

Hill West Weekly Bulletin

Kindness, Compassion, and Connection at the heart of 'Our School'

Week commencing: Monday 13th January



ACE; Ambitious, Curious and Ever-respectful

FOR YOUR INFORMATION; at a glance

Monday 13th January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design and Technology Day • 7.30pm PTFA Meeting at the Butlers Arms (all welcome)
Tuesday 14th January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8.00am-6.15pm Whitemoor Lakes day trip for some Year 3 children • 5.30pm Netball match taking place against New Oscott at Bishop Walsh Catholic school
Wednesday 15th January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swimming for children in Years 4, 5 and 6 • 9.00am-10.00am Hares Assembly on Issac Newton and the Theory of Gravity the KS1 Hall, parents invited. • 5.00pm-5.30pm Whitemoor Lakes Question and Answer session taking place for children attending Whitemoor lakes residential with Ms Bailey virtually.
Thursday 16th January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9.00am-10.00am Badgers Assembly on Issac Newton and the Theory of Gravity the KS1 Hall, parents invited.
Friday 17th January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8.30am-9.15am Mr Horne meeting with Ace Champions for Breakfast in KS1 Hall • 9.00am-10.30am Parent Council Meeting in KS1 Hall

YEAR 3 WHITEMOOR LAKES

Some of our Year 3 children will be visiting Whitemoor Lakes Outdoor Adventure Centre on **Tuesday 14th January**. This day trip is scheduled to run from **8:00 a.m.** to approximately **6.15 p.m.**, and children will be provided with a Hot Meal at the centre. Please **could all children arrive in School P.E Kit (those who are attending and those remaining in school)** and trainers with a suitable waterproof jacket, spare trousers and socks should also be packed along with a refillable water bottle. There will be no need for children to bring their school iPad.



YEAR 5 CLASS ASSEMBLIES

Our Year 5 children will be performing their assemblies on Isaac Newton and the theory of gravity on **Wednesday 15th** and **Thursday 16th January**. We hope that as many of you as possible will be able to join us in the Key Stage One hall.



- Wednesday 15th January 9.00am: Hares
- Thursday 16th January 9.00am: Badgers



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LEARNING FUTURES WORKSHOP MONDAY 20TH JANUARY

We are delighted to be holding our first **Learning Futures Workshop on Monday 20th January at 4.00pm in Hares Classroom.**

During this workshop parents will follow a lesson using the iPad, just as your child would, to gain a better understanding of how this technology supports their education and learning journey. Please could we ask that all parents bring their child's iPad to the workshop.

Please note that this is a **parent-only workshop** designed for Parents to fully engage with the learning experience. We kindly request that children do not attend.

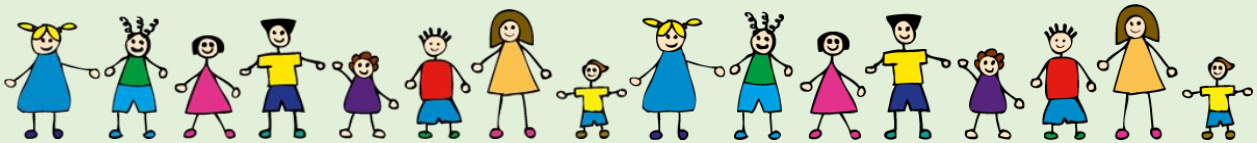
If you have not already confirmed your attendance and would still like to join the workshop, please click on the attached link:

<https://forms.office.com/e/gV1KbX08ts>

We look forward to seeing you and sharing how our innovative use of technology is making a difference in your child's education.



RECEPTION STARTERS 2025



The final closing date for Reception admissions for entry in September 2025 is 15th January 2025.

All the information parents need to support with making their preferences is available on the Birmingham City website, where applications can be made online www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions

More advice and support is available from Children's Services on 0121 303 1888.



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READING

Listening to stories enables children to encounter vocabulary they are unlikely to hear in everyday conversations. Parents can support this vocabulary acquisition by explicitly explaining the meaning of new words and providing additional examples of their usage to enforce their meaning. Listening to stories also allows children to hear a wider range of sentence structures which not only supports their grammatical understanding, but also the bank of sentences they can draw from when they come to speak or write. ***When choosing a bedtime story think about the types of stories you and your children enjoy. Chose stories that your child cannot yet read independently and read it aloud to them, exposing them to language and structures they are not yet able to access on their own***



ATTENDANCE



Pupils need to attend school regularly to benefit from their education. Missing out on lessons leaves children vulnerable to falling behind.

Did you Know – A two-week holiday in term time means that the highest attendance they can possibly achieve is 94.7% meaning a child has lost 50 lessons at school.

YEAR 6 RESIDENTIAL TRIP TO FRANCE

As the time for our France visit for Year 6 moves closer, please could we ask that all passports and EHIC/GHIC cards be brought into the school office directly by **Friday 24th January** where they will be kept in the school safe until the children travel.

All children will need to have their own passport with at least 6 months left on it from the date they leave France.

If your child has a European Health Insurance Card EHIC card that is currently in date and will be in date whilst they are in France this is still valid however if they don't have a current EHIC card, you will need to apply for a Global Health Insurance Card GHIC card which can be done following the link below.

<https://overseas-healthcare.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/get-healthcare-cover-travelling-abroad/start>



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SAFEGUARDING: WINTER SAFETY TIPS FOR CHILDREN

Extreme weather conditions and events, like record-low temperatures, can threaten children's lives and disrupt infrastructure critical to children's well-being. Here are some winter safety tips to help children stay safe, whether you're staying indoors or weighing the risks of outdoor winter activities.



- **Layer up!** Children's bodies are smaller, and they lose heat more quickly. Dress your child in several layers, and make sure their head, neck and hands are covered. Dress babies and young children in one more layer than an adult would wear.
- **Play it safe.** Even when roads are closed to traffic, it's not safe to play or sled in the street. Visibility may be limited due to snowbanks and ice on the roads makes braking difficult. Ice can be a big risk to children. Be aware of any ponds, rivers or lakes that may have frozen over and never attempt to go near or walk on them. It is important to teach children the dangers of frozen water.
- **Beware of clothing hazards.** Scarves and hood strings can strangle smaller children so use other clothing to keep them warm.
- **Check in on warmth.** Before kids head outside, tell them to come inside if they get wet or if they're cold. Then keep watching them and checking in. They may want to continue playing outside even if they are wet or cold.
- **Use caution around fires.** Wood-burning stoves, fireplaces and outdoor fire-pits are cozy but can present danger – especially to small children. Use caution and put up protective gates when possible. If you've lost power or heat and are using alternative heating methods such as electric heaters, be sure smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors are working.
- **Keep them hydrated.** In drier winter air children lose more water through their breath. Offer plenty of water and try giving them warm drinks and soup for extra appeal.
- **Watch for danger signs.** Watch out for Signs of hypothermia such as shivering, slurred speech, lips going blue, and unusual clumsiness. If you think your child has hypothermia, contact NHS 111 number directly.
- **Be prepared.** Think about signing up to the Met office alerts and watch the weather forecast and prepare for the colder weather. Ensure you are aware of the procedures in your setting if there is bad weather and to avoid unnecessary travel. It would help if parents have a plan in place in case of school closures. Living in a cold home has negative impacts on a child's health and wellbeing. Many families are facing the rising costs of heating bills, and it is important to be aware of the available support.



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TRAIN TO TEACH INFORMATION EVENTS

Have you always thought about becoming a teacher but aren't sure where to start?

Whether you are graduating this year or you are looking to change careers, find out how we can support you on your journey to becoming a teacher and how you can make an impact in this highly rewarding career.

Arthur Terry SCITT is hosting two upcoming information events.

- **In-Person Information Morning – Saturday 18th January, 10am to 12pm, at Arthur Terry School**
- **Virtual Information Drop-in Session – Monday 20th January, 5pm to 6pm**

More information and the registration link can be found here; [Teacher Training | Open Events - Arthur Terry Teaching School \(atlp.org.uk\)](#)



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All Saints' Four Oaks
invites you to join us for our...

'Journeys' themed Messy Church

3pm on Saturday 11th January 2025

Join in fun messy
play and crafts

Activities exploring
the journey of the
3 wise men

Make food to take
on a journey



All Saints' Church, Belwell Lane,
Four Oaks, B74 4TR

Book Now!

www.bookwhen.com/allsaintsmessychurch



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