

Dear Parents and Carers,

Friday 10th October 25

It has been another busy week in school!

On Wednesday, we welcomed many of our Reception parents into school to learn about the importance of phonics and how families can help with this very important learning at home. It was wonderful that so many of our parents made the time for this workshop. Learning the phonic code is the key to successful reading and writing!

Y2 had a wonderful day at Black Country Living Museum exploring this wonderful site. As always, our children are a credit to Woodlands and to you, exhibiting super behaviour and super manners.

On Tuesday, 5D presented a super assembly all about how we can look after our mental health, from eating well to getting enough sleep and ensuring that we make time to do the things we enjoy. They also reminded us that we have lots of strategies in school to help us look after our wellbeing including the Worry Monster, the regulation table, heart to heart and Real to Feel. It was a fabulous assembly that we all enjoyed, 5D did a brilliant job!



The next two weeks are looking busy in school.

We have the Book Fair every evening after school next week which will be based in the school hall and we also have parent consultation. There is still time to sign up for an appointment through Scopay before Monday when it closes at 1:00.

The school nurses will also be here on Thursday evening, between 4:00 and 5:00, to answer any questions that you might have. No one warns you about the challenges of parenting but the school nursing team are amazing and do help many of our families in so many ways. They can provide support and advice in many areas, including: toileting; diet and eating worries; sleep concerns; help you manage your child's behaviour; help your child if they struggle making friends and they are there to provide any general advice in areas that are currently difficult. They will be based in the main entrance so please do stop by and say hello.

Half term is on the horizon and to help with the fun of this week there is an amazing offer later in the newsletter for free bus travel. The offer closes on 15th October, so if you are interested in taking advantage of free travel then please sign up.

We look forward to seeing our families in school next week, Mrs Newton

Who is picking your child up from school?

If someone else is collecting then please let us know who is picking your child up so we can ensure that we dismiss to the correct person. Our children in Nursery to Y2 also have a password so it helps if the person collecting knows this too. If the message hasn't been received then it can make for a tricky dismissal whilst we try to get hold of a parent before releasing your child.

HARVEST 2025 | **THANK YOU**

Woodlands Academy of Learning

Thank you so much for collecting food for your local community.
We will use all the food you have donated to make emergency food parcels for people in crisis.

You have donated **166kgs** of food and **12kgs** of toiletries, enough to provide **332** meals and **24** toiletry packs

This is absolutely wonderful, and we are so thankful that you have supported us in this amazing way.

BLACK COUNTRY FOODBANK
LOVE . CONNECT . INVEST

Registered Charity No. 1136676

So many out of school achievers...

Daphne achieved her Red Belt at Kickboxing grading on Sunday.

Ava achieved her Octopus 1, 2 and 3 and also her 5 metres in swimming.

Arlo entered a national competition in Hull for cycling and did very well.

Haiden was Man of the Match.

Reuben demonstrated good skills as central defence midfielder

Lottie achieved 100m in swimming.

Leighton was awarded a certificate in water safety.

Amit is a Grappler and very good at grappling! (Similar to Judo).

Roshan was Manager's and Parent's Player of the Week.

Leo demonstrated great defending.

Sienna for took part in a national championship for cheerleading.



So many varied hobbies and sports!

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

What's happening in the news this week?



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

13th - 19th October 2025

What makes a good peacekeeper?

This year marks the 80th anniversary of the United Nations (UN). Leaders and communities around the world are reflecting on how important working together is in solving problems.



Our linking Woodlands value is 'Resourceful'

Who are the SUPERSTARS this week?



Class	Name	Reason
Tree-house	Kristofers P	For amazing concentration and determination when sewing material together to make our Elmer inspired patchwork blanket. Well done Kristofers!
NAM	Minnie-Mae	Exploring the autumn tray and using correct mathematical language to identify which conker is big or small. Also finding another conker and said I've got one more.
NPM	Jackson	Exploring in the maths lab, and adding the pieces of numicon all together and then 1-1 counting and counted up to 55 independently.
RG	Tommy L	For trying really hard to learn his set 1 sounds in RWI. Well done!
RJ	Carson J	For making phenomenal progress in phonics! You have remembered your sounds and can now blend them to read words – wow! Well done!
1W	Eliza H	For creating super sentences. Eliza works very hard to make sure her sentences contain all the ingredients for super super sentences. Well done Eliza!
1E	Kristian	For being a positive role model to others. He is always polite and hard working. Well done Kristian!
2CP	Evanas	For settling well in the learning room, showing focus and perseverance throughout his challenges this week. Well done!
2D	Tommy K-L	For being a fantastic team member during Forest School, and working well with all his team mates to create natural art. Well done!
3A	Amit	For a wonderful retell of 'The Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig.' Amit put 100% effort into his writing and he included a range of prepositions. Well done Amit!
3E	Sophie L	For her enthusiastic approach to maths. Sophie is gaining confidence and giving everything 100%. Even when our learning gets tricky. Well done Sophie.
4R	Leo	For super work in Art looking at negative space in his drawings. Well done.
4N	Jaxson	A wonderful diary entry from the perspective of Oliver. You used some lovely words to describe his feelings.
5D	Jude P	For mastering the skill of rounding within 10,000 and 100,000. Jude checked his answers by using our step-by-step method! Well done, Jude!
5H	Isobel	For creating an amazing factfile on the favelas in Rio de Janeiro. You included lots of information and presented it in an exciting format. Well done!
6P	Sadie D	Always showing kindness and being ready to help others. You make both the classroom and playground a happier, friendlier place to be every day!
6H	Leela W	For a great effort with all of her work. She is continuously putting in 100% effort and this is reflecting in her work. Remember to have belief in yourself – you can do it!

Dates on the horizon

Monday 13th October	Scopay closes at 1:00pm for appointments for parent consultation
Monday 13th to Thursday 16th October	Book Fair after school
Wednesday 15th October and Thursday 16th October	Parent Consultation
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
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

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to invite you to a special session in school, led by our school nurse, all about:

“Understanding Your Child’s Behaviour”

The session will take place on an afternoon (either a Thursday or Friday – the date will be confirmed soon). It will be a chance to explore some of the reasons behind children’s behaviour and to pick up tips and ideas that may be helpful at home and school.

If you’d like to come along, please fill in the slip below and return it to school. This will help us to know how many parents are interested and to confirm final arrangements.

We hope you will join us for what promises to be an interesting and supportive session.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Graham
Pastoral Support

Reply Slip – Understanding Your Child’s Behaviour

I would like to attend the session with the school nurse.

Parent/Carer Name: _____

Child’s Name: _____

Class: _____

☐ Yes, I am interested in attending

Signature: _____ Date: _____

IMPORTANT: CALLING ALL YEAR 6 PARENTS

Families with a child in Year 6 who live in Walsall should have received a letter about the application process for Secondary Schools from Woodlands

Families need to apply online, through the below link, to select the choices for their child.

[Apply for a secondary school place | Walsall Council](#)

The portal is already open so if you know which schools you would like to apply for then you can complete and submit the form now. The portal will close on 31st October so it is important that every family applies before this date because otherwise a school will be selected for your child which might not be your preference and might be located a distance from your home.

Parents can list up to 5 school preferences, they recommend that parents use all 5 preferences.

If you are still unsure then please do go and visit the Secondary Schools that you are interested in. Many Secondary Schools are currently holding Open Evenings when you can go and visit and meet the staff. The dates of these events will be on the Secondary School's website.

Parents will be notified of the school that has been allocated for your child on the 2nd March 2026.

If you live in a different authority then please access your council website to find the relevant information. You can apply for Walsall schools through their application form.

Drop-in sessions

At our drop-in sessions, we will be available to help you make your child's secondary school application.

Location	Date	Time
Willenhall Library, 1 Walsall St, Willenhall WV13 2EX	Tuesday 14 October 2025	9am to 12pm
Darlaston Library, 1 King St, Darlaston, Wednesbury WS10 8DE	Tuesday 14 October 2025	1pm to 4pm
Lichfield Street Hub, Lichfield St, Walsall WS1 1TR	Wednesday 15 October 2025	9am to 5pm
Blakenall Village Centre, 79 Thames Road, Bloxwich WS3 1LZ	Thursday 16 October 2025	1pm to 4pm

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 98.5% and 4N 98.7%

SUPER ATTENDANCE!



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](#)



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.

You're Bussing It



**West
Midlands
Bus**

Parent/Carer Information

Important Safeguarding Notice: Children's "Spy" Books

We want to make you aware of a recent issue affecting some popular children's books by Andrew Cope, including the *Spy Dogs*, *Spy Cats*, and *Spy Pups* series.

Some editions of these books include a printed web address at the back. This link used to go to the author's website, but the domain is no longer under his control. It has since been taken over by another party and now leads to inappropriate adult content.

The publisher, Puffin, has paused sales and distribution of the books and is working with schools, libraries, and retailers to remove copies from circulation. They have stressed that the website has no connection to the author or publisher.

What this means for you:

- If your child has any *Spy Dog*, *Spy Cat* or *Spy Pups* books at home, please check the back for website links and make sure they do not try to visit the site.
- It is safe for children to continue reading the stories themselves — the concern is only with the outdated link.
- We recommend talking with your child about the importance of not following web addresses in books without checking with an adult first.

Important Safeguarding Notice: Children's "Spy" Books

You may have seen in the press today or heard from your county library service that the children's publisher Puffin has issued an alert about books by Andy Cope including those in the *Spy Dogs*, *Spy Cats*, and *Spy Pups* series.

The books include a link to additional content, but the link is no longer owned by Mr Cope. The new owner publishes pornographic content. This means that children visiting the link are seeing highly inappropriate webpages.

As a result, libraries, bookshops, retailers and schools have removed the books from their shelves until such time as there is a resolution.

The story of course is fine to read, it is only the additional online content that is affected.

There is no suggestion that either Mr Cope or Puffin are responsible for the third-party site.

If it is helpful, I've written some information for parents below.

Thank you to everyone who let me know about this.

All the best,

Andrew

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.

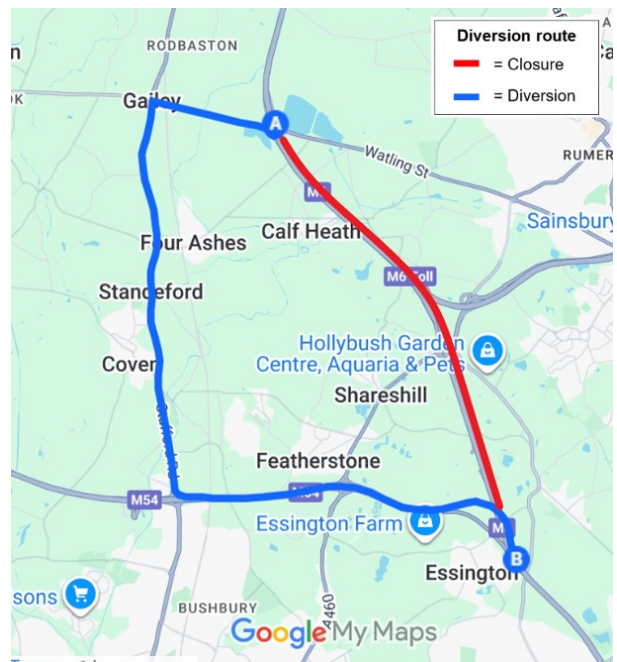
31 October to 21 November – M6 full southbound closure from junction 12 to J10.

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/).