



Dear Parents and Carers,

IT'S OFFICIAL! Christmas has landed at Woodlands!!

There has been a real buzz in the air as children and staff have been preparing for our wonderful Christmas Fayre! We hope our families who could come along had a fabulously festive time and you are all now truly in the Christmas spirit!

Mrs Day whizzed around the Fayre to capture as many magical moments as possible and we hope you enjoy the photos on the next page!

A special mention to our Choir led by Mrs Day, who performed a wonderful repertoire of songs to open the Fayre which had all of our toes tapping and spines tingling! Our gorgeous donkeys, Dougal and Rambo were a new addition to the fun this year and they certainly stole the hearts of us all! Mrs Graham and I did think about keeping them as our school pets but apparently this isn't as straightforward as it sounds—who knew?

Of course we are all still working hard in school and this was certainly the case for our education staff who undertook the 'I Am A Clever Writer' training on Monday. This is a new and exciting approach to teaching writing and we will be launching this with the children during the Spring term—watch this space!



Year 4 had a fabulous day on their trip to the Black Country Museum on Wednesday where they were learning about the Victorians (see page 3). Some of our Reception children were out and about on their road safety walk and in case they haven't worked hard enough this week, the Choir visited Swan House to sing for the residents this morning!

I hope you have a wonderful weekend at this busy time of year! In the Jackson house we are visiting a very special man to check whether we are on the good list, then off to sing in the square at the Lichfield Christmas Lights switch on. I am also embarking on my annual 'girls shopping day' with my two teenage nieces—wish me luck!!

Mrs Jackson xx

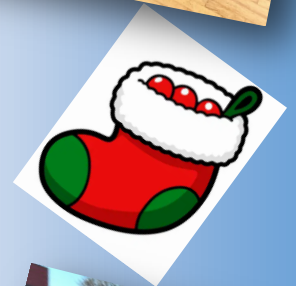
Advent



Amongst the excitement of Christmas our Woodlands family will also be learning about the special time of Advent.

Advent involves a period of preparation and reflection leading up to Christmas which include assemblies that align with the season's themes. We will be lighting our Advent Wreath each week to represent hope, faith, joy, and peace.

The Wonderful Woodlands Christmas Fayre!





And the Winners are...

**Thank you to everyone who supported our
Christmas raffles!**

Below are our winners:

Hampers

1st Prize—Alessa 3A

2nd Prize—Ella 3E

3rd Prize—Reme 6P

4th Prize—Carter 1E

5th Prize—Polly-Anna Nursery

Cake Raffle

Thomas Dunn 2CP, Sam 5H & Rylee 4R

Name the Dog

“Betty” by Brooklyn 2CP

Snowman Raffle

Saoirse RJ

**Congratulations to our prize winners—prizes will be coming home
with the children except for the Hampers which need to be collected
from the Office—thank you!**

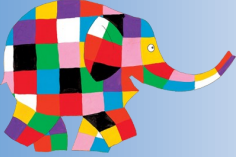


egg mine



Treehouse News!

Our Seedlings have been getting creative this week! All of the children used their fine motor skills to sew together two pieces of material. They then worked together to sew their patches together to make one large patchwork blanket. Our blanket was inspired by our learning about Elmer the patchwork elephant. We think it is really rather fabulous—well done Seedlings!



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.



Reception ASTARS Walk

Some of our Reception were out and about on their road safety education walk, organised through Walsall's A*STARS (Active Sustainable Travel and Road Safety) programme—they are now fully trained in safe crossing!



Considerate Driving!

Can I please remind parents and visitors to the school to take extra care while driving on Hunts Lane and have extra patience as there are always a lot of pedestrians crossing the roads and navigating their way on foot. Accidents can happen so easily at busy times and this isn't something any of us wish to happen! Thank you!



Who are the SUPERSTARS this week?



W/E 28th November 2025 – To go on Newsletter 05/12/25

Class	Name	Reason
Treehouse	All of the Saplings	For being really dedicated to creating a fabulous patchwork blanket! You showed off our fine motor skills, determination and patience to tackle sewing patches of material together. Well done!
NAM	Macaire	Wonderful balancing skills during PE. Balancing a beanbag on various parts of our body.
NPM	Arnav	Wonderful balancing skills during PE. Balancing a beanbag on various parts of our body.
RG	Chiedza	For growing in confidence during our learning time on the carpet. Chiedza is raising her hand more and sharing her ideas.
RJ	Hudson	For an amazing story map of the Nativity story. Hudson could retell the whole story using his map! What a superstar!
1W	Jaida	Super handwriting! Jaida works incredibly hard to ensure that her handwriting is sitting on the line and her tall letters touch the top line. Well done!
1E	Sukhman	Sukhman has worked hard independently in Maths when writing add and subtract sentences for fact families. Well done!
2CP	Tommy	Showing enthusiasm for the text 'Man on the Moon' and sequencing the pictures from the story with support. Tommy then shared his ideas to write sentences helped by an adult.
2D	Theo	For always trying his best in all lessons, being a kind and caring member of class and always following the class and school expectations. You are a role model to the class, well done!
3A	Ethel	For Ethel's fantastic work in history last week! Ethel was enthusiastic in our learning about education in Ancient Greece. She was able to confidently make comparisons between the education for boys and girls in Athens and Sparta. Well done, Ethel!
3E	Angel	For super instructional sentences using adverbs of time in English. Well done Angel.
4R	Arjun	For a super diary entry using all the correct features. Well done.
4N	Mariah-Armelle	Being such a caring peer. You helped your learning partner and showed them so much kindness. You are wonderful!
5D	Sahib	For working hard in maths and showing outstanding perseverance and determination while mastering equivalent fractions. Well done, Sahib! 😊
5H	All of 5H	For working so hard on your class assembly. You performed with confidence, maturity and enthusiasm. We are very proud of you.
6P	Alfie A-C	For making significant improvements in our most recent assessments. Keep up the good work Alfie!
6H	Ellie D	For a great effort with your assessments this half term. You have shown great progress, keep up the great effort!

Question of the week that we will be discussing in school and you can discuss at home too: How might challenges help us grow?

**What's happening
in the news this week?**



Let's have a look at this week's poster!

8th - 14th December 2023



British Values

Tolerance of different cultures and religions
tallest pointing to God

Mutual respect
wedding finger

Rule of law
pointing

Individual liberty
little one - me

Democracy
thumbs up or down



Individual Liberty

We all have the freedom to choose challenges that help us learn and grow. Darren's journey shows us we can set our own goals to help us discover what we're capable of.

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

Dates on the horizon

Tuesday 9th December	Y2 visit Short Heath Methodist Church
Wednesday 10th December	Christmas Dinner with your child for 4N
Thursday 11th December	Christmas Dinner with your child for 4R
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
Wednesday 18th March	Y2 visit to Dudley Zoo
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 97.5% and 4N 99.4%

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!

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 activities:

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

FREE Healthy Meal



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 activities:

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

FREE Healthy Meal

Sign up now!



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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?

Is your child due to start Reception next September?



Walsall Council

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

ary 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.

Primary school drop-in sessions

2 December 2025

Willenhall Library – 9am-12pm

Darlaston Library – 1pm-4pm

3 December 2025

Lichfield Street Hub – 9am – 5pm

4 December 2025

Blakenall Village Centre- 1-4pm

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