

# Headteacher's Newsletter

28th November 2025 - Edition 25



Dear Parents/Carers and Families,

This time of year has its own feel in school. Coats piled by radiators, glitter beginning to appear in strange places and pupils switching between bursts of energy and tired end-of-term faces (although we're only half way!). There has been plenty going on, plenty worth celebrating and a few reminders that help us keep things steady as we move towards December. Here is everything you need to know from the past fortnight.

## Poppy Appeal Fundraiser

Our Poppy Appeal collection reached £319.58. Families gave generously, and pupils treated the whole process with maturity. Older children helped younger ones choose their poppies and wear them with care. It was a small but meaningful reminder of the thoughtfulness we see across school.

## WhatsApp Groups

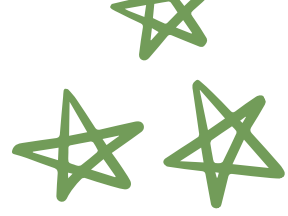
We need to remind parents again about the purpose of WhatsApp groups. These chats are for simple information sharing only: dates, reminders and quick checks. They are not the place to discuss individual staff or children. When this happens, it causes harm and forces the school to take formal action. Any concern about teaching, behaviour or wellbeing must come straight to us so it can be dealt with properly. We will not respond to issues raised through group chats, and continued misuse will be followed up.

# Big Breakfast Bash

Wraparound Club's **Big Breakfast Bash** brought a lively start to the morning. Pupils arrived buzzing, took part in the **Wake Up Disco, go karting and laser tag**, then settled into pancakes, waffles, toast and a few extra breakfast choices. Children had lots of fun, and enjoyed a positive start to the day! We plan to run the next Bash during the spring term and build on what worked so well this time. If you're interested in a regular place at breakfast club for your child, please contact the school office for more information.



# Snow Procedures



The weather has really turned cold this week, with snow in some parts of the country. This is a good time to remind you all of the Snow Procedures. In terms of future adverse weather, I will always try and keep the school open if I can safely do so. To do this, I not only have to assess the school and the local area (in terms of children getting safely to school), but also, I must consider how many staff can travel in from further afield in order to safely supervise classes.

## **Depending on the weather, we will do one of the following:**

- Remain open
- Full school closure
- Partial school closure (e.g. certain classes closing)
- Late start time/early pick up

For adverse weather, we will send a parent mail to let you know which of these is in place. We will also put this on our 'Latest News' part of the website.

Please make sure children are wearing appropriate clothes, especially in snowy weather.

# Reception Film Club

Our Reception children are invited to a Fun Film Club on **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December, from 3:15 to 4:00pm**. Children will be watching a short film favourite in the hall and will be given a snack and drink.

We find at this age, staying too long after school can be really unsettling for children, which is why we are keeping it short, but we are keen for them to enjoy their own special event. Tickets cost £3.00 each and bookings should be made via ScoPay.



# Christmas Events

**Wednesday 3rd December - 1:00pm** Y3 to HTLC Carol service at St. John's Church

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December** - Reception Class Film Club

**Tuesday 9th December - 2:30pm:** Reception Class Nativity - EYFS parents - email will be sent about tickets.

**Wednesday 10th December - 9:30am** Reception Class Nativity - EYFS parents - email will be sent about tickets.

**Thursday 11th December** - Christmas Jumper Day - £1 to wear uniform bottoms and Christmas jumper for Save the Children

**Thursday 11th December - 9:15am:** KS1 Carol Concert for Year 1 parents

**Thursday 11th December - 10:00am:** - Elder Class + Some Y5 to Allenbrook Nursing home (EH + HF)

**Thursday 11th December - 2:30pm:** KS1 Carol Concert for Y2 parents

**Thursday 11th December** - Christmas Dinner - Book on SchoolGrid

**Friday 12th December - 9:05am:** KS2 Christmas Carol Singalong for Y3 - Y6 on Jack in the Box Playground

**Monday 15th December - pm:** EYFS Christmas Party

**Tuesday 16th December - pm:** Y1+Y2 Christmas Party

**Wednesday 17th December - 9:05am:** Special Mentions Assembly - Invited parents

**Wednesday 17th December - pm:** Y3+Y4 Christmas Party

**Thursday 18th December - pm:** Y5+Y6 Christmas Party

**Friday 19th December - 2:30pm:** Carol Concert - Children only.

**Friday 19th December - 3:15am:** Brass band to play parents and children out of school for the holidays.

For Christmas parties, children can come to school in their party clothes, but please make sure clothes and footwear are appropriate for the weather and playing outside at playtime.

# From the School Council: Sharing Pupil Voices

Our **School Council** recently met to discuss what pupils are enjoying about school at the moment, and we wanted to share their thoughts with parents. Children commented that the school environment looks fantastic and feels welcoming, making it a great place to learn. They are especially impressed with the new school library, describing it as “amazing” and loving the chance to explore, find books, and enjoy reading.

Pupils also highlighted the “**I Am a Clever Writer**” approach, saying it has boosted their confidence in English lessons and made them more enthusiastic about learning. Many are looking forward to their Star Write lessons each week, feeling inspired and motivated.

The new **Track-It** system was another big hit. Children said it gives them clearer guidance about positive and negative behaviour, which has helped improve conduct around the school and in lessons. They also appreciate that parents now have a better insight into their behaviour through the app.

We are thrilled to hear that pupils are enjoying these changes and hope this gives parents a sense of how their children are experiencing school life.



# Christmas Tree Festival

The Christmas tree festival returns to St. Paul's Church this weekend. It is open from Friday 10am-6pm, Saturday 10am-6pm and Sunday 11:30-6pm. Hurst Green is displaying our 'Tree of Compassion', an idea from Jack, one of our Y6 prefects. Thank you to all of the children who contributed to our beautiful tree!



# Annual Anti-Bullying Survey

This year's survey shows a clear step forward. More children say they enjoy school, feel safe and feel part of the community. Fewer pupils are dealing with name calling, being left out or physical behaviour, and more of them trust that staff step in when needed. Children also showed a stronger understanding of what bullying looks like and what to do if something feels wrong. School Council will look closely at the results and decide what they want us to focus on next, especially around online behaviour and how pupils support one another.



## Year 1 Reading Breakfast

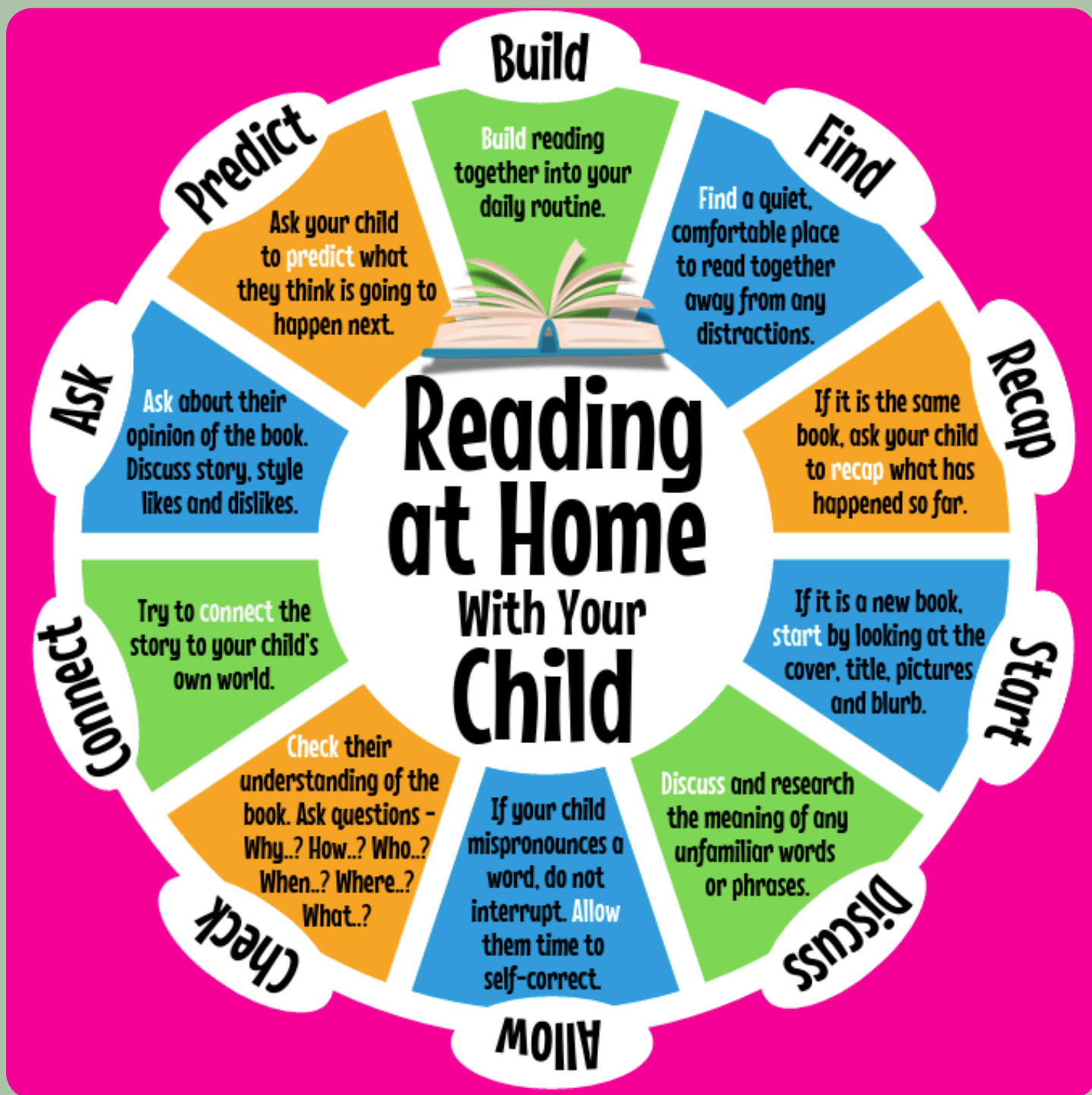
The **Year 1 Reading Breakfast** will take place on **Tuesday, 2nd December, from 9:00-9:30am** in the school hall, and all Y1 parents are warmly invited to join us. This special event is a lovely opportunity for families to share books together and help foster a lifelong love of reading. Children can also enjoy making their own bookmarks, and refreshments will be available. We're also delighted to have some of our school prefects supporting the event and sharing a few of their favourite stories with the children. We're pleased to share that reading breakfasts for other year groups will also be taking place throughout 2026. We look forward to seeing you there!



## Importance of Reading at Home

Regular shared reading has one of the biggest impacts on children's learning. National research shows that pupils **who read with an adult at least four times a week make significantly faster progress in vocabulary and comprehension, often the equivalent of nine additional months by the end of primary school.** Ten minutes a day is enough to shift confidence, language development and long-term attainment. Any book counts - picture books, comics, chapter stories or information texts - the gains come from the routine and the conversation that follows.





[Link to the image source](#)

Have a wonderful weekend!  
Miss Wilson



## Attendance 17.11.25 - 28.11.25



Apple - 92.5%



Cedar - 94.83%



Hawthorn - 93%



Pine - 89.67%



Apricot - 89.5%



Cherry - 91.33%



Hazel - 92.14%



Poplar - 96.83



Beech - 97.5%



Elder - 95.17%



Larch - 98.98%



Lime - 95.17%



Birch - 96.38%



Elm - 94.83%



Well Done  
Larch Class!

## House Points



5461



4985



5252



5119

### Mentions Week 1

Apple - Toby  
 Apricot - Olivia & Jagger  
 Beech - Emily  
 Birch - Amy  
 Cedar - Ava  
 Cherry - Haroon  
 Elder - Rosie  
 Elm - Lucy  
 Hawthorn - Elsie  
 Hazel - Eddie & Otis  
 Larch - Logan  
 Lime - Zayyan  
 Pine - Ronnie  
 Poplar - Daniyal

### Mentions Week 2

Apple - Amira  
 Apricot - Aoife & Zahaan  
 Beech - Samuel  
 Birch - Bella  
 Cedar - Haadiy  
 Cherry - Elijah  
 Elder - Tillie-Mae  
 Elm - Eva  
 Hawthorn - Waania  
 Hazel - Joel  
 Larch - Amelia  
 Lime - Reegan  
 Pine - Stanley  
 Poplar - Jaynie