has sustained a significant head injury, or where an incident needs to be discussed in more detail. **Please ensure the email address held by the school is up to date so that you can receive these notifications.**

Gold Award Winners

Year 3: Chukwudum (Sunflowers), Janelle (Snapdragons), Kaleah (Bluebells)
Year 4: Luca (Eagles), Ayra & George (Flamingos), Veer (Penguins), Affan (Swifts)
Year 5: Scarlett (Turtles), Cruz (Axolotls), Bree (Orcas), Finley (Jellyfish)
Year 6: Natasha (Attenborough), Ovindhi (Parks), Mya (Luther King), Samu (Darwin)
Music: Rumeysa (Bluebells), Valentina (Swifts), Clayton (Turtles), Millie (Attenborough)
PE: Edy (Sunflowers), Ruby (Flamingos), Ivy-Rose (Axolotls), Benicio (Attenborough)





ROYAL BRITISH LEGION
POPPY APPEAL 2026

PAPER POPPIES: 50P
FABRIC WRIST BANDS: £1
WRIST SLAP BANDS: £1.50
PENCILS: £1
REFLECTIVE KEYRING POPPY: £1

LEST WE FORGET
11 NOVEMBER

Emerson Valley

Attendance winners

1st – Swifts
2nd – Bluebells
3rd – Axolotls





ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

POSTER COMPETITION

SMALL ACTIONS MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE

KINDNESS INCLUDES EVERYONE

BE AN UPSTANDER NOT A BYSTANDER



SPEAK UP

Be a friend ♥ Be kind ♥ Be the change



STAND TOGETHER

Create a poster that celebrates our motto:

'Be an Upstander not a Bystander'

Show us what it means to stand up, speak out and make a positive difference!

A4

All entries to be on A4 paper.



Hand your entry to your class teacher.

DEADLINE:

WEDNESDAY 18TH NOVEMBER

LET'S MAKE A KINDER, SAFER SCHOOL TOGETHER!

KEY DATES

November & December 2026

Lots of exciting events coming up!

LEARN BELIEVE ACHIEVE TOGETHER

A BRIGHTER FUTURE TOGETHER

NOVEMBER 2026

6 Nov	Individual School photographs at EVS
11 Nov	Individual School photographs at Merebrook
13 Nov	Children In Need – non-uniform day
16 Nov	Odd Socks Day for Anti-Bullying Week
18 Nov	Year 3 Stone Age Day Year 3 movie night until 5pm
19 Nov	Year 4 movie night until 5pm
20 Nov	Prospective Parents' tours: Merebrook 9:30am Emerson Valley 10:15am
25 Nov	Year 5 movie night until 5pm Flu vaccinations at Merebrook
26 Nov	Year 6 movie night until 5pm
30 Nov	Flu vaccinations at Emerson Valley

DECEMBER 2026

1 Dec	Christmas discos: Year 3/4 4:30–5:30pm Year 5/6 6:00–7:00pm
3 Dec	Year 6 Coding workshop
7 Dec	Year 3 Nativity for Parents and Carers with pre-school aged children only
8 Dec	EYFS Christmas performance 9:00am Year 3 Nativity for Parents of Sunflowers and Cherry Blossoms at 2pm
9 Dec	Year 1 and 2 Carols in the Playground 2:30pm
10 Dec	Year 3 Nativity for Parents and Carers of Snapdragons and Bluebells at 2pm Year 5 and 6 Carols in the Playground 3:35pm
11 Dec	Rock Steady concert for Parents 2pm
15 Dec	Christmas Shop MB and EVS Christmas Dinner
16 Dec	Pantomime for both schools – The Wizard of Oz and Christmas jumper day

Don't forget!

Check Arbor regularly for updates and more information!

KIND RESPECTFUL SAFE A TEAM

LEARN ★ CELEBRATE ★ PERFORM ★ HAVE FUN

WE HAVE SO MUCH TO LOOK FORWARD TO THIS TERM!