



MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

Investigators (Y4) have now completed their intensive swimming lessons with some amazing improvements. There was lots of excitement yesterday for the life saving skills sessions and for the children to wear their clothes in the swimming pool! Investigators are now looking a little tired and, I think, ready for half term.

Thank you to Mrs Davenport for organising and the parents and grandparents who all helped to make our International Day this year so stimulating. The children had the opportunity to hear and learn about German, Spanish, Polish, Mandarin, Hungarian and more. The children were language detectives collecting information and completing tasks in their 'passports'. We are so lucky to have such a range of languages amongst our staff and parents and who are willing to contribute to this enjoyable day.

Zogs (Y1) had a wonderful toy workshop from History Off the Page on Tuesday. There was an incredible array of old toys for the children to see and use. Maybe we will see a resurgence in these as the use of screens declines! The children were excited to share their learning with me and show what they had made.

It was lovely to see all our parents and carers attending parents evening this week, checking out the learning their children have already taken part in this term and catching up with class teachers.

And finally, thank you all for a great start to this academic year particularly with ensuring children are in school every day. As you may have noticed, our attendance percentages have been in the high 90s which is great to see and more importantly will mean children will get the best out of their learning.

Tracey Berry

DATES FOR THE DIARY

October 2026

26—30

Half Term

November 2026

Mon 2—Fri 6

Y5 Bikeability

Thu 5

Y5/6 Girls Football tournament at The Grove

Fri 6, 9:15

Reception Open Morning (for Sept 2027)

Fri 6, 11:30

Y5/6 Tag Rugby at Harpenden Rugby Club

Tue 10, 9:15

Reception Open Morning (for Sept 2027)

Tue 10

Y6 Remembrance LIVE event

Wed 11

Remembrance Day

Wed 11

Flu vaccinations

Wed 11

Y5/6 Cross Country at Wheathampstead Warriors

Thu 12

Y6 Basketball tournament at Oaklands College

Fri 13

Children in Need

Mon 16

Odd Socks Day

Mon 16

Anti-Bullying week

Tue 17

Y5/6 Netball v Kings (H)

Wed 18

Y2 Castle workshop

Thur 19, 9:15

Reception Open Morning (for Sept 2027)

Thur 19

Y5/6 Boys Football v Kings (H)

Thur 19

Y1 Parent Consultations (rescheduled)

Mon 23

Maths week

Tue 24

Van Cols (individual photos)

Tue 24

Y5/6 Netball v The Grove (A)

Thur 26

Y5/6 Football v The Grove (A)

December 2026

Tue 1, 14:00 & 19:00

Y3/4 Christmas concert

Tue 8, 14:30

Reception Nativity

Wed 9, 09:00

Nursery Jingle and Mingle

Tue 15, 14:00

Y1/2 Christmas play

Wed 16

Y1-Y6 Panto

Fri 18, 13:15

End of Term

SPOTLIGHT ON GOVERNORS



Three of our new governors popped into school for International Day and were able to experience first hand this fabulous opportunity to expose the children to different languages, educators and stories.

THE LEA PTA

Last chance to buy tickets for the Fireworks Night on Sunday 1st November at Harpenden Rugby Football Club, using The Lea's dedicated link: [Buy now – HRFC Fireworks – Harpenden Rugby Football Club](#) which means that 25% of ticket sales comes back to the Lea School Association to support the school. There is an Early Bird discount available until midnight on 23 October – don't miss out! Please share with friends & family. Further details can be found on the poster at the end of this newsletter.

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE



Our attendance target is 97%.

Total attendance for last week was 98.32%.

SCHOOL NEWS

Roman Shields On Monday, the children in year 4 took their history learning outside to practise battle formations as soldiers in the Roman Army! Using shields that were created as part of the half term's home learning, they created four different battle formations and tried marching together. It was a great opportunity to recap their learning this half term and their trip to Verulamium. Thanks to all parents who supported the children to make such fantastic shields - they really were impressive!



International Day On Wednesday, the children took part in our International Day. Each class learned about a different country, and enjoyed learning activities about the culture, language and other interesting facts. Yr3-6 inclusive experienced a Language Lab, taking part in language classes; Spanish, German, Hungarian and Mandarin were all offered this year. Throughout the day, parent/carer volunteers visited to read stories to the classes in a range of different languages, including French, Polish, Spanish and Gujarati - it was lovely to see the children making links between other languages that they know. Very many thanks to JugArte Harpenden, the Saturday Spanish school at the Lea, and to all our visitors who came in to read to the children.

Lunch menu on Arbor The new menu, which starts on Monday 2nd November is now available, and lunch choices can be made on Arbor. Please ensure that a lunch choice is made for your child (including home packed lunch) for the start of the next half term.

Y5 Bikeability Reminder that Year 5 pupils will need to bring their bikes in for Monday 2nd November.

Secondary school applications Reminder that the deadline to apply for a Secondary School place is Saturday 31st October.

Harvest Festival Thank you for your kind donations, these were collected on Wednesday by The Salvation Army in Harpenden, who were extremely grateful for The Lea's support.

Poppy Appeal We will be selling poppies from Monday 2nd November.

The Lea Club Holiday club Noah's Ark are running their holiday club over October half term. Bookings are now open on Arbor. You will need to ensure that there are funds available in the After School Club account on Arbor. If you pay through tax-free childcare, please raise this so it can be processed in time, before half term.

All About Family You may find the following e-magazine interesting [National Magazine – All About Family Magazine](#)

TEAM POINTS

Ruby and **Topaz** were the winning teams this week. Well done!

Nursery

Samuel

For always being so kind and helpful in Nursery.

Reception

Laila

For showing lovely manners to all adults.

Year 1

The Whole Class

For fantastic learning in their History of Toys workshop.

Year 2

Eden

For her beautiful lion painting.

Year 3

Trevor

For his enthusiasm and focus in our Geography lessons.

Year 4

The Whole Class

For great teamwork and focus recreating Roman Battle formations.

Year 5

Jake

For excellent contributions in class.

Year 6

Harriet and Matty

For working so hard with their writing.

Sports

Ane (Year 3)

For doing her best in all PE lessons and really excelling with her Football.

Antonio (Year 3)

For trying his best and being involved in all PE lessons.

OUR CLASS WORD OF THE WEEK

Nursery

knead

Year 2

legacy

Year 5

beckoned

Reception

pumpkin

Year 3

contracting

Year 6

deviate

Year 1

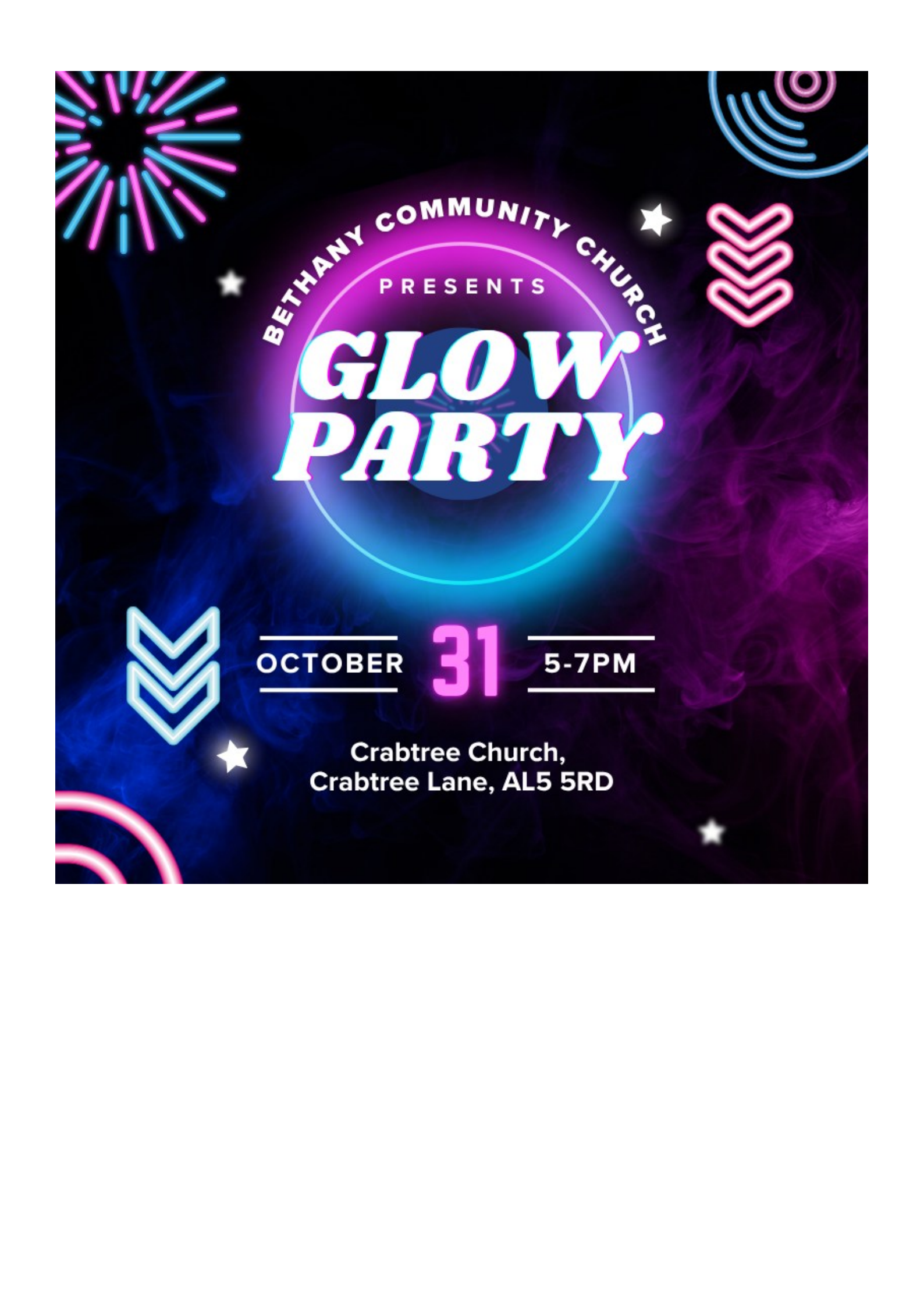
ancient

Year 4

empathise

Kindlink donations Donations to our school can be made through Kindlink (please click on the Kindlink logo below). Donations can be a one off payments or monthly donations, all are welcome and are gratefully received.





BETHANY COMMUNITY CHURCH
PRESENTS

GLOW PARTY



OCTOBER

31

5-7PM

Crabtree Church,
Crabtree Lane, AL5 5RD



WHO

Ages 5-11

WHAT

Come join us for a fun evening full of crafts, games, food and glow sticks.



WHEN

Saturday 31st Oct | 5-7pm

WHERE

Crabtree Church, Crabtree Lane
Harpenden, AL5 5RD

WEAR

Neon, white or bright colours

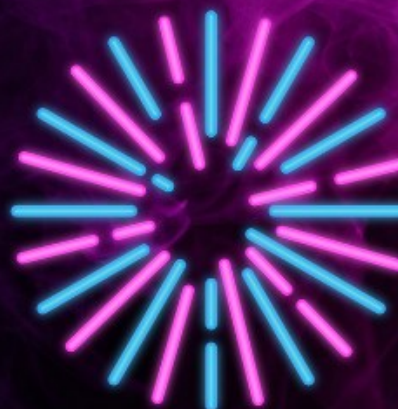
£2

Suggested Donation

Free subsidised tickets available



supported by
Harpenden County Council



**Be.
CC**

FIREWORKS NIGHT

Sun 1st Nov @ Harpenden Rugby Football Club



Early Bird discount available
until midnight 23rd Oct

Don't
miss out!

Buy tickets via our link



buytickets.at/hrfc/2437687/r/lea



Big fireworks



Fairground



Food & drinks



Shuttle from town



25% comes back to The Lea School Association
to support the Lea!

Please share with friends, family & any local WhatsApp groups!



The Mayor of Harpenden's CHRISTMAS CARD DESIGN COMPETITION

Are you a budding Harpenden artist aged 4-11?
Would you like to design the Town Mayor's official
Christmas Card and turn on Harpenden's Christmas
Lights with the Mayor?

Then get creative and send in your design on
A4 paper (with your name, age and school on
the back) and deliver or post to: The Mayor's
Secretary, Harpenden Town Council, Town
Hall, Leyton Road, Harpenden, AL5 2LX by
Friday 6 November.
Good Luck!

Are you looking for work?

We are looking to recruit Cleaning Operatives in the local area.

Shift times:

15.15 - 18.30 , Monday to Friday at £12.71 per hour



If you believe you are the right person
for this role, please contact **Recruitment.**

on **01753 323 227**

or email

recruitment@haywardservices.co.uk