



Friday 12th December

Dear Parents and Carers,

As always, this week has been filled with events and activities on the run up to Christmas. The elves have been causing mischief and the rehearsals for Christmas performances are well underway.

Year 2 have been learning all about the religious meaning behind Christmas, in their visit to the Methodist church.

Year 4 invited their parents to join them for Christmas dinner, which was a resounding success. We may have even convinced some of the children that sprouts are actually quite tasty!

The Woodlands' Warriors have been analysing children's answers on a survey about internet safety.

They will then identify what learning is required in order to keep the children safe online. It is always advised that parents and carers are aware of what their children are accessing and posting through online games, websites and apps. There are a number of ways in which devices can be monitored and restrictions can be applied.

Year 6 had an informative workshop on internet safety, identifying how to keep themselves and others safe online.

You may have noticed that Marvellous Me hasn't been running as it normally would over the past few weeks. This is because the company is no longer providing this service. We have therefore moved over to 'Juniper' as our new communication system. Please find instructions on how to access this on the pages below.

I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who attended the Christmas Fayre last week. Your support is invaluable and I hope that you all had a wonderful time. I am pleased to announce that the total funds raised on the evening were £133 for Rotakids and £1,230 from all other stalls!

Next week is the final week of the year, with so much going on both in school and at home, it is always good to have a reminder of the events. The eagerly awaited performances for Nursery and Reception, Years 1 and 2, Christmas dinners will be served to those children who would like them on Wednesday, Christmas Parties, Year 6 off to the theatre, Christmas Jumper day and possibly a special visitor. Phew, I think that we will all need a rest!

I hope that this weekend is both productive and enjoyable for you all. May the weather be mild, may the Christmas shopping be calm and successful and may your hot chocolates have many marshmallows. Have a fabulously festive time!

Mrs Macpherson



Out of School Awards

Reuben earned parents' player of the week.

Amelia showed an amazing variety of Cheerleading medals.

Arlo won Wednesfield Aces Young Rider of the Year.

Leela progressed to orange belt in martial arts with a score of 101/110.

Ellanna had awards for kickboxing and football.

Millie showcased her swimming certificates.



Rotakids Christmas Challenge



The Rotakids are continuing to raise money towards projects to benefit the children in school. Next week, KS1 children are able to take part in a Christmas game on Wednesday and KS2 children have the opportunity to complete a quiz.

If your child would like to take part in these challenges please go to Scopay and add 50p to your child's account. This will need to be done by the end of the day on Tuesday.

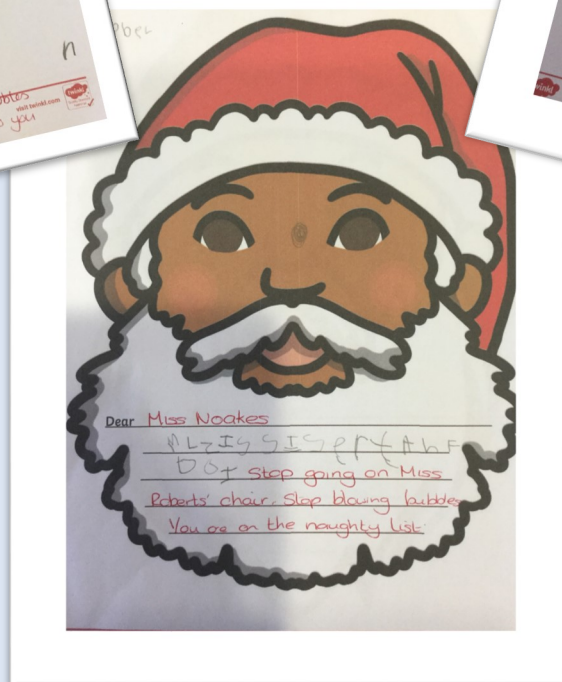
Year 4 Christmas Lunches

Mrs Mason and her team have been extra busy again this week with Year 4's Christmas lunches. Jesse enjoyed his lunch so much that he wanted to thank Mrs Mason personally. Thank you so much ladies, those lunches were delicious.



Miss Noakes—Naughty or Nice?

Nursery have had to intervene with Miss Noakes this week as she has been sitting on Miss Roberts' chair AGAIN and this time she has been creating snow storms with soapy suds on! The children have had to warn Miss Noakes that Santa is watching by writing letters to her reminding her to be good! Miss Noakes tells me she has taken their advice and is being very good! We hope you love the amazing writing that some of our children have produced!!



SEND Support in Our Community

For information on SEND services in Walsall please see the 'letters' section of the website.

Year 2 Visit to the Methodist Church



Y2 Learning about Christmas



Year 2 had a wonderful time visiting the Methodist church and learning about the story of Christmas. Pupils worked at different stations finding out about the message, the announcement, the promise, the journey and the gift of Jesus. They found out about the Angel Gabriel who announced to Mary that she had been chosen to have a special baby, the Son of God, followed by the journey Mary and Joseph took from Nazareth to Bethlehem on a donkey. Pupils then listened to the message that the shepherds received; to follow the star and tell the good news of Jesus being born in a stable. Pupils were given an angel and were asked to give them to someone who is sad or lonely. The three Kings visited Jesus who made promises to do something worthy by taking gifts to him. Children then used quill pens to draw a gift they would send to Jesus. Finally we discussed the gift of Jesus and why we celebrate the special day through the giving of gifts

Y2 Team



Spreading Joy in Our Community



The choir have been super busy over the last couple of weeks with appearances at The Arena, our Christmas Fayre and finally at Swan House. The residents were so pleased to see them and we were so proud of their beautiful singing. Well done choir!

Who are the SUPERSTARS this week?



Class	Name	Reason
Treehouse	Elyza G	For being extremely kind and caring towards her peers. Elyza helps other children to make good choices when sharing their toys and helps them prepare for home time. Well <u>done</u> Elyza!
NAM	Frankie	Working hard in the maths lab and solving the maths puzzles. Counting the Christmas pictures and correctly matching the correct <u>numicon</u> shape to show how many you have <u>counted</u> .
NPM	Nellie	Independently during labs using a variety of different objects. Making an ABC pattern repeating it and verbally saying what will come next.
RG	Keanu	For being helpful during lab time and with playtime responsibilities.
RJ	Zachary	For amazing <u>Art work</u> creating a city scape using collage in the style of Paul Klee. You worked so hard – well done!
1W	<u>Ellanna</u> B	Fantastic use of time words to begin sentences. Well done, <u>Ellanna</u> !
1E	Ollie R	For being an absolute superstar with his determination when reading and writing this term. It has been a treat to see you grow with confidence. Keep it up!
2CP	Maddison-Rosalyn	Maddison is so keen to continue her learning at home that she has a special book which she uses to complete maths, spelling, comprehension tasks and writing. She does this most nights all in her own time. Well <u>done</u> Maddison, what a role model.
2D	Hamza	For a brilliant retell of the 'Man on the moon' story, using adjectives and adverbs. Well done!
3A	Harvey G	For Harvey's effort and enthusiasm with <u>all of</u> his learning! Harvey also demonstrates excellent learning behaviours. Well <u>done</u> Harvey!
3E	Theo	For his effort and enthusiasm when using adverbs of time to write instructional sentences. Well <u>done</u> Theo!
4R	Isla P	For a super start to your Woodlands journey.
4N	Mariah	For being an extremely kind friend and peer. She helped children who were struggling with their learning. Super role model!
5D	Sophie	For diving into the world of poetry and uncovering the stories hidden between the lines. You were engaged and curious. Well done, Sophie! 😊
5H	Zara	For making huge progress in your handwriting speed and accuracy. You have shown super stamina this week. Keep it up!
6P	<u>Reme</u> T	For consistently showing a positive and enthusiastic attitude towards her learning. She always takes the time to ask thoughtful questions to be sure understands new ideas. Well <u>done</u> <u>Reme</u> .
6H	Lacie	For consistently showing dedication to her learning. She is always <u>engaged</u> and you can see is taking on board everything that is being discussed. Well <u>done</u> Lacie!

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

What does kindness look like?

A UK charity called 'Small Acts of Kindness' have distributed 10,000 'Warm in Winter' gift bags around the Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire to elderly and vulnerable people, in order to bring them comfort through the winter.

Our linking Woodlands value is 'caring'.



Changes to Information

A gentle reminder that if you have changes to the information that we have on our system, for example; addresses or phone numbers, could you please let the office now as soon as you can. Thank you



Christmas Jumper day!

On Thursday 18th December (our last day of term) children are invited to wear their Christmas jumpers to school over the top of their school uniform. This can also include Christmas accessories.



Quick Reference Guide

Get started

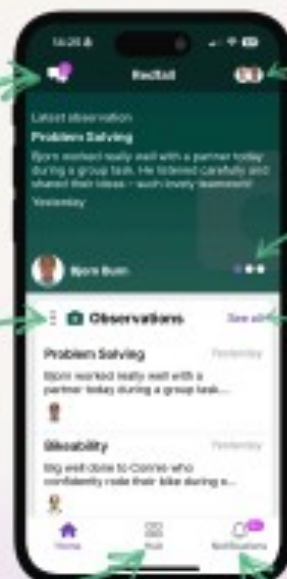
1. Open your **email** invite
2. **Create** an account
3. Download the **Juniper Education** app from the App Store or Google Play
4. Enable two-factor authentication (2FA) and **login**
5. You're all set – stay informed and enjoy! 🐿️



Homepage

Messages sent to you by school

Press and hold to **reorder** widgets



View your children in **one** account

Swipe through **Latest Updates**

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

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

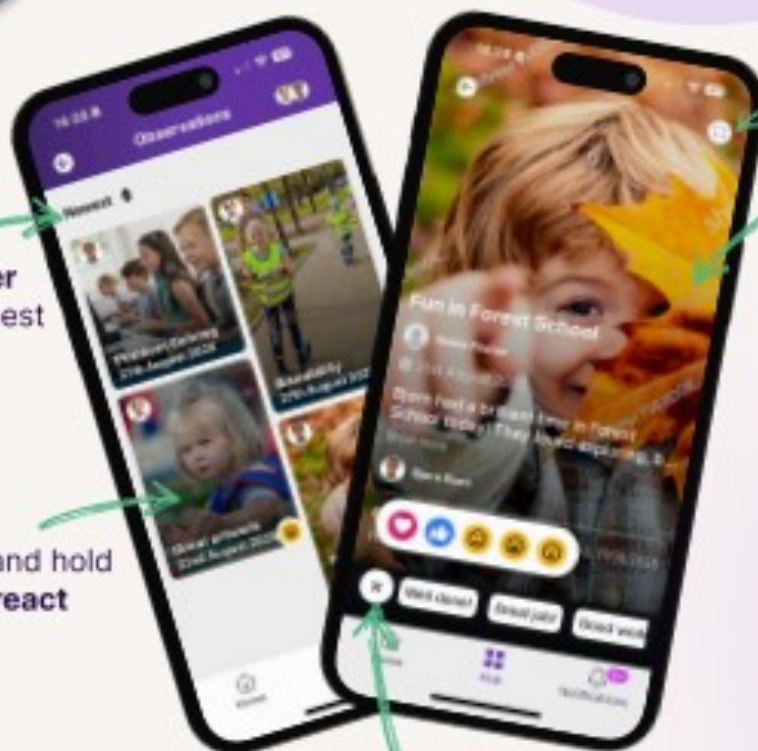
Allow **push notifications** to stay informed with school



Observations

Change **order** newest to oldest

Press and hold to **react**



View **full** photo

Swipe up to flick through each observation

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



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.



Awards

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

Confetti celebration

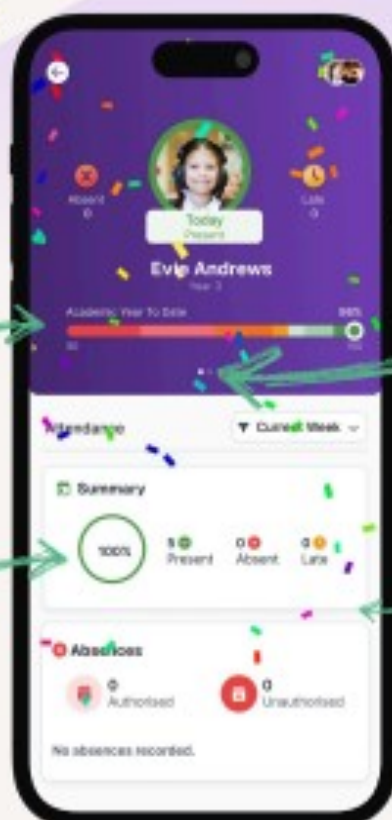
If your child is at **100% attendance**, at the end of each term you'll have a celebration with onscreen confetti!

Your child's overall attendance in the current school year

Swipe to view attendance for **each child**

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

Summary and breakdowns with charts below



Dates on the horizon

Tuesday 16th December	Y6 visit to the Theatre
Tuesday 16th December	Christmas Performances by Nursery to Y2 9:15 Nursery and Reception Performance 2:00 Y1 and Y2 Performance
Wednesday 17th December	Christmas Lunch day for all children—Years 3-6 don't forget to book! Christmas Performances by Nursery to Y2 9:15 Y1 and Y2 Performance 2:00 Nursery and Reception Performance
Thursday 18th December	Christmas Jumper Day (over school uniform) School closes at the end of the day for children
Friday 19th December	Teacher Training Day, school closed to children.
Monday 5th January	School opens for everyone
Wednesday 7th January	Young Voices
Friday 16th January	Y5 Visit to Selly Manor
Monday 9th February	Y5/6 Netball Tournament
Wednesday 11th March	Year 5 First Aid in school
Wednesday 18th March	Y2 visit to Dudley Zoo
Monday 23rd March	Y3/4 Netball Tournament
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

WINNING CLASSES LAST WEEK 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 who earn extra play time are:

Afternoon Nursery 100% and 3E 97.7%

Fantastic!



How to register and book for the 2025 programme?

You will need a code to register if you have not received a code, by post. Please contact us to see if you qualify for the programme via email wr4c@walsall.gov.uk.

To register your child, use any of the following options:

- Scan the QR CODE below
- Visit our website www.walsall.gov.uk/children-and-young-people/holiday-activities-programme-haf
- Call us on 01922 653899
- Email us your enquiry on wr4c@walsall.gov.uk

Once you have registered you will be able to book onto activities.

To find out more visit our website or sign up to our newsletter:

www.walsall.gov.uk/children-and-young-people/holiday-activities-programme-haf

Sign up now!

HAF Winter 2025

What's on offer this Winter?

This winter we lots of exciting & free activities for children and young people aged 5-16 yrs on income based free school meals. The portal will be live for you to get booked on 11/11/25.

FREE Healthy Meal

Free activities:

- Horse riding
- Arts & Crafts
- Cooking
- Pantomimes
- Football
- Sports
- Swimming
- & much more!



Sign up now!



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This winter we lots of exciting & free activities for children and young people aged 5-16 yrs on income based free school meals. The portal will be live for you to get booked on 11/11/25.

Free activities:

Football, Mobile Youth Bus, Gaming & Coding, Snooker Performing Arts, Music & DJ and much more!

FREE Healthy Meal

Sign up now!



Did You Know?

The Best Start in Life campaign aims to increase awareness of the role of the early years in a child's development, offering advice to parents about things they can do in their child's early years and how early education supports child development. Visit the [Best Start in Life website](#) which brings together trusted advice, support and guidance for us as parents to turn to.

Advice and support for your child's development

From pregnancy to childcare right through to starting school.

UK Government

NHS

For parents' questions, BIG & small.



What childcare support is available?

Who can I ask for help with breast-feeding?



Can I dye my hair if I'm pregnant?



Walsall Council

Is your child due to start Reception next September?

The application form process is now open on Walsall admissions website.

Parents and carers are advised to submit applications on time before

15 January 2026 for primary school applications.

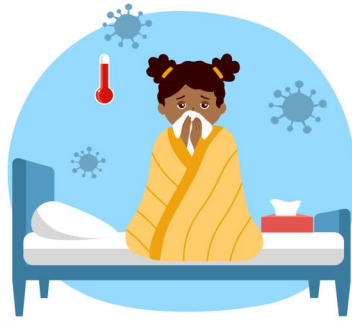
Children born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022 are due to start reception in September 2026.

Please remember that having a place in Woodlands nursery does not guarantee a place in the reception class at that school. Parents/carers must submit a separate application for a place in the reception class.

The applications process is all online, and our school admissions team are hosting drop-in sessions throughout this term to support parents and carers with any questions you may have.

Offers will be sent by email to on-time applicants on **16 April 2026** for primary school places.

Further information and help with school admissions can be found on the council's website: [Apply for a primary school place | Walsall Council](#)



Free Flu Vaccination 2-3- Year-Olds

Flu cases are rising at this time of year and catching flu can be a very unpleasant experience for children. Symptoms can include fever, extreme tiredness, aching muscles and joints, stuffy nose, dry cough, and sore throat. Most children usually begin to feel better within about a week, but some can experience severe illness and may be hospitalised.

Protecting your child with the flu vaccine means they will be better able to fight off flu and will be less likely to spread it to other family members. The vaccination is free and painless as it's given as a nasal spray. The nasal spray vaccine contains a small amount of gelatine from pigs (porcine gelatine). A flu vaccine injection is available that does not contain gelatine. If you do not want your child to have the nasal spray vaccine, speak to the person vaccinating your child.

Children aged 2-3 years can be vaccinated at their GP surgery or at a pharmacy. Appointments can be booked at the following link: [Book, change or cancel a free NHS flu vaccination at a pharmacy - NHS](#).

Alternatively, 2–3-year-olds can be vaccinated for free at a mobile vaccination clinic which is operating at various locations across the Black Country over the winter months. This is a walk-in clinic and no appointments are necessary.

For further information please see Mobile vaccination clinics :: Black Country ICB

<https://go.walsall.gov.uk/newsroom/walsall-parents-urged-complete-school-flu-vaccination-consent-cases-continue-rise>

Parents and carers across Walsall are reminded to complete the school flu vaccination consent form if they have not already done so.

Many families may have missed the information sent out by schools, and Walsall Council Public Health and NHS Black Country ICB are keen to ensure every child has the opportunity to be protected. Parents and carers can complete the consent form by visiting Vaccination UK Immunisation.