



NEWSLETTER

Friday 30th January 2026

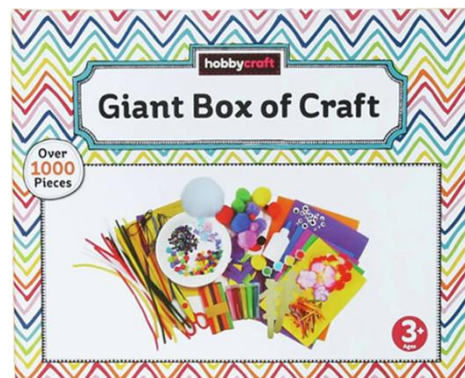
Safety Information – we have been notified of the following

Safety Management Bulletin - Urgent Information

Following the recent news announcement regarding children's coloured play sand and the claimed presence of traces of asbestos fibres within it.

Hobbycraft have issued a product recall and advised that if you have this sand, which is part of the Giant Box of Crafts Kit, you may speak to customer services, or go to Hobbycraft for a refund. The play sand has been withdrawn from sale by Hobbycraft.

[Hobbycraft | Product Recall - Giant Box of Craft](#)



Payments

LUNCHES - Please remember if your child is in year 3 4 5 or 6 and not on FSM (Free School Meals) that there must be credit on ParentPay for meals BEFORE they are ordered. You can add as much credit as you like and it will only be taken once we mark on ParentPay a meal has been ordered.

If you are unsure if you are eligible for FSM please complete the form via this link. <https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/downloads/download/193/free-school-meals-application-form>

Please be aware that they can not back date payments.

BEFORE SCHOOL CLUB – If your child attends club payments must be made on a Friday for the sessions they have attended that week. Like lunches you can add credit to the item and payment will only be taken once attendance has been input each Friday.

If need any support with adding credit on ParentPay please speak with Mrs GT in the office.



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 1</u>	<u>Autumn 2</u>	<u>Year so far</u>
<u>Nursery</u>	82.7	80	80	87.2			91.0	84.7	
<u>Reception</u>	93.8	93.2	94.3	95.4			97.1	91.4	
<u>Year 1</u>	97.4	99	99	95.9			97.5	94.3	96.3
<u>Year 2</u>	94.7	91.2	90	98.8			98.7	94.7	96.3
<u>Year 3</u>	92.9	95.3	97.7	95.0			97.1	93.5	95.3
<u>Year 4</u>	95.7	96.6	96.8	98.6			99.1	95.9	97.5
<u>Year 5</u>	94.4	94.8	99.4	94.2			94.5	95.2	95.9
<u>Year 6</u>	92.5	95.7	95.9	96.2			93.6	93.1	94.3
<u>Whole school</u>	93.7	94.3	95.3	95.7			96.5	93.5	95.9

Well done **Year 2** you have the best attendance again this week.

Whole School Attendance since start of the year is currently running at 96%.

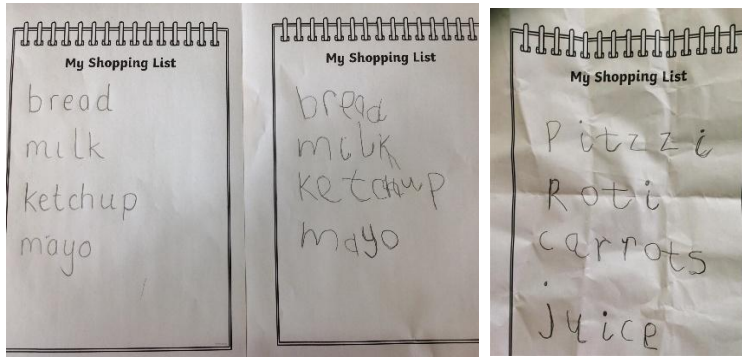
Writer of the Week

This week's **writer of the week** is **Prabhleen in Nursery**. Prabhleen joins in with 'Squiggle whilst you wiggle' every morning which is designed to develop those arm muscles needed for early writing. She can always be found drawing, colouring and forming recognisable letters on her work. She has recently loved copying words to create shopping lists for our new 'Farm shop' role-play and copying words for our classroom displays. Prabhleen uses a fantastic pincer grip and is a role model to her peers. fantastic Prabhleen!





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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.

Musician of the Week

Name: Harry Styles

FACTS ABOUT OUR MUSICIAN OF THE WEEK!

1. Harry Styles (born 1st February 1994) is an English singer, songwriter, and actor
2. Styles auditioned for The X Factor in 2010 as a solo artist before being placed into the boy band that became one of the best-selling of all time.
3. As a solo artist, he has won multiple Grammy Awards.

GENRE
Pop



Sensational Singers!

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

Y1 - Madison
Y2 - Matilda
Y3 - O'Shea
Y4 - Scarlotte
Y5 - Nikolas
Y6 - Naneh

Our class choir of the week is Year 2 ! Well done for your excellent singing!



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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.

Cyber Security

Cyber security is about keeping your personal information safe when using the internet. This includes protecting yourself and your family from online scams and cyber-attacks, where criminals may try to steal information or disrupt online services. The National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) offers helpful guidance for families on how to stay safe online. Their advice covers managing your digital footprint, using anti-virus software, and simple steps you can take every day, such as: using strong, secure passwords or setting up two-step verification

You can find these free resources and more support for families here:

<https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/section/advice-guidance/you-your-family>



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-
things added today are highlighted in green

Month	Date	Event
January	Friday 30 th	Year 5 - Maths workshop for parents/carers 9-10am
February	Wednesday 11 th	Rocksteady KS1 and KS2 Assembly and Workshops am
	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)
	Thursday 26 th	Year 1, 2 and 3 watching 'The Magic Bookmark' mini pantomime at Thimblemill Library on at 1.30pm
	Tuesday 3 rd	Year 5 and Year 6 Parents Adaptive Teaching info session and 'come and work with your child' morning 9 – 10.30
	Wednesday 4 th	Year 2 trip to St Hildas
	Thursday 5 th	World Book Day – children to dress up as their favourite book character
	Friday 6 th	Year 1 and Year 2 Parents Adaptive Teaching info session and 'come and work with your child' morning 9 – 10.15
	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



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	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
	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
July	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