

Dear parents and carers,

Friday 3rd October 25

October is Walk to School Month to encourage children to be more active.

This year the children are being asked to collect a leaf on their journey, everyday that they have walked, cycled or used a scooter for all, or part, of their journey to school. The children then place the leaf on the tree trunk poster in their classroom, to create a whole class display. Also, any children that travel actively every day will be entered into a prize draw to win a goodie bag. It is great to get active and avoid using the car when possible.



This week we had a practice drill in case there is ever an emergency situation. So if your child has told you they were playing hide and seek under the tables then this is what they are referring to. All schools are required to do this a few times a year, so everyone knows what to do in case of an emergency, a plan that we hope we shall never need. It is always carried out in a fun way of hide and seek.

Thank you to all our families for their foodbank donations, that will make such a difference, your donations are amazing! The food bank will be coming on Monday morning to collect and I am sure they will be delighted with Woodlands collection. Thank you so much.

There is a phonics meeting for Reception parents on Wednesday next week at 2:15 and repeated at 4:30. This is a really important meeting to share how we teach sounds to help your child learn to read and write. We hope you can make it because the more involved you are the more progress your child will make.

Please don't forget to book your parent consultation appointment, teachers are looking forward to meeting with you. Mrs Newton

Be safe when arriving early at school

Can parents please ensure their children are walking with them when entering the car park to keep them safe. Staff are arriving at this time, driving onto the car park and parking. There was a near miss this week when a child was narrowly missed by a member of staff reversing the car. Everyone was fine but we do not want this to happen again.

Reception are searching... Reception brought their story book to life this week when they went to look for a lost teddy bear in our woods, just like in the book "Where's My Teddy?"

One child said "This is amazing," another child asked if the teachers could put the lights on as it was so dark. Reception didn't find the teddy bear which resulted in some amazing words to describe how the children were feeling: super sad, frustrated, disappointed, worried and tired.

The children were so tired that they all lay down to imagine what it would be like to be so small in a real life forest.



Explore and Discovery Week is on the horizon Our Explore and Discovery Week is the last week of this half term and is fast approaching. This is a week when we follow a different timetable to become immersed in something new... The theme of learning for the week is kick starting our new '11 Before 11'.

11 Before 11 is an exciting new concept at Woodlands that aims to offer all pupils eleven amazing experiences before they leave primary school. Each year group will have the opportunity to complete at least one of the experiences each year.

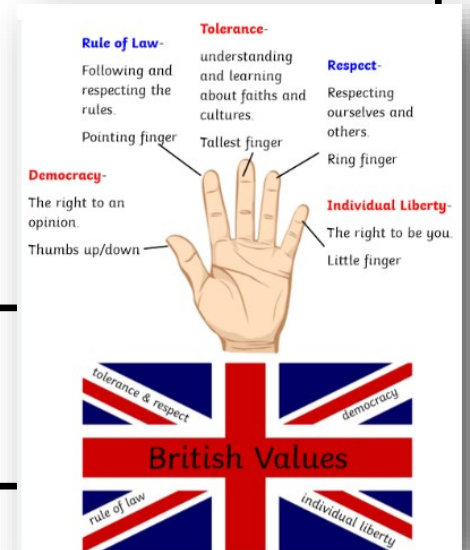
These may include: Records Breakers, Wildlife Warriors, Caring Campaigners, Culture Vulture, Celebrating Diversity, Looking to the Future, Energetic Explorer, Practising Professionalism, Eco- Champions, Forest Rangers, Remarkable Reader, Many good deeds, Perfect Performance and Animal care.

All of these experiences support character trait development outlined in the DFE document 'Promoting fundamental British Values'.

The children will each be given a sticker book, which they will have for the whole of their Woodlands journey and the aim is to collect stickers each time they have achieved one of the experiences.

It is brand new and very exciting, we can't wait!

(Miss Pottle and Miss Whitehouse)



6P launched our class assemblies this week...

It was a fantastic class assembly that taught the audience all about World War II and how it affected everyone's life's. From life on the home front, to evacuation, to Pearl Harbour. 6P crammed a lot of fascinating information into their assembly that taught us all something new.

The children are clearly enjoying their learning and looked fantastic in their costumes.

We were very impressed 6P, I hope you feel super proud!



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: _____

Super football skills!

Riley scored on the wing.

Tommy was awarded Parent's Player for good defending and super goal scoring.

Lincoln was Trainer of the Week.

Oliver was Parent's Player and Trainer of the Week.

Roshan was Manager's Player of the Week for being consistent.

Kane demonstrated good defending.

Harry was Player of the Match because he saved more than 10 goals.

Oliver was really good at tackling and defending in his football match.

Other achievements out of school

Isobel brought in her swimming certificates to celebrate and Bani achieved in the Summer Reading Challenge by reading eight books during the summer holidays.

Alexandra had a very special certificate for sponsoring a guide dog – Honey the puppy!

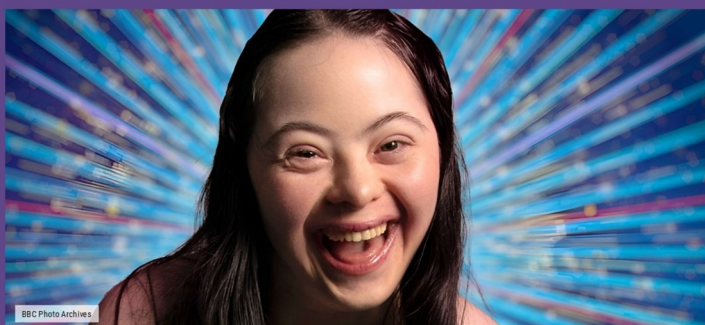
Brilliant Woodlands!



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

What can we learn from people who prove others wrong?

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



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

6th - 12th October 2025

Ellie Goldstein, a 23-year-old model from Ilford, is taking part as a contestant on Strictly Come Dancing. She is the first person to do so with Down's syndrome.

**Our linking
Woodlands value is
'Rise to the challenge'**



Who are the SUPERSTARS this week?



Class	Name	Reason
Tree-house	Mehtab D	For an increase in her self confidence and beginning to show her learning between home and school.. Well done Mehtab!
NAM	Darcie-Mae	Working hard developing her fine motor skills by doing some amazing threading
NPM	Hunter-Lee	Amazing practical maths work sorting buttons by colour and by shape.
RG	Tommy- L	For trying hard to learn his set 1 sounds in RWI.
RJ	Freddie	For super work in our History topic Marvellous Me and talking confidently about the past – well done!
1W	Evie B	For being a super mini scientist. Evie had great predictions about which materials would be opaque or transparent and was super helpful when conducting our experiment. Well done Evie!
1E	Effy	Thinking of ambitious vocabulary to describe in her story retell. Good effort!
2CP	Logan	Always setting a fabulous example to others and following instructions which help him to do his very best at all times.
2D	Rosie	For fantastic history knowledge when learning all about the Great Fire of London. Well Done!
3A	Emmie	For being a wonderful role model to others and being a supportive learning partner. Emmie is always ready to learn and she puts 100% effort into everything she does. She carries out everything she does with a smile. Well done Emmie!
3E	Jeevan	For excellent knowledge in RE. Being an excellent lead learner, explaining the different parts inside of a Gurdwara.
4R	Jaiden	Super observational drawings in Art. Great use of shading and lots of detail. Well done.
4N	Iyla	A wonderful piece of writing about Oliver's thoughts and feelings.
5D	Thea	For creating a variety of wonderful sentences using a range of relative pronouns and relative clauses. Well done Thea!
5H	Nelly	For working extremely hard in Maths. You have become more confident in ordering and comparing larger numbers. Well done!
6P	Maddison	For her fantastic attitude in Maths. Maddison shows real confidence and determination. She has taken on some of our new Year 6 concepts with ease, tackling each challenge with a smile, setting a brilliant example for others.
6H	Amelia	For her continued dedication to her learning both in school and out. Always wanting to further develop her understanding and share it with myself and the rest of the class. A great role model – Keep it up!

Dates on the horizon

Tuesday 7th October	2:45, 5D Class Assembly, parents invited
Wednesday 8th October	2:15 and repeated at 4:30 Reception parent meeting about phonics
Thursday 9th October	Y2 visit to The Black Country Museum
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
There is still time for parents to complete the online flu permission form before this 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

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 97.4% and 4N 98.1%

SUPER ATTENDANCE!



Unauthorised Absence

We are now in the second year of Government changes to unauthorised school absence, this includes absence for holidays. These changes were introduced in September 2024 and continue into the new school year.

This affects children with low attendance, children who have absences without valid reasons either in a block or over sporadic days and this also includes absence due to term time holidays.

Previously, fines for non-school attendance were fixed but now they are cumulative and I am not sure all our families are aware of this.

As can be seen in the poster, the National changes are: The first 5 days unauthorised absence will incur an £80 fine if paid straight away. The second absence will incur a fine of £160. Whereas the third absence of 5 days over 10 weeks could result in legal action that could result in a criminal conviction for the adult.

Therefore, if a fixed penalty notice was issued last year and there is further unauthorised absence so that a second fixed penalty notice is issued this year then the fine will increase.

School policy is that if children are absent for longer than three days then our attendance office will undertake a home visit in order to undertake a safe and well visit.

If a holiday is suspected then the guidelines are that we refer to the Local Authority. If children are absent for 5 days or longer then we urge families to gain evidence that they are not on holiday, such as medical evidence.

The national guidelines are in the Walsall poster to provide further information for our families.

From September 2024, the new National Framework for issuing penalty notices will apply.

Penalty Notice Fines will continue to be issued per parent per child.

For example: 3 Siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.

National Threshold

There will be a single consistent national threshold for when a Penalty Notice must be considered by all schools in England of 10 sessions (usually equivalent to 5 days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10-school week period.

These sessions do not have to be consecutive and can be made up of a combination of any type of unauthorised absence.

The 10-school week period can span over different terms and school years.

1 First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for a Term Time Holiday or Irregular School Attendance the Penalty Notice will be charged at:

£160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.

Reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

2 Second Offence
(within 3 years of the First Offence)

Where it is deemed appropriate to issue a second Penalty Notice to the same parent for the same pupil within 3 years of the first notice, the second Penalty Notice will be charged at:

£160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.

(Unpaid Penalty Notices after 28 days may result in a prosecution)

3 Third Offence and any further Offences
(within 3 years of the First Offence)

The third time that an offence is committed for either a term time holiday and/or Irregular attendance, a Penalty Notice will not be issued, the case may be proceeded straight to prosecution under the Single Justice Procedure.

If found guilty of the offence of 'failure to secure their child's regular attendance at a school' the Magistrates can impose a fine up to £1,000.

 **Walsall Council**

PROUD OF OUR PAST OUR PRESENT AND FOR OUR FUTURE

Anger Management in Children - NSPCC

Every year many thousands of children are referred to Childline for anger issues. Anger management in children is one of the top mental health concerns in child-care.

Anger and the ability to control it are key skills of adulthood. Violent thoughts frequently bubble underneath human interactions. Anger is the quickest way for those thoughts to become reality. For this reason it is tightly regulated in our society.

Children must learn to overcome anger so that they do not fall a foul of strict controls on violent conduct. However, this is difficult for children to learn to manage since anger is remarkably powerful. Yet as parents and teachers there is no choice but to teach them to reign these emotions in.

This can be hard knowledge to impart, but the NSPCC has produced helpful resources to aid you in that vital mission. If interested, please follow the link below:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/arguments-conflict-family-tension>



Toileting tips and tricks

Is your child on a waiting list to be seen by a paediatric health service?

Come and join us at Manor Farm Community Association for the meeting of the Supported Waiting Network.

We have guest speakers to advise on a variety of monthly topics and many services who support with access to additional support for you and your child. Come and chat to other parents, find out what additional support is available across the partnership with our monthly themed support group.

For further advice or information, telephone **01922 656463** or email pals.officer@nhs.net



🕒 9.30am-11.30am 📅 29 October 2025

📍 Manor Farm Community Association
King George Cres, Rushall, Walsall, WS4 1EU

Supporting and developing children's communication – practical strategies for families

Is your child on a waiting list to be seen by a paediatric health service?

Come and join us at Manor Farm Community Association for the meeting of the Supported Waiting Network.

We have guest speakers to advise on a variety of monthly topics and many services who support with access to additional support for you and your child. Come and chat to other parents, find out what additional support is available across the partnership with our monthly themed support group.

For further advice or information, telephone **01922 656463** or email pals.officer@nhs.net



🕒 9.30am-11.30am 📅 26 November 2025

📍 Manor Farm Community Association
King George Cres, Rushall, Walsall, WS4 1EU

WHC_15818014_10.09.25_V.1

Sensory Strategies

Is your child on a waiting list to be seen by a paediatric health service?

Come and join us at Manor Farm Community Association for the first meeting of the Supported Waiting Network.

We have guest speakers to advise on a variety of monthly topics and many services who support with access to additional support for you and your child. Come and chat to other parents, find out what additional support is available across the partnership with our monthly themed support group.

For further advice or information, telephone **01922 656463** or email pals.officer@nhs.net



🕒 9.30am-11.30am

📅 24 September 2025

📍 Manor Farm Community Association
King George Cres, Rushall, Walsall, WS4 1EU

Sandwell Deaf Community Association

Cochlear Implant Groups for Children

Welcome



Ages
8-11



...Are you aged 8-11?

...Do you use a Cochlear Implant?

...want to make new friends?

...want to share experiences?

If yes, then come and join us!

When: 8th November from 4:30 PM to 6:30 PM.

Venue: Friar Park Millennium Centre, Friar Park Road,
Wednesbury, WS10 0JS

For more information, please email
craig_pothecary@sdca.co.uk
or Text / WhatsApp / FaceTime:
07791 921011



Sandwell Deaf Community Association



What's on in October

1st, 15th & 29th
10am - 12 noon
Hard of Hearing
Group
West Bromwich
Community Centre

1st
2pm - 4pm
Cochlear Implant
group - Adult 18+
West Bromwich
Community Centre

2nd, 9th 16th,
23rd & 30th
10am - 1.30pm
Social Club
(Binge)
West Bromwich
Community Centre

3rd, 17th & 31st
5pm - 7pm
Deaf?!

8th
10am - 12 noon
Coffee
Morning
The Interceptor

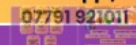
8th
2pm to 4pm
Health Group
West Bromwich
Community Centre

9th
4.30pm - 6.30pm
Cochlear Implant
group -
Children 8-11 years
Friar Park Millennium
Centre

15th
2pm to 4pm
Deafblind
group
West Bromwich
Community Centre



For more information, please email
craig_pothecary@sdca.co.uk
or Text / WhatsApp / FaceTime:



COME AND JOIN WALSALL WIZARDS BASKETBALL TEAM



TRAINING WITH QUALIFIED COACHES

WE PLAY IN THE NBL LEAGUE

AFFILIATED WITH BASKETBALL ENGLAND



RECRUITING NOW FOR UNDER 12'S TEAM (Years 6 & 7)



THURSDAY
6PM-7:30PM

LOCATION



The Hub | Walsall College
Littleton Street West, Walsall
WS2 8ES



TEXT OR CALL GLENYS ON 07941378913



OPEN DAY

**THURSDAY
9 OCTOBER**



4.30PM - 7.30PM



Your place to
grow
Your place to
shine

Pre-register for an Open Day now!
www.walsallcollege.ac.uk/planmyvisit



☎ 01922 657000 | 💻 www.walsallcollege.ac.uk