

# NEWSLETTER



Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2025

## HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

I would like to extend a warm welcome back to school; I hope that you all had a wonderful Easter break with friends and family.

Next week, we are commemorating VE Day with a special school lunch of traditional Fish and Chips (other options will be available). At this lunch we have some special guests joining us from the local community who support our school in several ways. The children will also be undertaking some commemorative activities on the theme of 'light'.

This week, I have been reviewing the progress of all children in school with their class teachers. A common theme that has emerged, during our discussions, is that the children who are making slower progress than their classmates are children who are not reading at home, who are not practicing their spellings and children who have poor attendance. To help your child achieve well in school please support them with these three areas.

Please remember that school is closed this Monday as it is the May Day Bank Holiday; enjoy your long weekend.

With very best wishes

Mr Higgins



# DIARY

w/c 5<sup>th</sup> May Lunch Menu:  
**Week Two with VE Day Menu**

5<sup>th</sup> May  
Bank Holiday Monday  
School is Closed

7<sup>th</sup> May  
Children and  
Anxiety Workshop

8<sup>th</sup> May  
Year Three's Class Assembly

8<sup>th</sup> May  
VE Day Celebrations

8<sup>th</sup> May  
Year Three's Class Assembly

9<sup>th</sup> May  
Non-Uniform Fundraiser

12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> May  
KS2 SATs Week  
KS1 SATs Week (1)

19<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> May  
KS1 SATs Week (2)

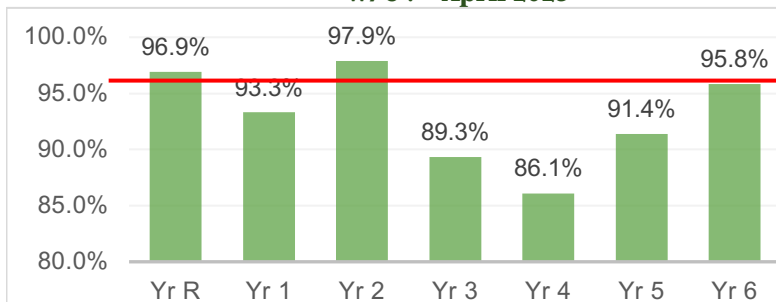
26<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> May  
Half Term Week

12<sup>th</sup> June  
Summer Fair

9<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> June  
Year One Phonics Check  
Year Four Times Tables Checks

## Attendance

w/c 7<sup>th</sup> April 2025



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

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

This year's attendance, to date, is **91.8%**



Woodcock Hill Primary School

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## Did You Know?

Did you know that if you are claiming benefits, you could be entitled to cheaper broadband and mobile phone packages? Social Tariffs are for people claiming Universal Credit, Pension Credit and some other benefits. Here are the benefits of these tariffs:

- ☎ **It's available to those on a variety of benefits.** If you or someone in your household claims Universal Credit, you could switch to any of the tariffs available.
- ☎ **It's cheaper than a regular package.** Current prices range from £10 to £23.
- ☎ **Fast, unlimited broadband.** Most tariffs offer superfast broadband at speeds over 30 Mbit/s – fast enough for you to keep in touch with friends and family, stream HD films or shop online.
- ☎ **You'll pay next-to-nothing to get set up.** If you do have to pay any setup costs, these should only be small. Your provider should tell you before you sign up.
- ☎ **It could cost nothing to switch.** If your existing provider offers a social tariff, you can switch to it at any time, free of charge.
- ☎ **The price won't go up mid-contract.** You won't pay any more than what you agree at the start of the contract.
- ☎ **It costs nothing to leave.** You won't pay a fee to leave the tariff before the end of your contract.

Details of providers and tariffs can be found here:

<https://www.ofcom.org.uk/phones-and-broadband/saving-money/social-tariffs>

## Help for Parents

The recent Netflix series Adolescence has caused a media storm alongside making parents aware of the dangers of social media. Smoothwall provide some useful guidance to parents about these issues on their website including the hidden meaning behind emojis. You may find the following two links helpful especially if you are parents of older children.



## Managing Your Child's Anxiety

Our next informative parent workshop **Managing Your Child's Anxiety** will take place on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2025, 9.00am-9.30am in our KS2 hall.

## Good Luck

Our Site Manager, Mr Bates, will be leaving Woodcock Hill at the end of June to take up a new position at another Birmingham School. He has worked at Woodcock Hill for 11 years and will be missed by the school community.

Our Lunchtime Supervisor, Mrs Ullah, has retired from Woodcock Hill Primary School. We wish her well for her retirement and would like to thank her for 10 years of service to our school.

## Art Competition

This half term we are running an art competition for the children.

We shall be awarding prizes to the best piece of artwork per class and the overall best piece of artwork in EYFS/KS1 and KS2.

Children can submit any piece of artwork they like: a painting, a drawing, a sculpture, a piece of needlework, quilling, or whatever they enjoy.

Entries should be brought into school on **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May** and judging will take place on **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May**. Winners will receive a selection of art materials.

*"We are Creative"*

## Lockdown Procedures

Our revised lockdown procedures will be presented to Governors at their next meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> May. We shall then publish these to parents.

## School Uniform Discount Code

Brigade Clothing are offering a 10% discount this weekend Only. Please enter BANKHOL10 at the checkout to receive a 10% discount.

[www.brigade.uk.com/parents/](http://www.brigade.uk.com/parents/)

School is closed on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May

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

# IMPORTANT CHILD SAFETY INFORMATION

Dear Parents/Carers

An incident involving a four-year-old child has been reported in the local press; this happened on the Bristol Road, Longbridge - 30 April 2025. An individual has been arrested on 'suspicion of attempted child abduction.'

News articles like these remind us of the importance of ensuring children are aware of "**stranger danger**," especially when walking to and from school unaccompanied. We address this in school as part of our safeguarding measures, and today, teachers are reminding children of the basic rules to stay safe:

- Never talk to strangers
- Always ignore strangers who ask questions or tell you to do something
- Avoid walking alone whenever possible
- Speak only to trusted adults if you are concerned about anything

As parents and carers, we know you want to stay informed. Should a similar situation arise in our area, we will send out a text message as soon as possible to alert you. We also advise you to discuss these safety rules with your children, especially if they travel to and from school unaccompanied.

Thank you for your support. If you see anything suspicious in the local area, please contact the police and the school. West Midlands Police can be contacted via Live Chat at [www.westmidlands.police.uk](http://www.westmidlands.police.uk) between 8am and midnight or by calling 101.

Yours faithfully

Mr D Higgins  
Head Teacher

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