

Dear Parents and Carers,

The wet and windy weather has not put a dampener on us this week and we've had another action packed week with lots to be celebrated. We continue to make each and every day count.

This week has marked the launch of our new writing approach and there is a real buzz to writing being felt across the whole academy, by both children and staff! We have lots of children eager to become our class 'Star Writers' of the week and it has been lovely to see the wonderful writing being produced. Has your child told you what they need to do to be a 'clever writer' yet?



We have welcomed lots of our families throughout the week, with another fabulous class assembly, this time from 2CP. The children in year 1 held workshops with their families to share their IMPACT project and year 6 families came in to find out about the end of year Key Stage 2 SATs. It's been lovely to see so many of our families join us this week.

You'll notice that recently there have been flyers attached from our family hubs. Please have a look through, as there are a wide variety of groups and activities for families across Walsall.

Hopefully the weather will stay dry for us all this weekend and the snow misses us next week!

Have a wonderful weekend everyone!

Miss Edmunds

WINNING CLASSES WITH THE BEST ATTENDANCE!



Well done to our children who arrive on time, before 8:50, and so are ready for the important first lesson of the day.

Best classes during the last week of term who earn extra play time are:

2D 98.7% and 5H 98.7%

Fantastic!

Out of School Awards

A huge WELL DONE to:

Leo and Ollie for their great defending skills and both being awarded player of the match by their managers.

Tommy has also been demonstrating great defending skills.

Rylee led the Bilston players out as their mascot.

Thea received her grade 1 drama certificate after performing and answering questions about two songs.

Seraya has successfully completed her Angelfish 3 for swimming and is now working on her Shark award.



Holly for being brave at the hospital.

Alarna-Ocean for a singing competition with her performance group.

Sienna for competing in a pony race with Buzz the pony.

Harry for being player of the match with his football team.





2CP performed their assembly linked to their history topic all about the Great Fire of London. Confidently, they shared facts they had learnt and about how the fire started in a bakery in Pudding Lane.

Pupils acted out significant people from the past linked to the real life events from September 1666 including Thomas Farriner, the baker and Samuel Pepys, a diary writer. The children then performed a song to help them remember using sign language which they thoroughly enjoyed.

Well done 2CP!

Mrs Purcell





Last week, year 5 visited Selly Manor Museum and stepped back in time to learn more about the Tudors.



Who are the SUPERSTARS this week?



Class	Name	Reason
Treehouse	Opie	For showing great improvement in maintaining his attention skills during his learning.
NAM	Francesca	During maths verbally labelling the triangle and with support tracing around the shape.
NPM	Sehaj	Knowing some of your RWI sounds (using the picture side) to support you on your reading journey.
RG	Theodore	Answering some excellent questions in our English work about author and Illustrator.
RJ	Casey-Rae	For trying hard to improve her writing and pencil control. She is always so enthusiastic about her learning, completing tasks and class discussions. Keep working hard Casey-Rae! 😊
1W	Tommy-Jax	For excellent improvement in handwriting on our new lines. Tommy - Jax has been working hard to ensure all his letters sit on the line. Well done Tommy-Jax!
1E	Millie	An impressively detailed fact file in Science. She identified animals and shared their characteristics with confidence. Good effort!
2CP	Carter	Showing a superb understanding and fluency in maths. He confidently used different methods to calculate addition and subtraction calculations.
2D	Hugh	For always following school and class expectations, and for trying his best to improve his handwriting. Well done!
3A	Guruman	For writing a wonderful retell of 'Taking Flight.' Guruman included his previous learning of direct speech in his retell. Well done Guruman!
3E	Callum	For a fantastic approach to his learning. Callum is really impressing with his hard work and super attitude towards his learning. Keep up the great work Callum!
4R	Emilia	For making great progress in learning her times tables. Well done.
4N	Dylan	For always putting 100% into his Maths learning. Keep going Dylan!
5D	All of 5D	For setting a wonderful example of Woodlands on our trip to Selly Manor! 5D impressed the tour guide with their knowledge of the Tudor period. Well done 5D! 😊
5H	Elijah	For your hard work and contribution during lessons. It was also super to see how enthusiastic you were during our trip to Selly Manor.
6P	Sienna M	For showing fantastic effort in her learning this week. She has been contributing much more confidently in Maths and working really hard to improve her writing in English. Well done, Sienna – keep up the brilliant attitude and determination!
6H	Harrison L	For showing fantastic effort in his learning this week. He has been contributing much more confidently in all subjects. Well done, Harrison – keep up the great work.

Can you please ensure that you are adhering to parking restrictions outside of school so that we can ensure that everyone is safe.

Safer Parking

Play your part in keeping the roads near your child's school safe

- Do not stop or park on SCHOOL-KEEP-CLEAR markings during the restricted times.



- Do not park on double yellow lines or on a single yellow line during restricted times.
- Do not park on footpaths or within 10 metres of a junction as this restricts visibility. The Police may issue a Fixed Penalty Notice.
- Do not block driveways or dropped kerbs.



Know your parking rights visit Parking Services at www.walsall.gov.uk

Why not try one of the alternatives:

- Park & Stride – park away from the school and walk the last 5-15 minutes of the journey
- Walking Bus – an organised walk to / from school on a pre-determined route supported by adult volunteers



For full details of these and other initiatives that improve safety, reduce congestion and help keep your children healthy visit our website

www.astarswalsall.co.uk



Safer Parking



School-Keep-Clear

No stopping or parking on school keep clear markings

**Mon – Fri
During restricted times**

If you do stop, you may be liable for a Penalty Charge Notice of £70



Walsall Council

Penalty Charge Notices

Parking Restrictions and School-Keep-Clear markings are enforceable by the council's Civil Enforcement Officers and CCTV enforcement vehicle. If you do not park responsibly and contravene traffic regulations you may be liable to pay a Penalty Charge Notice.



British Values at Woodlands Academy of Learning!

We actively promote British values in school to ensure our young people leave school prepared for life in modern Britain. Pupils are encouraged to regard people of all faiths, races and cultures with respect and tolerance and understand that while different people may hold different views about what is 'right' and 'wrong', all people living in England are subject to it's law. We teach British Values through Picture News:



The question of the week that we will be discussing in school and that you can discuss at home too:

Does how we behave matter as much as how well we play?



The Woodlands Value that we will be focusing on this week is:

Respectful



Mutual Respect and Tolerance

The Jane Goodall Earth Medal shows us that being respectful means looking after all living things. It encourages tolerance by focusing on a goal that brings different cultures and beliefs together to protect our world.

**Can your child tell you about the British Values?
We use this handy reminder in school!**

Juniper has arrived at Woodlands!

We have launched our new communication app this week so that staff can send messages, awards and share positive news with parents & carers. Be sure to sign up if you haven't already!

Parent App
Quick Reference Guide 1/2

Get started

1. Open your **email** invite
2. **Create** an account
3. Download the **Juniper Education** app from the **App Store** or **Google Play**
4. Enable two-factor authentication (2FA) and **login**
5. You're all set – stay informed and enjoy! 🌟

Homepage

Hi there Hello

Messages sent to you by school

View your children in **one** account

Swipe through **Latest Updates**

Tap **See all** to view all updates in that area

Press and hold to **reorder** widgets

Tap **Hub** to explore other areas in the app

Allow **push notifications** to stay informed with school

Observations

Change **order** newest to oldest

Press and hold to **react**

React with an **emoji** or post a **comment**

View **full** photo

Swipe **up** to flick through each observation

Why is it important to interact with the updates?

By adding an emoji or leaving a short comment, you're showing your child (and their teacher) that **you care** and **you're excited** to see what they've been up to at school.

Juniper Education

Awards 2/2

Tap through to see the **badges** they have been awarded

How many **points** they have achieved

Press to view their **badges** and see what's left to receive

Attendance

Your child's overall attendance in the current school year

An attendance summary and their **absence** and **late** records

Swipe to view attendance for **each** child

Summary and breakdowns with charts below

Confetti celebration

If your child is at **100% attendance**, at the end of each term you'll have a celebration with onscreen confetti! 🎉

Juniper Education

It is vital that **every** parent/carers uses this app as we will send a lot of information out this way and without the app you could miss something important! We will check in with you to make sure you aren't having any technical issues but if you have any worries please email ict@woodlands.walsall.sch.uk for support.



Dates on the horizon

Please note that there have been some changes to our class assemblies for 1E and 2D.



Tuesday 27th January	4N Class assembly (2:45pm start)
Thursday 29th January	Y1 Visit to Ironbridge
Tuesday 3rd Feb	1W Class assembly (2:45pm start)
Monday 9th February	Y5/6 Netball Tournament TBC
Tuesday 10th February	1E Class assembly—change of date (2:45pm start)
Friday 13th February	Break up for half term at the end of the day

Monday 16th February—Friday 20th February—HALF TERM HOLIDAY

Monday 23rd February	School opens to children as normal
Tuesday 3rd March	RG Class assembly (2:45pm start)
Tuesday 10th March	2D Class Assembly change of date (2:45pm start)
Week Beg 16th March	Y3, Y4 and Y5 Easter Extravaganza Time TBC
Wednesday 18th March	Y2 visit to Dudley Zoo
Tuesday 24th March	RJ Class assembly (2:45pm start)
Friday 27th March	School closes at the end of the day for Easter Break
Monday 13th April	School open to children as normal
Tuesday 21st April	4R Class assembly (2:45pm start))
Wednesday 22nd April	Y3 visit to Walsall Art Gallery
Wednesday 29th April to Friday 1st May	Y4 residential visit to Laches Wood
Thursday 21st May	Y6 geographical visit to the Beach
Tuesday 9th June	3A Class assembly (2:45pm start)

THE SCREEN CYCLE AND THE CHILD'S BRAIN:

WHY EVERYDAY LIFE FEELS HARDER AFTER SCREEN USE

www.SocialWorkersToolbox.com



Break the cycle: Prioritise connection, outdoor play, and slow, engaging activities such as walking and talking, sports, creative projects, reading, music, cooking, building, puzzles, or shared tasks. These help the brain settle and cope with everyday life.

A reminder from our pastoral team on why limiting screen use is so important.

Helpful Info for Families!

Walsall Family Hubs | Supporting families to live happier lives

January - March 2026

Walsall 0 - 5 Timetable of Activities & Events



Happy New Year to all our wonderful Walsall families!

Family Hubs are here to walk alongside you on your parenting journey, offering a one-stop shop for any support you may need. make this season one of connection, creativity, and community.



Website: Walsall Family Hubs

Email: familyhubs@walsall.gov.uk



Walsall Council



Information about Groups

ALL GROUPS ARE FREE!

Baby Massage (0 - 12 months)

Baby massage is a gentle, nurturing activity where families use soft, rhythmic strokes to massage their baby's body. It's a wonderful way to bond, soothe, and support development.

Bump to Baby

Peep Antenatal, a group for expectant and new families to explore how to tune into their baby's feelings, build strong emotional bonds, and learn simple ways to support early learning and development.

Peep Play & Story Time (0 - 2 years)

& Peep Stay & Play (0 - 5 Years)

Play-based stay and plays that encourage bonding and attachment, boost parental confidence, and nurture early childhood development in a fun, supportive environment. These sessions demonstrate how everyday activities can support your child's growth and social skills.

Magical Moments (0- 2 years)

A 4-week group supporting communication and language. We focus on:

- Face-to-face interaction and child-led play
- Talking, listening, and giving time to respond
- Stories, rhymes, sensory play, and everyday fun

Little Einsteins (0-2 years)

A 5-week group focused on baby brain development. We explore:

- Watching and responding to your child's interests
- Talking and singing during daily routines
- Simple activities that support learning.

Saturday Family Fun Time

A relaxed stay & play group for families who can't attend during the week.

Seasonal Family Fun

Join us throughout the year for exciting family events during half terms, summer holidays, and more — packed with play, creativity, and connection!

Chill & Chat Stay & Play (0 - 5 years)

Enjoy playtime with your little one and connect with professionals like WHG, Oral Health, Nursery Funding, and more — all in a relaxed, supportive space.

Just 4 Dads (0 - 5 years)

- Dads Stay & Plays (weekdays and weekends)
- Dads 4 Dads Peer Support Groups
- Parenting Workshops
- DadsPad App
- Baby Massage



Secure Beginnings Counselling

Therapy for parents with children under 2.

Parent / Carer Panel

You can share your views through face to face meetings, virtual meetings, family fun sessions, online surveys and our Facebook page.

Introduction To solid Food Workshops

A workshop run by Health that will give you advice and tips to help you feel more confident for the next steps of your babies feeding journey.

Breastfeeding Support Group

Are you in need of some support in feeding or would like to meet other parents. We have Feeding Support groups at each of our Hubs:



Registering your baby's birth

You need to register your newborn baby within 42 days of birth. Book an appointment here:



Tots Talking

Is your child having challenges with language development? Join our 4-week support programme for parents and carers to help your child's talking and understanding.

Enjoy weekly small group sessions to learn practical communication strategies and behaviours, make fun games and activities to take home and play. Build confidence, connect with others, and support your child's language development!

HENRY Preparation to parenthood

Come along to our free 6 week antenatal group to help you prepare for the arrival of your baby!

Triple P Baby -Parent Support Group

Come along to our free 6 week parent support group, where you can meet other parents to discuss all things parenting i.e. sleep, routine, play... the list is endless

Scan the QR code below to see the timetables for the wide ranging classes and groups across Walsall.



There are so many services you can access, ask in school for more information!