

# Headteacher's Newsletter

6th February 2026 - Edition 28



Dear Parents/Carers and Families,

This is our final newsletter before half term. We are nearly there! A quick reminder that school closes for children on **Thursday 12th February**, as Friday is an INSET day. We hope families enjoy a slower morning or two and a bit of winter sunshine if we are lucky. We look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready for the second half of the term

## Reception Class - Fairytale Fun

On Tuesday, Reception classes hosted a fairy-tale fun afternoon and it was every bit as wholesome as it sounds. Children performed a short show for parents before everyone stayed to decorate gingerbread men together. There was impressive icing technique, generous sprinkle use and lots of proud smiles. Thank you to all the families who joined us — the hall was full of warmth and slightly sticky fingers.



## Big Breakfast Bash

On Friday 30th January we held our second Big Breakfast Bash at Wrap Club. Children enjoyed a special breakfast before launching into den building and a highly competitive game of The Floor is Lava, led by Karl from **Active Bodies 4 Focused Minds**. It was an energetic start to the day and a lovely way to build friendships across year groups. The next special session will take place on **Friday 20th March** next half term.



## Parent Governor Elections

We will soon be holding a Parent Governor election. A current parent governor has kindly written a short piece below for anyone curious about the role and what it involves. If you have ever wondered how decisions are made or fancied having a voice in school life, this is a meaningful way to get involved. Full nomination details will be shared by email after half term.

**'Being a parent governor is a great way to contribute to the school community and help shape its direction. Governors work as a team to support the school, ask questions, and make sure every child gets the best possible education. You don't need any special experience — just an interest in the school and a willingness to get involved. Training and support are provided, and the commitment is manageable alongside family life. You don't need to be an expert, just a parent who wants to help make our school the best it can be for all our children.'**

**Mrs Church - Parent Governor**



## Reminder - Children's Mental Health Week

During the last week of this half term, we are delighted to be once again marking **Children's Mental Health Week**, a national awareness week focused on supporting children's emotional wellbeing.


This year's theme is **"This Is My Place"**, which explores how feeling a sense of belonging (to ourselves, our friendships, our school, and our wider community) plays a vital role in children's mental health. This links closely with our whole-school attendance message of **"We Belong"**, and combines our **Safer Internet Day**, where children will explore belonging and safety through appropriate-technology/ online spaces.

The week will begin with a whole-school launch assembly, followed by a range of class-based activities designed to help children reflect on what helps them feel safe, valued, and included at school. Some of this work will contribute towards a whole-school display celebrating their belonging.

To mark the end of the week, we will be holding a **"Come As Yourself" Day on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February** (the children's final day of this half term before school is closed for our staff INSET day on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February). On this day, children are invited to wear something that makes them feel comfortable, confident, and truly themselves. This might be cosy clothes, cultural dress, favourite colours, or something special to them. There is no pressure to buy anything new; the focus is on celebrating individuality and belonging from what families already have.

## World Book Day - Coming Up

World Book Day is coming up on **Thursday 5th March**. We asked the children how they would like to celebrate. Classes have been voting between ideas such as dressing as a favourite book character, creating a "book in a box," or running a book swap. Once the votes are counted and any passionate debates have settled, we will confirm the plan by email. Democracy, but with more bookmarks!



# “We’re here. We belong.” – Our Approach to Attendance




At our school, “**We’re here. We belong.**” means every child is a valued part of our community. We recognise that attendance is not just about showing up, but in **HOW** we show up. This term, we are introducing ‘We’re here. We belong’ as part of a positive culture change across school, helping us strengthen relationships, build routines, and support good attendance in a consistent and inclusive way. We support children to attend whenever they are well enough and work closely with families when challenges arise, so each child feels welcome and able to succeed. We celebrate the small but meaningful steps, such as improving routines, returning confidently after absence, and building steady habits over time. A strong sense of belonging helps children learn with confidence, and we appreciate families working alongside us to make that happen.

## Community Music Appeal

We are keen to grow music opportunities within our school community. If you have family members or friends who play a musical instrument and would be happy to visit school to share their talent with pupils, we would love to hear from them. Please ask them to email their details to the school office. Short visits often spark big interests — and our pupils are wonderfully appreciative audiences.

## Reminder About Lateness

A gentle but important reminder about punctuality. At present, 30 pupils have been late 10 or more times, and 11 pupils have been late over 20 times. Letters have been sent where patterns are building, as those lost minutes quickly add up. Arriving on time helps children settle calmly, start lessons with their peers and avoid walking into a silent classroom mid-sentence, which no one enjoys.



## Reminder - Smartphone Free Childhood – Parent Presentation

As part of **Safer Internet Day** and during **Children's Mental Health Week**, we will be hosting a **Smartphone Free Childhood** parent presentation on **Tuesday 10th February at 2:30pm** in the school hall. The session will explore how families can support children's wellbeing, sleep, attention, and online safety by thinking carefully about smartphone use. This is an opportunity to hear about the Parent Pact approach, ask questions, and join a growing conversation with other families. We hope this will encourage helpful playground discussions and give parents a chance to reflect on what works best for their own children.

## Dudley Health Update Vaccinations

A free walk in conversation and vaccination clinic offering a range of catch-up vaccinations, including MMR and flu for children and young people, will be available on **Friday 20th February** (during half-term) from 10am - 3pm at Dudley Market Place.

Parents/carers will have the opportunity to come and discuss vaccinations, have any queries answered and if eligible the children can receive their missed vaccination at the time, no appointment required.

The clinic is also offering pertussis and RSV vaccinations for pregnant women, and RSV for eligible older adults along with flu and Covid-19 boosters. This is an ideal opportunity for families to catch-up on any missed vaccinations and get protected ahead of the summer holidays. For more information, [please click here](#).

## New Pencil Cases for Years 1-6

After half term, all children in Years 1 to 6 will receive a school-provided pencil case filled with the resources needed for daily lessons. This means children **no longer need to bring pencil cases from home**. The aim is simple: every child has the right tools, desks are a little less cluttered, and no one is negotiating over a missing glue stick at 9am.

## Parking at Wraparound Drop Off/Pick Up



A polite reminder following the parking email sent earlier this week: please also avoid parking on the yellow markings or directly next to the school car park gates at the start and end of the day, when dropping off and collecting from Wrap. A couple of staff members have shared how difficult visibility becomes when cars are positioned there, particularly when trying to pull out safely. We know pick-up times are busy and no one intends to cause a problem, yet those few metres make a real difference. Thank you for helping keep the entrance clear and safe for children, families and staff.

## Website SEND Information - Parent Survey

We are currently updating the SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) section of our school website and would really value your input.

Our aim is to make sure the information we provide is clear, easy to access and genuinely helpful for families. Whether you have used the SEND section a lot, only briefly, or not at all, your views are incredibly important in helping us understand what works well and what could be improved.


The survey is short and should only take a few minutes to complete. Your feedback will directly shape how we develop this area of the website so that it better supports all of our families.

You can access the survey here: <https://forms.office.com/e/SzqQhc2KX9>

Thank you in advance for taking the time to share your thoughts - your voice really does make a difference.

## British Science Week

We are excited to be celebrating British Science Week 2026, starting Monday 9 March, with this year's theme "Curiosity". We would love to involve parents or carers who work in science, technology, engineering or maths by inviting them into school to speak with pupils about their work. Please see the email being sent out for more information and details on how to get involved.




# Year 5 Trip to Islamic Exhibition

On Tuesday, Year 5 visited the Islamic Exhibition Centre in Birmingham, where they learned about Islamic religion, family life, art and the work of influential Islamic scientists. Staff were extremely proud of their behaviour and the respect they showed while learning about another culture. They represented the school beautifully and returned full of thoughtful questions and interesting facts. Visits like these are an important part of helping children understand the diverse world around them, encouraging curiosity, empathy and mutual respect. Learning about different beliefs and traditions helps pupils grow into thoughtful, informed young people who are able to engage kindly and confidently with others.



## Reading at Home – Survey

Thanks to those of you who have responded to our Reading at Home survey. Early responses have asked for help with selecting books/recommendations. We will be busy working on ways to support families with reading at home, but in the meantime, there is a flyer on the next page with some helpful suggestions on selecting texts.



# How to CHOOSE a Book

A guide to finding  
your next great read!

## BLURB CHECK

Read the blurb to see what the book is about and whether it sounds exciting.

## QUICK FLIP TEST

Flick through to see if the pages look too tricky, too easy, or just right.

## FIRST LINE HOOK

Read the first sentence to see if it grabs your attention straight away.

## TITLE TASTER

Start with the title and see if it makes you curious to find out what the book is about.

## COVER CLUES

Look at the cover picture to spot clues about the story, where it's set and how it might feel.

## FAMILIAR FINDS

Look for authors, series, or characters you have enjoyed before.

## FIRST PAGE PULL

Read the first page and see if it makes you want to turn the next one.

## TOPIC MAGNET

Choose a topic you already love, because interest makes reading easier.

## FIVE-FINGER FIT

Read one page and raise a finger for each tricky word. Five fingers means it's too hard for now.

## FRIEND REVIEW

Ask someone who has already read it whether they'd recommend it and why.

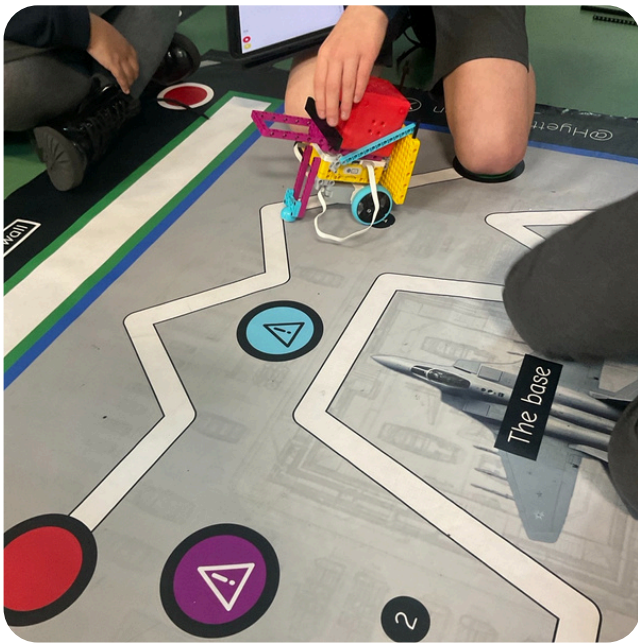
## LENGTH CHECK

Pick a shorter book for a quick win, or a longer one if you want a bigger challenge.

Silly School Education

# KS2 STEM/Robotics Workshops

Today, all KS2 pupils have taken part in an exciting robotics workshop delivered by Hyatt Education. Children worked in teams to design, build and programme their own robots, developing their problem-solving, creativity and coding skills along the way. It was wonderful to see their enthusiasm and teamwork as they brought their ideas to life through technology.



Have a wonderful weekend!  
Miss Wilson



## Attendance 26.01.26 - 06.02.26



Apple - 93.68%



Cedar - 96.14%



Hawthorn - 92.87%



Pine - 93.78%



Apricot - 93.68%



Cherry - 97.02%



Hazel - 95.09%



Poplar - 96.32%



Beech - 95.96%



Elder - 97.37%



Larch - 94.74%



Birch - 97.89%



Elm - 95.61%



Lime - 97.02%



Well Done  
Birch Class!

## House Points



9191



8347



8877



8691

### Mentions Week 1

Apple - Lottie  
 Apricot - Nayab  
 Beech - Brodie  
 Birch - Freddie  
 Cedar - Veer  
 Cherry - Pavan  
 Elder - Arthur  
 Elm - Jianna  
 Hawthorn - Lucas  
 Hazel - Ava & Kayan  
 Larch - Wali  
 Lime - Isabella  
 Pine - Freya  
 Poplar - Kristine

### Mentions Week 2

Apple - Erin  
 Apricot - Dawoud  
 Beech - Ayana  
 Birch - Axel  
 Cedar - Maryam  
 Cherry - Olivia-Grace  
 Elder - Amy  
 Elm - Eli  
 Hawthorn - Ismaeel  
 Hazel - Ava  
 Larch - Aseel  
 Lime - Joshua  
 Pine - Carys  
 Poplar - Seb