

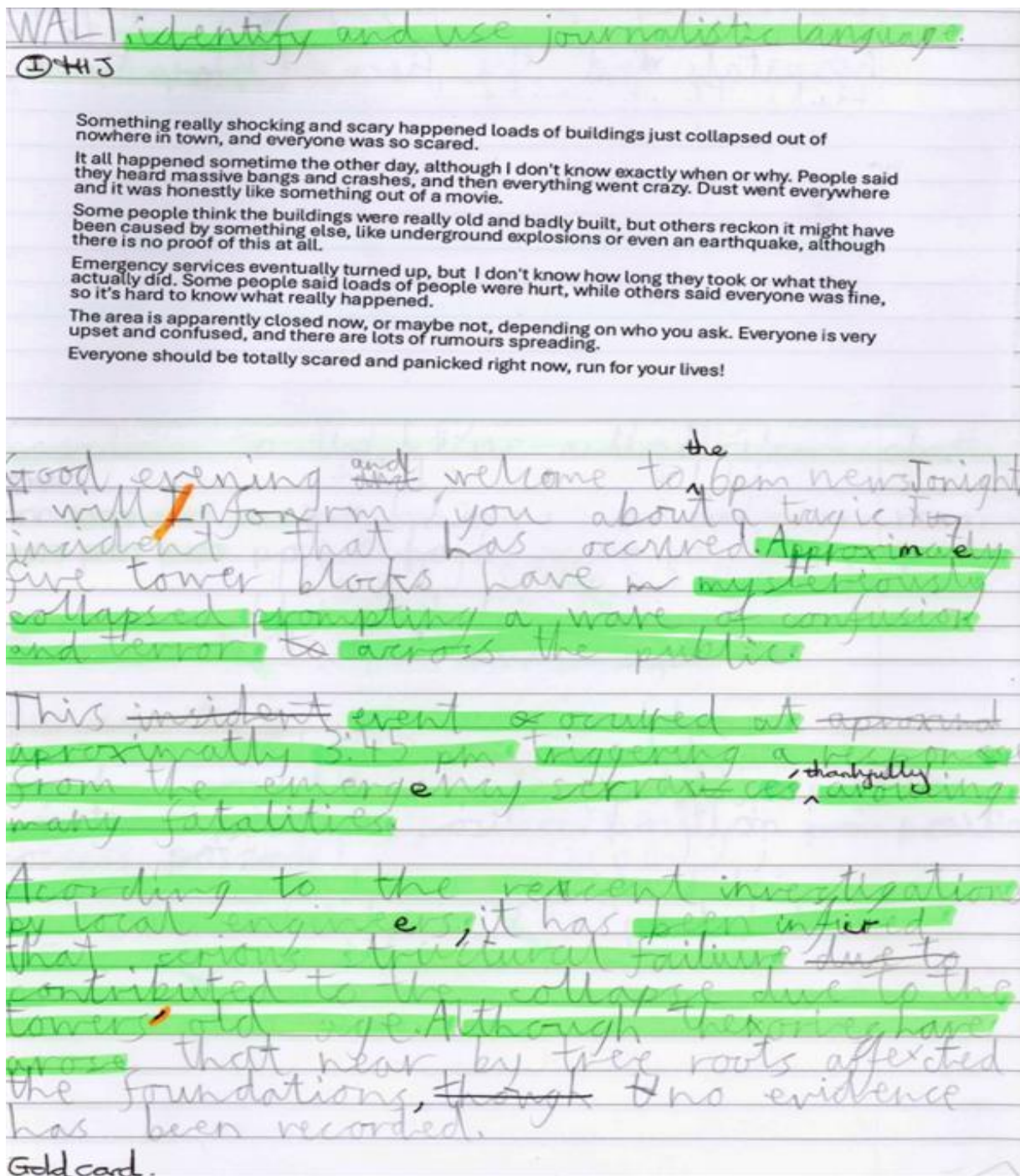


NEWSLETTER

Friday 16th January 2026

Writer of the Week

This week's writer of the week is Yusha in Year 5 for the formal tone he has used in producing some journalistic writing, in preparation for his end of unit outcome based on The Boy in the Tower by Polly Ho-Yen, where children will be writing a news broadcast detailing the events of the falling towers. A fantastic piece of formal writing Yusha, using a formal vocabulary, an unbiased recount of factual information and a calm, informative tone. Well done!





NEWSLETTER

Attendance Matters

Spring 1 Attendance

	<u>Wk1</u>	<u>Wk2</u>	<u>Wk3</u>	<u>Wk4</u>	<u>Wk5</u>	<u>Wk6</u>	<u>Autumn</u> <u>1</u>	<u>Autumn</u> <u>2</u>	<u>Year</u> <u>so far</u>
<u>Nursery</u>	82.7	80					91.0	84.7	
<u>Reception</u>	93.8	93.2					97.1	91.4	
<u>Year 1</u>	97.4	99					97.5	94.3	96.3
<u>Year 2</u>	94.7	91.2					98.7	94.7	96.3
<u>Year 3</u>	92.9	95.3					97.1	93.5	95.3
<u>Year 4</u>	95.7	96.6					99.1	95.9	97.5
<u>Year 5</u>	94.4	94.8					94.5	95.2	95.9
<u>Year 6</u>	92.5	95.7					93.6	93.1	94.3
<u>Whole school</u>	93.7	94.3					96.5	93.5	95.9

Well done **Year 1** you have the best attendance again this week.

Whole School Attendance since start of the year is currently running at 95.9%.

Musician of the Week

Each week in school we have a musician of the week to promote a range of music from different genres, countries and time periods. Here is this week's musician of the week
Week 1

Musician of the Week

Name: Duke Ellington

FACTS ABOUT OUR MUSICIAN OF THE WEEK!

1. Duke Ellington was a famous American jazz musician and pianist
2. He was born Edward Kennedy Ellington, but his friends called him "Duke" because he was so polite and dressed so nicely, like a duke.
3. His music was so important that President Nixon gave him the Presidential Medal of Freedom at a White House party for his 70th birthday in 1962.



GENRE
Jazz



NEWSLETTER

Week 2

Musician of the Week

Name: Connie Talbot

FACTS ABOUT OUR MUSICIAN OF THE WEEK!

1. Connie is a Birmingham singer who rose to fame as the runner-up on the first series of Britain's Got Talent (BGT) in 2007 at age six
2. She holds Guinness World Records for the youngest artist to reach the UK charts and receive a gold record.
3. Her first album, Over the Rainbow, was released in 2007 and sold over 250,000 copies, reaching number one in three countries.

GENRE
pop

Sensational Singers!

The following children were chosen as our Sensational Singers for their participation and enthusiasm in singing assembly this week;

Week 1

Y1 - Leyni
Y2 - Kaiden
Y3 - Evie
Y4 - Elias
Y5 - Olivia
Y6 – Jack

Our class choir of the week is Year 6! Well done for your excellent singing!

Week 2

Y1 - Levi
Y2 - Avneet
Y3 - Freida
Y4 - Layla
Y5 - Isabel
Y6 - Skyler P

Our class choir of the week is Year 6! Well done for your excellent singing!

Online Safety for Parents

Each week, we are aiming to provide you with information to help keep your children safe when online. This links to the Online Safety mind maps the children complete with their class teachers at the start of each half term.



NEWSLETTER

Stranger Things

With the release of the season finale on New Year's Day, a number of children may wish to watch Stranger Things. Stranger Things is not suitable for primary-age children because it contains content intended for much older viewers. In the UK, the series is rated 15 by the British Board of Film Classification (BBFC), meaning it is considered inappropriate for children under 15. The programme includes frequent scenes of horror, threat, violence, strong language, and frightening imagery that can be distressing or confusing for younger children. For these reasons, we strongly advise parents to prevent primary-school-aged children from watching Stranger Things and to choose age-appropriate alternatives instead.



SMG4

SMG4 (SuperMarioGlitchy4) is a popular YouTube channel and web series by Luke Lerdwichagul, known for surreal, meme-filled animated comedies using Super Mario 64 and Garry's Mod, evolving from simple glitch videos to complex stories with original characters. This series is not recommended for children due to inappropriate humour, language and violence within these videos.

Reading Hour at the Library

After February half term, we will be offering dedicated reading sessions for school children at the library. During these sessions, children are invited to bring along their school reading books. Members of our library staff will listen to the children read and sign their reading diaries, helping to reinforce the fantastic work already taking place in school.

These sessions are designed to encourage a love of reading, build confidence, and provide additional positive reading experiences in a relaxed and supportive environment.

We strongly value the importance of positive links between the library and local schools, and we believe that by working together we can continue to promote strong literacy skills and a lifelong enjoyment of reading.

CALLING ALL CHILDREN
to Commemorate the National Year of Reading
COME AND JOIN US FOR OUR NEW
READING HOUR
EVERY **MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY**
3.45-4.45PM

- 1 Bring your school reading book
- 2 Read with a library staff member
- 3 Get your reading diary signed

Every read counts - bring your book and read with us

Thimblemill Library
Thimblemill Road, Smethwick, B67 5RJ



NEWSLETTER

Dates for your Diary – 2025 – 2026

(don't forget you can download our calendar by following this line- **new** things added today are highlighted in green)

Month	Date	Event
January	Friday 30 th	Year 5 - Maths workshop for parents/carers 9-10am
February	Monday 16 th – Friday 20 th	Half term holiday – school closed
	Monday 23 rd	school reopens to pupils
	Tuesday 24 th	Parent consultation day 8am – 6.30pm (N, 1, 3 & 5)
	Wednesday 25 th	Parent consultation day 8am – 6.30pm (R, 2, 4 & 6)
March	Monday 2 nd	St Davids Day
	Wednesday 4 th	Year 2 trip to St Hildas
	Thursday 5 th	World Book Day – children to dress up as their favourite book character
	Thursday 12 th	Rev Jenni – Lent assembly
	Tuesday 17 th	St Patricks Day
	Wednesday 18 th	Year 4 trip to St Hildas
	Friday 20 th	Red Nose Day
	Friday 27 th	Pupils break up for the Easter Holidays
	Monday 30 th – Friday 10 th April	Easter Holidays – school closed to pupils
April	Thursday 16 th	Rev Jenni from St Hildas supporting in year 6 RE lesson
	Thursday 23 rd	St Georges Day
	Friday 24 th	Reception trip to St Hildas
May	Monday 4 th	MAYDAY Bank Holiday – school closed
	Monday 11 th	Year 6 SATS paper SPAG
	Tuesday 12 th	Year 6 SATS paper Reading
	Wednesday 13 th	Year 6 SATS paper 1 & 2 maths
	Thursday 14 th	Year 6 SATS paper 3 maths
	Monday 25 th – Friday 29 th	Half Term Holiday
June	Monday 1 st	Training Day – school closed to pupils



NEWSLETTER

July	Tuesday 2 nd – Friday 5 th	Year 4 Multiplication test to be administered this week
	Friday 5 th	Class Photos
	Monday 8 th – Friday 2 nd	Year 1 phonic screening test to be administered this week
	Monday 6 th	Sports Day – times to be announced
		School Health Nurse – safe sun at Sports Day
	Friday 10 th	School reports sent home today
	Monday 13 th	Year 6 Prom 6pm – 8pm @ Thimblemill Recreation Club – tickets £15.00 per pupil
	Wednesday 15 th	Class swap – pupils will meet their new teacher
	Monday 20 th	Training Day – school closed to pupils

PE days for the coming year

PE						
	Autumn Term		Spring Term		Summer term	
	1pm – 2pm	2pm – 3pm	1pm – 2pm	2pm – 3pm	1pm – 2pm	2pm – 3pm
Monday	Y3	Y1	Y4	Y1	Y4	Y1
Tuesday	Y3	Y2	Y4	Y2	Y3	Y4
Wednesday	Y1	Y5	Y1	Y5	Y1	Y2
Thursday	Y6	Y2	Y6	Y2	Y6	Y2
Friday	Y6	Y5	Y6	Y5	Y6	Y3