

# NEWSLETTER



Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2025

## HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Thank you to everyone who attended our Sports' Day and Family Picnic yesterday. For the third year in a row the weather was extremely kind to us, and it was wonderful to see so many families enjoying a picnic lunch together. The activities were designed so that every child was able to take part in an activity without feeling like they had 'lost' which promotes our school value of inclusivity.

This week in school we have focused, more than usual, on the promotion of positive relationships and anti-bullying. We have developed this through our assemblies, in class teaching, and at break times. It would be naïve of us to say that bullying doesn't happen; however, when it does occur we work extremely hard to address it. Today's newsletter contains some information for parents about supporting children who may be experiencing bullying.

Next week, we have our Year Two's end of key stage assembly, our Year Six Prom and your child's annual school report will be sent home.

With very best wishes

Mr Higgins



# DIARY

w/c 7<sup>th</sup> July Lunch Menu:  
**Week One**

8<sup>th</sup> July

Annual School Reports

10<sup>th</sup> July

Year Two's Class Assembly

11<sup>th</sup> July

PTA: Year Six Prom

16<sup>th</sup> July

Parents' Evening

17<sup>th</sup> July

Reception Class  
Graduation Assembly

18<sup>th</sup> July

Year Six Leavers' Assembly  
and  
Last Day of Summer Term  
for children

21<sup>st</sup> July

Teacher Training Day

## 2025-2026

1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> September  
Teacher Training Day

3<sup>rd</sup> September

First Day of Autumn Term  
for children

23<sup>rd</sup> October

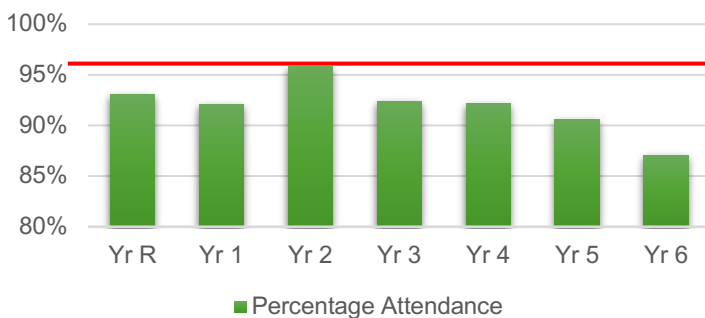
Parents' Evening

24<sup>th</sup> October

Teacher Training Day

## Attendance

w/c 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2025



96% is our **MINIMUM** expectation for attendance.

Did your child's class reach 96% last week?

This year's attendance, to date, is **92%**



Woodcock Hill Primary School

Far Wood Road  
Birmingham B31 1BS

[enquiry@woodcockhillprimaryschool.co.uk](mailto:enquiry@woodcockhillprimaryschool.co.uk)

[www.woodcockhillprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.woodcockhillprimaryschool.co.uk)

0121 675 4130

## Year Six Prom 2025

Our Annual Year Six Prom will take place on 11<sup>th</sup> July. Year Six children can be **collected by an adult** from school at 1.30pm to begin their preparations!

The children should begin to arrive at the Prom for official photographs from **4.45pm**. The car park gates will be open for vehicles to drop the children at the Prom entrance.

The Prom will start at **5pm** and they should be collected at **7pm**. **Children will not be able to leave the Prom without being collected by an adult.**

## Discounted Bus Travel

We thought you might be interested to know that National Express West Midlands are launching a new offer next week, designed to help families save money on their bus travel over the summer holidays.

It's called the "**Family Summer Special**" and gives up to two adults and four children **unlimited** bus travel in the West Midlands throughout the six-week school holidays, for just £75. Currently a day's family travel costs £9.20, so it's a great way to save money for people who are looking to use the bus to get out and about.

**Family Summer Special**

**Unlimited family travel in the school holidays**

Only **£75**

**1000 tickets available**

Only on the mTicket app. Scan to download.

Valid 21st July to 31st August 2025, up to 2 adults and 4 children travelling together. Terms and conditions apply, see app for details.

national express **West Midlands**

## Celebration Assembly

In our assembly today, we celebrated the achievements of:



### Reception

Jamie and Lilly

### Year One

Ariah and Charlie

### Year Two

Ayla and Bareerah

### Year Three

Kyron and Mason

### Year Four

Heaven and Hollie

### Year Five

Clarke and Jewel Rich

### Year Six

Eva and Da'Marion

## Teachers 2025/26

### Early Years Foundation Stage

Reception:

**Mrs Harris and Mrs Winkett**  
with Miss Mills and Mrs Rees

### Key Stage One

**Year One:**  
**Mrs Shannon**  
with Mrs Evans

**Year Two:**  
**Mrs Beranová**  
with Mrs Charles

### Key Stage Two

**Year Three:**  
**Mr Whitcombe**  
with Mrs Cullen and Mrs Meddings

**Year Four:**  
**Mrs Clarson**  
with Miss Tildesley

**Year Five:**  
**Mrs Keating**  
with Mrs Falaschi and Miss Narey

**Year Six:**  
**Mrs Mitchell**  
with Miss Silvester

**Early Years Foundation Stage / Key Stage One / Key Stage Two**

**Launchpad:**

**Mrs Nash**

with Miss Boswell, Miss Croft and Mr Hasnine

**Our School Values: We are respectful, ambitious, creative, inclusive, independent and we persevere.**

# Top Tips for Supporting Children Who Are EXPERIENCING BULLYING

In a DfE survey, 36% of parents said that their child had been bullied in the past year, while 29% of secondary school headteachers reported bullying among students. Public Health England states that young people who maintain positive communication with their family were less likely to experience bullying – so it's important that parents, carers and educators know how to talk to children about bullying.

## 1. WATCH FOR BEHAVIOURAL CHANGES

Children who are experiencing bullying may become quiet, withdrawn, or anxious; however, they may also act on the pain and anger that they're feeling. A shift in attitude towards their existing friends (or not mentioning them any more at all) or alluding to new friendships which seem notably different could also be warning signs. It's important to be alert to such changes and talk to your child about them if they occur.



## 2. THINK THINGS THROUGH

Before acting, ask yourself if this is the right time and place to address concerns about bullying. Might your worries trigger strong feelings – perhaps from your own experiences – that could discourage your child from opening up to you? You could try discussing what you've noticed with another trusted adult who knows your child well.



## 3. BE OPEN AND UNDERSTANDING

Try to outline to your child the changes that you've noticed in their body language, appearance, behaviour, or tone of voice – and do so without sounding judgemental. Help them to describe what they're feeling – be it anger, sadness, fear or something else – as accurately as possible. If they say they're "angry", do they mean "enraged" or "frustrated"? This will help them to understand how they're feeling and why.



## 4. LET THEM SPEAK FREELY

Use open questions and a welcoming tone to encourage your child to talk. Listen closely and summarise what they've said at appropriate points (ideally without interrupting) to demonstrate that you're understanding clearly. Bullying may have undermined your child's sense of control, and they may fear that you'll judge them, overreact or impose consequences – so this conversation can reassure them being honest with you was the right decision.



## 5. CALL A TIME OUT

A conversation about bullying could leave both you and your child feeling distressed. It's important to recognise this and pause at suitable moments to calm down. Take deep breaths, enjoy a hot drink or even have a cathartic cry. This can reinforce trust, while also helping you both feel that you have control over the situation and the emotions that you're feeling.



## 6. STAY INFORMED

Make sure you know your child's school's definition of, response to and relevant contacts for bullying. This information should be in their anti-bullying policy, which ought to be available on the school's website. Class teachers or form tutors are usually the first point of contact, though there may be dedicated support teams or key workers to help your child, depending on the specific situation.



## 7. PREP YOUR CHILD FOR THE RESPONSE

Schools' responses to bullying vary depending on whether they're resolving disagreements and arguments, or addressing unintended verbal or physical harm and so on. It's important to work out with your child whether any harm was intentional, how much control they had over the situation and how often such incidents have occurred. Reporting concerns accurately will get the best outcome for your child more quickly.



## 8. SUMMARISE YOUR CHILD'S EXPERIENCE

When you contact the school, make sure you've precisely described what your child experienced: what happened; when; where; and who was involved. This will help the school to investigate further, identifying any witnesses, as well as those who were directly involved. It can also help the school to know how your child is feeling and how they'd like the matter to be resolved.



## 9. LIAISE WITH THE SCHOOL

Any school has a duty to ensure that the members of its community feel safe and included. It's important for children to learn their role in this. The school must determine how best to restore these feelings of safety and respect. It's often best for schools to keep parents and carers informed of any action taken – and for families to avoid taking matters into their own hands.



## 10. CHECK IN FREQUENTLY

Once the issue has been resolved and the bullying behaviour has stopped, your child may still feel anxious and might find it difficult to rebuild relationships or develop new ones. Parents, carers and the school should all keep an eye on how the child is feeling and acting over the following months. Any relevant information should be shared, so that further support can be planned if necessary.

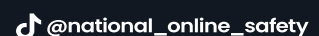


## Meet Our Expert

Bob Basley is the Director of Anti-Bullying Quality Mark-UK, which challenges and supports schools to develop sustainable whole-school approaches to prevent bullying, including working with parents and carers. More than 80 schools in England and Wales currently hold the quality mark.



Source: [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/786040/survey\\_of\\_pupils\\_and\\_their\\_parents\\_or\\_carers-wave-6.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/786040/survey_of_pupils_and_their_parents_or_carers-wave-6.pdf)  
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Our School Values: We are respectful, ambitious, creative, inclusive, independent and we persevere.

## Help Your Child Discover the Joy of Reading This Summer!

This summer, give your child the chance to fall in love with reading! The **Summer Reading Challenge**, created by The Reading Agency and delivered in partnership with public libraries, is a FREE, fun-packed way to keep kids reading and learning all summer long.

This year's theme is **Story Garden**, where imagination blossoms and stories grow! Children will explore creativity, storytelling, and the magic of books through exciting activities and adventures.

### Why Join?

- It's **FREE!** Available at local libraries and online
- Inspires a **lifelong love of reading**
- Boosts **confidence, creativity, and imagination**
- Earn **rewards, certificates, and prizes**
- Fun for the whole **family**. Visit your **local library** together
- **95%** of children said they **read more** after joining!
- Children **choose their own books** to read over the summer, **collect rewards** for each milestone they reach, and **receive a certificate or medal** when they complete the challenge.



Visit your local library or go online at [summerreadingchallenge.org.uk](https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk) to get started from 5 July 2025.

Help your child start their reading adventure today!

## Free Cycling Lessons



Bike Right are offering free cycle lessons during the summer holidays which are funded by Birmingham City Council. They are expecting these free courses to be very popular and suggest booking your space as soon as possible. To book your child's place please follow the link below:

<https://bikeright.co.uk/events?area=birmingham&course=child-group>



## Medieval Day: Weoley Castle

Join Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery staff for a special event where you will learn what life in medieval Birmingham was like. Re-enactors will perform battle displays and there will be guided tours, face painting, Warhammer activities and much, much more!

The Portable Antiques Scheme work to record archaeological objects found by members of the public in England and Wales. They'll bring along some objects and activities to take part in.

The event costs £3.50 per person and will take place on 19<sup>th</sup> July between 11am and 4pm.

Further details and tickets can be found at <https://www.birminghammuseums.org.uk/events/medieval-open-day>

## Bulls in the City

This summer, Birmingham will welcome an exciting new art trail to the city. The iconic **Birmingham Bullring Bull** will be joined by 40 large bull sculptures, as well as around 85 calves. We're keeping their exact locations secret for the moment, but the trail promises to be a fun family activity. It will take families around the city to find one decorated bull after another, with each design created by a local artist or sponsored by a local business.

This art trail will celebrate our city and raise awareness of Birmingham Hospice and the care it provides for the people of Birmingham and their loved ones. The trail is a great way to get outside, get active, and give back to Birmingham Hospice, offering a fun, free summer holiday activity for families. The trail will be in **Birmingham from July 16 to September 14, 2025**.

You can find out more about the trail here: <https://bullsinthecity.co.uk>

## Baseball Caps

We have a small number of black baseball caps for sale at £2 each. These can be purchased via our online app.

**ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT:** Your child's school report will be sent home on **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2025**

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