

# Headteacher's Newsletter



24th April 2026 - Edition 32

Dear Parents/Carers and Families,



Welcome back after the Easter holidays. It has been lovely to return with a bit of sunshine and those longer, lighter days that make everything feel just that little bit easier. The children have settled quickly back into school life, and there we are already busy and into the swing of a busy and important half term.

## Y2 Trip to Thinktank

Year 2 had a fantastic trip to Thinktank this week, bringing their science learning to life in a hands-on and engaging way. From exploring interactive exhibits to asking thoughtful questions, the children showed real curiosity and enthusiasm throughout the day. Staff were particularly proud of how well they represented the school, both in their behaviour and their willingness to get fully involved. Trips like this make such a difference in helping learning stick.





## Value of the Half Term - Equity

This half term, our whole-school value is equity. Building on our work around collaboration, we will now be focusing on fairness, inclusion and ensuring that everyone has what they need to succeed. Through assemblies and class discussions, children will explore what this looks like in practice and how they can contribute to a community where everyone feels supported and valued.



## Long Lane Library Visits

Year 1 have been making the most of visits to the local library, building excitement around reading and helping children to see themselves as readers beyond the classroom. These visits are a simple but powerful way of encouraging independence and choice in reading, and the children have approached them with real enthusiasm. We will be extending these visits across the school in the coming term.

## PTA Coffee Morning

Thank you to the PTA for hosting a coffee morning this week and for welcoming some new members. It is always encouraging to see our parent community getting involved. There are some exciting events coming up, including Flip and Dippy in June, so please keep an eye on the PTA page and the school calendar for further details. More information will be shared in the coming weeks.

## Mystery Reader

We also had another mystery reader in school last week. It was fantastic to see the children inspired by a male role model who enthusiastically spoke about his love of reading and inspired children with his choice of text. Lots of children then went on to look for this author in our school library! What a fantastic experience to inspire a love of reading!

# Reminder - SEND Information Report Launch



We are excited to announce the launch of our new SEND Information Report developed as part of our work within the PINS project and in consultation with parents. Please feel free to join us in the school hall on **Wednesday 6th May at 8:50am (after drop-off)**. Everyone is welcome, although this will be most relevant to parents of children with additional needs.

The session will include a presentation of the new report followed by an informal parent coffee morning with members of staff, Dudley Parent Carer Forum and PINS representatives.

Further details will be shared after the Easter break. We hope you can join us!

## Allergy Awareness Week

This week is Allergy Awareness Week, a national campaign to raise understanding of allergies and how we can all help keep those affected safe. In school, we take this very seriously. This includes not only food allergies, but also conditions such as hay fever and eczema, which can have a real impact on children's comfort and ability to learn. Staff are vigilant and we work carefully to minimise risks throughout the school day.

A reminder that we are a nut-free school. **Children must not bring nuts or nut-based products, including items such as cereal bars, spreads or marzipan.** Following a recent diagnosis in school, we are also reviewing our procedures and will be introducing a dedicated allergy policy from next academic year. As always, please keep medical information up to date and speak to us if anything changes.

## Orchard Outdoor Development

We are excited to share that work on the Orchard Class development will begin over the half-term break. This project will create a new outdoor learning space alongside a sensory garden, which will be a valuable addition to the school environment. It is designed to support a wide range of needs and provide opportunities for calm, purposeful outdoor learning. We are looking forward to seeing this space take shape.



# Growing Up in the Online World



The UK Government is currently running a national consultation titled "Growing up in the online world", which closes on 26 May 2026.

This consultation is exploring how best to support children as they navigate an increasingly digital world, including:

- potential age restrictions on social media, gaming platforms and AI chatbots
- reducing addictive design features and risky online functions
- improving support for parents and families

We would strongly encourage parents and carers to take part and share their views.

There has been particularly low engagement from fathers so far, so if you are a dad or male carer, your perspective would be especially valuable.

## PTA - Upcoming Events

Our PTA have a number of events coming up this term:

- Wednesday 29th April - Book Sale & Tuck Shop
- Thursday 4th June - Flip & Dippy Show
- Wednesday 1st July - Summer Fair

These events are always well supported and play an important role in raising funds for the school, as well as bringing the community together. We hope to see as many of you there as possible.

## PTA - Meet Ups

Just before the Easter break, families will have received information about the PTA Easter Holiday Meet-Ups, which were a great way to bring people together informally over the holidays.

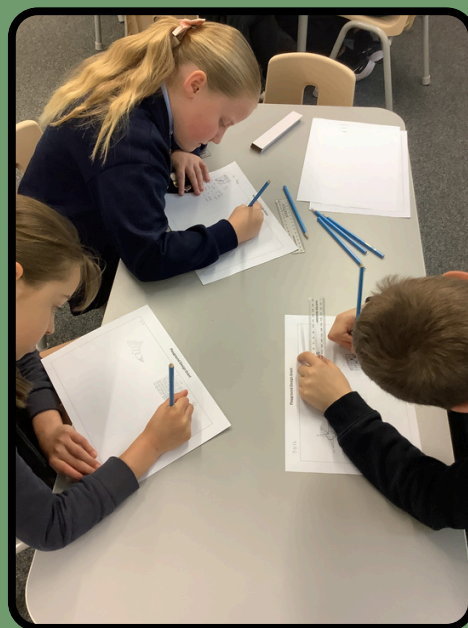
The PTA are currently looking to organise something similar for the May half term, with dates and locations to be confirmed. We'll share full details once everything is finalised, but we're keen to continue building opportunities for families to connect as a school community.

Thanks to the PTA for their hard work in supporting our school.

# School Council – Playground Initiative



This half term, our School Council are turning their attention to improving our outdoor spaces as part of a national playground initiative. They have been gathering ideas from their classes, reviewing our current playground and creating new designs to support a funding application. Their focus has been on making the space more creative, inclusive and engaging, with opportunities for collaboration, imagination and active learning. It has been great to see them take this role so seriously and represent the views of their peers so thoughtfully.



## Mr Tinsley's Football Update



On Monday, we played our final three fixtures of the season, recording two losses and a draw. Although results didn't go our way, the effort and determination from all players was excellent.

I would like to thank every member of the team for their hard work, commitment, and strong team ethic throughout what has been a developmental year. All players have embraced their roles and supported one another, allowing everyone the opportunity to play and develop their skills.













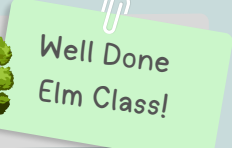



Thank you also to parents for their continued support, particularly with transporting children to and from fixtures. It is greatly appreciated.

A special mention goes to our Year 6 players, who have been fantastic role models. We wish them all the best in their future sporting journeys.

Have a wonderful weekend!  
Miss Wilson



## Attendance 13.04.26 - 24.04.26

 Apple - 93.28%	 Cedar - 97.19%	 Hawthorn - 93.51%	 Pine - 93.28%
 Apricot - 96.84%	 Cherry - 93.68%	 Hazel - 89.12%	 Poplar - 89.65%
 Beech - 97.02%	 Elder - 97.1%	 Larch - 96.84%	  Well Done Elm Class!
 Birch - 93.16%	 Elm - 98.60%	 Lime - 95.96%	

## House Points



13169



12021



12863



12726

### Mentions Week 1

Apple - Rowan  
 Apricot - Micah  
 Beech - Rittal  
 Birch - Aria  
 Cedar - Mikail  
 Cherry - Annie  
 Elder - Tristan  
 Elm - Ava  
 Hawthorn - Yunus  
 Hazel - Senna  
 Larch - Will  
 Lime - Jack  
 Pine - Evie  
 Poplar - Tigerlily

### Mentions Week 2

Apple - Remy  
 Apricot - Rosie  
 Beech - Ayla  
 Birch - Eleanor  
 Cedar - Hania  
 Cherry - Charlie  
 Elder - Ronnie  
 Elm - Emi-Rae  
 Hawthorn - Amelia  
 Hazel - Hashim  
 Larch - Callum  
 Lime - Haden  
 Pine - Grace  
 Poplar - Lyra