

Dear Parents and Carers,

Friday 17th October 25

Thank you to all our families who attended parent consultation. Our teachers really enjoy parent consultation, meeting you and working in partnership for your child.

We hope you found the meetings useful and now know how your child has settled into their new class and how they are doing in their core learning. Also, thank you to everyone who supported our Book Fair; every book that you bought contributes towards new books that we can choose for our libraries.

We are on a mission to teach our children how to make healthy choices in their snacks. Today, our Phunky Food Ambassadors led an assembly called 'Snack Attack' which taught our children about the amount of hidden sugars in food and how we should eat more fruit and vegetables in order to stay healthy.

We are finding a noticeable difference in children's concentration following break time because so many children are eating food high in sugar, high in salt or high in fat during break which affects their ability to learn in the following lesson.

Therefore, from Monday 20th October, children in Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6 will be expected to bring in a healthy snack for break time: this may be a piece of fruit, vegetables or a cereal bar if they would like a mid-morning snack. Foods high in fat, sugar or salt such as sweets, crisps and chocolate bars cannot be eaten during break time. These foods are occasional treats and can be enjoyed at home. If children do bring in any of these foods then they will not be allowed to eat them, staff will keep the items safe and they will be returned to your child at home time.

Next week is very exciting as the last week of the half term is full of fun events. The fun starts on Monday when Y6 will be setting off to Bryntysillio for a week of energetic activities, whereas the rest of the school will be working hard to earn their first badge in our new initiative 11 Before 11. Nursery and Reception will be holding the annual Pumpkin Party after school on Tuesday and School Council and Miss Whitehouse have been very busy planning the Halloween Disco. School Council are also running a competition for the best Halloween costume at both events too. It is going to be an exciting week!

Time to get packing Y6, Mrs Newton



Snack attack!

Many parents worry about their children's snacking habits. This is perhaps not surprising given that many children in the UK are eating up to four high sugar snacks every day!

Children have small stomachs and high energy demands for growth, and snacks can contribute valuable energy and nutrients to children's daily diets. The key to whether snacking is good or bad for your child is which snacks you choose and how much you give of them.

When is snacking a problem?

High energy, sugary snacks will give children an energy burst but will quickly leave them wanting more in a small amount of time – often leading to continuous grazing between meals and resulting in less being eaten at mealtimes. A frustration for many parents! Research in the UK shows us that children are eating more

HOW MUCH SUGAR PER DAY?

	4-6 year olds Max 19g per day 5 cubes of sugar		7-10 year olds Max 24g per day 6 cubes of sugar		11+ years Max 30g per day 7 cubes of sugar
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than double the maximum recommended amount of sugar per day, and that half of their sugar intake is coming from unhealthy snacks or drinks. If children eat too many high sugar foods over the long term this can lead to some serious health concerns including obesity and Type 2 diabetes. Encouraging children to eat less sugary snacks is an important health message.

How to plan healthy snacks

When planning healthy snacks it is best to use the Eatwell Guide in the same way that we would to plan main meals. Good snack choices include: fruit or vegetables; dairy foods such as milk or yogurt; protein foods such as fish, meat or eggs, and; wholegrain foods such as toast or cereal. These foods will make

a positive contribution to your child's daily diet, providing vitamins, minerals, fibre and protein.

You could also include a glass/cup of water; the perfect way to encourage your child to stay hydrated across the day, without adding extra sugar to your child's daily diet.

Make sure that you offer snacks at appropriate times and not too close to meal times. Appropriate portion sizes are important too; sufficient to keep your child going between meals but not so much that they don't eat their dinner.

What about packaged snacks?

Whilst the best kind of snacks are home-made and based on the four main food groups, it may not always be possible to provide this for our children. We all lead busy lives, and sometimes whilst we are out and about, we might have to reach for packaged or shop-bought snacks.

Packaged snacks vary greatly in their calorie content. The best way to ensure that we're making healthier choices is to choose packaged snacks below 100 calories per portion, and to restrict packaged snacks to no more than 2 a day.

100 calorie snacks – 2 a day max!

Some products have traffic light labelling and these can also be used to make healthier choices. Try and choose packaged snacks that have mainly green or amber labels and less red. Red means that the snack is high in fat, sugar or salt and are best kept as an occasional treat, not an everyday snack.

Further information:

- www.nhs.uk/change4life/food-facts/healthier-snacks-for-kids
- www.phunkyfoods.co.uk/parents/
- For more healthy snack ideas and recipes visit www.phunkyfoods.co.uk/recipes

Information to share:

Cones at drop off

Could parents please stand behind the cones when dropping off children in the morning at the KS1 lower corridor door. This creates a friendly space to encourage our younger children into school.

Halloween Disco

We have also had a few questions about the Halloween Disco on Thursday 23rd October.

Years 1 and 2 will be straight after school until 4:30. Children can bring in their Halloween costumes and the staff will help your child get changed. Then it will be a quick turnaround as Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 attend from 4:45 to 5:45.

The tickets can be paid for through Scopay by **Monday 20th October**. The price includes a drink and a bag of sweets so children will not need to bring any money with them to the disco which means staff will not need to search the hall by torchlight for missing 20p pieces!

Pumpkin Party

I also have to mention the Pumpkin Party on Tuesday 21st October for our children in Nursery and Reception, along with a parent, they are sure to have great fun. Please pay for this event through Scopay by **Monday 20th October**.

Christmas Dinners

We invite an adult to have Christmas dinner with their child for Y3 and Y4.

Wednesday 26th November Y3E

Thursday 27th November Y3A

Wednesday 10th December Y4N

Thursday 11th December Y4R

The parent will need to pay for their dinner and their child's (if they usually do) and let us know about any dietary requirements by **Friday 7th November** so we can order the essentials. This is the last day for booking a place and a dinner for this event

The rest of the school will have their Christmas dinner on Wednesday 10th December.

Jewellery and School Uniform

Can parents please ensure their children are not wearing necklaces or bracelets to school. The Woodlands Uniform Policy states that children can wear a watch (not a SMART watch) and small stud earrings, no other jewellery.

Most children have made the switch to the winter uniform, if your child is still in summer uniform then please be aware that all children should be in winter uniform from Monday 3rd November.

Half Term

School closes at the end of the school day on Friday 24th October. School reopens on Monday 3rd November.

High School Applications for Y6

Please remember that the closing date is 31st October for applications for High School. If a parent doesn't apply then a school place will be allocated that may not be your chosen school.

Our linking Woodlands value is 'Adaptable'

Who are the SUPERSTARS this week?



Class	Name	Reason
Tree-house	Y6 Pippa B and Amelia H	For being outstanding role models and very supportive to our children in the Tree-house.
NAM	Ethan	Working hard in maths, sorting pictures by 4 different colours and size. Independently.
NPM	Nelly	Working hard in maths, sorting pictures by 4 different colours and size. Independently.
RQ	Finn	For beginning to join in our class discussions more. Finn is beginning to raise his hand and answer questions.
RJ	Albie	For being such a kind and caring member of our class and always being ready to help if a job needs doing! He has been a fabulous book bag monitor and takes this role very seriously! Well done!
1W	Joban K	Super independent writing. Joban did a fantastic retell of Whatever Next. He included a question mark and adjectives to make his writing super. Well done Joban!
1E	Ronnie	For choosing ambitious vocabulary for his story retell. He showed determination with his phonics knowledge to build and spell multi-syllable words.
2CP	Nancy	For applying her spelling knowledge and phonics skills to some tricky words in the spelling assessment.
2D	Riya	For fantastic effort in all her assessments and always trying her best in all her work. Well done!
3A	Leighton	For working extremely hard to improve his handwriting! Leighton has been working hard to ensure his letters sit on the line and are formed correctly. Keep it up Leighton – well done!
3E	Lucy	For being a super supportive peeeer and helping others with their learning. Lucy shows a fantastic understanding in maths and is able to explain her understanding to others. Well done Lucy!
4R	Annabelle	Fabulous work in History describing the effects of the Industrial Revolution. Well done.
4N	Isobelle	A wonderful diary entry from the perspective of Oliver Twist. Some lovely thoughts and emotions. You also used a lot of previous learning which had been taught. Well done
5D	Ethan	Using a variety of research materials well to help create a double page spread all about the favelas in Rio de Janeiro.
5H	Miyah-Leigh	For working extremely hard on researching how to survive on a deserted island. You found lots of relevant, interesting information.
6P	Harrison R	For working really hard to secure his understanding in Maths. Harrison has been making sure he can quickly recall his timestables and this, in turn, has helped in other aspects of his Maths learning.
6H	Amar W	For his continuous contributions during class discussions. Amar is always asking thought provoking questions about the topic we are looking at showing he wants to develop his understanding further. Well done.

Dates on the horizon

Monday 20th October	Explore and Discovery Week '11 Before 11'
Monday 20th October	Y6 to Bryntysilio for the week
Tuesday 21st October	2:45, 3E Class Assembly, parents invited
Tuesday 21st October	After school, Nursery and Reception Pumpkin Party with an adult
Wednesday 22nd October	Treehouse trip for our saplings
Thursday 23rd October	After school, Halloween Disco for Y1 to Y6
Friday 24th October	School closes for half term at the end of the school day
Monday 3rd November	School opens. All children in Y1 to Y6 to be in winter uniform
Friday 7th November	Y3 & Y4 parent deadline for ordering & paying for parent Christmas dinner
Friday 7th November	Flu Catch Up for children who missed the first vaccination date
Monday 10th November	Anti Bullying week starts with Odd Socks Day
Tuesday 11th November	Remembrance Day
Friday 14th November	Children In Need
Tuesday 18th November	2:45, 6H Class Assembly, parents invited
Wednesday 19th November	Y3 visit to Think Tank
Friday 21st November	Y5 workshop on understanding our emotions led by the School Nurses
Tuesday 25th November	2:45, 5H Class Assembly, parents invited
Wednesday 26th November	Christmas Dinner with your child for 3E
Thursday 27th November	Christmas Dinner with your child for 3A
Thursday 27th November	Evening Walsall Arena Performance by the choir
Monday 1st December	Teacher Training Day, school closed to children.
Wednesday 3rd December	Christmas Fayre after school
Wednesday 3rd December	Y4 visit to Black Country Living Museum
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
Wednesday 17th December	Christmas Performances by Nursery to Y2
Thursday 18th December	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

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.

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.

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

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:

NAM 100%, NPM 100% and 4N 99.4%

SUPER ATTENDANCE!





Funded by
UK Government



FREE bus travel for parents this October half term

All day, unlimited travel from
27 October until 2 November

Parents, guardians and carers can enjoy
unlimited free bus travel across the
West Midlands during these dates.

How to claim

Applications are open from Monday 6
October until Wednesday 15 October.
Just scan the QR code (or visit tfwm.org.uk/october) to apply!



Once applications close, we'll email you
with instructions on how to redeem your
free travel through your Swift account.

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Ideal for 4-13 Year Olds

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Wrecking Ball - Total Wipeout Duck & Jump Sweeper

Leap of Faith - Spooky Soundtrack - Media Wall

Big Bounce Champion Challenges - Sticker Time!

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www.BigBounceEvents.co.uk

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TUESDAY 28th OCTOBER
BLOXWICH ACTIVE LIVING CENTRE
High St, Bloxwich, Walsall WS3 2DA

WEDNESDAY 29th OCTOBER
CRYSTAL LEISURE CENTRE
Bell St, Stourbridge DY8 1AE

THURSDAY 30th OCTOBER
CANNOCK LEISURE CENTRE
Stafford Rd, Cannock WS11 4AL

FRIDAY 31st OCTOBER
OAK PARK ACTIVE LIVING CENTRE
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M6 Roadworks Information (Night Work)

We're writing to inform you of some upcoming resurfacing work that we'll be carrying out on the M6 southbound between junction 12 and 10. The completed work will provide a safer road, whilst reducing the need for future maintenance.

Our work will take place from **20 October to 21 November 2025**, on **weeknights**, between **9pm and 6am**. To carry out our work safely we'll work under the following traffic management:

20 October to 30 October – M6 full southbound closure from junction 12 to J10a.

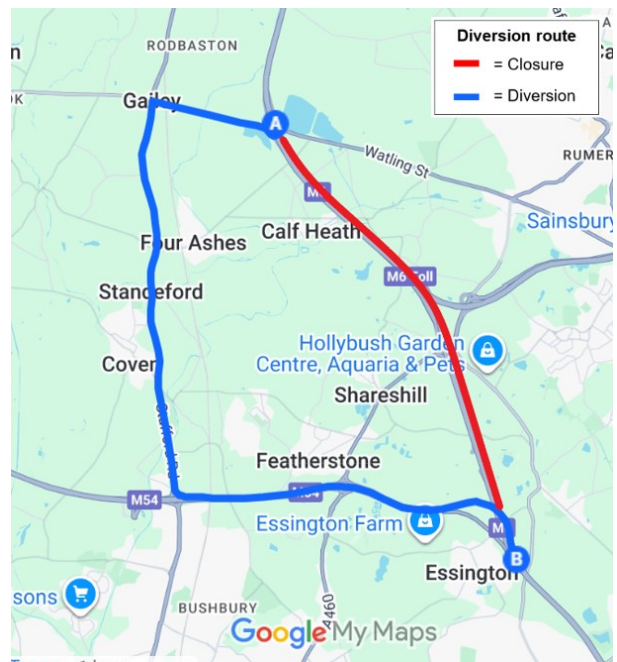
31 October to 21 November – M6 full southbound closure from junction 12 to J10.

During closures, the following diversion routes will be in place –

Junction 12 to 10 Southbound diversion



Junction 12 to 10a Southbound diversion



Access for emergency vehicles will be maintained.

We'll make every effort to ensure the impact on the local community and travelling public is kept to a minimum. We always aim to work to the programme, however unforeseen circumstances or adverse weather conditions may lead to changes.

Further Information

If you have any questions, or if you would like to know more about our work, please call us on **0300 123 5000**, email info@nationalhighways.co.uk, or visit our website at [nationalhighways.co.uk/our-work/](https://www.nationalhighways.co.uk/our-work/).

BRICK FESTIVAL

After the HUGE success of last year the Birmingham Brick Festival returns on 2nd November, and it's gearing up to be the biggest brick-tastic celebration for LEGO fans!

Immerse yourself in a world of creativity and fun as families, collectors, adult builders, and every LEGO-fanatic imaginable come together for a day of brick-filled bliss!

Wondering what's on at a Brick Festival event? Hold onto your bricks, as Birmingham Brick Festival is unleashing a whirlwind of excitement! With new LEGO activities that include lightning-fast speed building competitions to super creative mosaic making rounds, minifigure hunts, a dedicated building area, and so much more – this festival is a LEGO lover's dream come true for all ages to enjoy!

Browse through traders selling loose bricks, brand new or rare & retired LEGO sets, minifigures, accessories and all other LEGO themed items you could imagine – it's the ultimate treasure trove for LEGO enthusiasts and collectors alike!

But that's not all - Birmingham Brick Festival showcases a brand new unique selection of LEGO displays crafted by master LEGO builders from across the country! Get up close and personal, chat with the LEGO building maestros about their latest projects, snag some insider tips, and leave brimming with inspiration!

Hurry and book your tickets in advance to secure your spot on this brick-filled day, as these events regularly sell out! Early Bird tickets fly off the shelves, so make sure to snap these off before they go! These offer an extra hour of LEGO fun and a FREE LEGO gift upon entry too!

Whether you're a die-hard collector or a casual LEGO fan, Birmingham Brick Festival at New Bingley Hall is the place to be. Secure your entry online now – adult tickets from £7, child tickets from £5, and there's even an extra value family ticket available too!

Don't miss the chance to be a part of the most epic LEGO celebration! Grab your tickets and get ready for a day filled with building, creativity, and endless fun!

Book now at www.BirminghamBrickFestival.com

Save the date: 2nd November

Where: New Bingley Hall

Find out more – www.BrickFestivalEvents.com



TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW!

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2ND NOV 2025
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MORE LEGO THAN YOU CAN DREAM OF

[BIRMINGHAM BRICKFESTIVAL.COM](http://BIRMINGHAMBRICKFESTIVAL.COM)



TICKETS ON SALE

TICKET

BRICK FESTIVAL

TICKET

2ND NOV 2025
NEW BINGLEY HALL

BIRMINGHAM BRICK FESTIVAL

MORE LEGO THAN YOU CAN DREAM OF