



The Ransom Round Up

[Please click here to find out what is coming up next week.](#)

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a fantastic first week of the new school year we have had! It has been an absolute pleasure welcoming all the children back, seeing their smiling faces and watching them settle so quickly and happily into their new routines.

As we look ahead, we also want to celebrate the remarkable Key Stage 2 achievements of our outgoing Year 6 pupils. Our children performed brilliantly, outperforming Hertfordshire and national benchmarks across reading, writing, maths and GPS (SPAG).

Expected Standard (EXS+)

Reading: School 89% (Herts 78.0% | National 75.1%)

Writing: School 88% (Herts 72.2% | National 72.3%)

Maths: School 86% (Herts 75.6% | National 74.0%)

GPS / SPAG: School 89% (Herts 75.7% | National 72.6%)

Greater Depth Standard (GDS)

Reading: School 50% (Herts 39.1% | National 33.3%)

Writing: School 15% (Herts 15% | National 12.8%)

Maths: School 41% (Herts 30.0% | National 26.3%)

GPS / SPAG: School 40% (Herts 33.9% | National 29.6%)

Crucially, success like this takes a whole-school effort: a huge thank you to every teacher and support staff member who worked with these children over their seven years with us, laying the vital foundations for this achievement. Well done to all!

Alongside these academic successes, our playground has enjoyed a wonderful upgrade with the installation of our new Children's Scrapstore PlayPod over the summer break. The Scrapstore collects safe, clean, non-toxic commercial surplus - like tubes, crates, and fabric - diverting it from landfill into an exciting loose-parts treasure trove for open-ended creative play. We would love you to see it in action, so please join us for a whole-school Stay and Play session on Friday 11th September from 3:20 pm to 4:00 pm for our official PlayPod launch. Our annual dates list for the year ahead will be sent out on Monday 14th September, alongside links to the class curriculum guides.

Thank you for a wonderful start to the term, and here's to a fantastic year ahead!

Mr Plunkett

A Huge Thank You to Our Amazing Community!

A massive thank you goes out to all the wonderful parents and carers who have kindly donated items to Year 2 recently. Your generosity makes a world of difference to our learning environment! A special mention must go to Marlow Dairy, who very generously supplied us with 10 crates, which are already being put to fantastic use. At this stage, our Year 2 classrooms are fully stocked and we do not need any further donations - unless anyone happens to have access to used car tyres, which we would still love to get our hands on!

We would also like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Accord Engineering right here in Hitchin. When the metal doors for our new PlayPod arrived and didn't quite fit, their team came to our rescue. They expertly laser-cut both doors so they fit perfectly, and generously did so completely free of charge. We are so grateful for their kindness and community spirit in helping us get the PlayPod ready for the children!