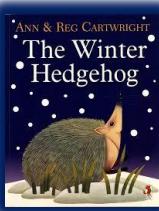


## Autumn Term No 8

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2025

We have been having a wonderful time in the classroom, with the children fully engaged in their learning. Here is an overview of what the children have been working on.

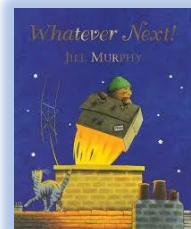
### Nursery



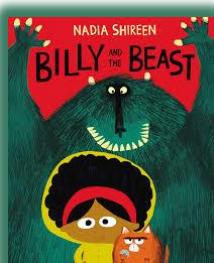
This week in Nursery, we have been embracing the start of winter! The children enjoyed reading *The Winter Hedgehog* and explored their creativity by building hedgehogs with playdough to strengthen their fine motor skills. In Expressive Arts and Design, they experimented with using forks as a painting tool, discovering new textures and effects. Our Christmas Grotto role play has been a hit, especially the 'hot chocolate station' where children practiced making drinks and using comparative language such as 'big', 'large', and 'small' to describe. In Maths, we focused on touch counting and finding 'big' and 'small'.

### Reception

Reception have been working incredibly hard over the past few weeks! We have finished our focus on *Whatever Next* in Literacy and are now enjoying *Peace at Last*, another story by Jill Murphy. The children have been spotting similarities between the books, practising their phonics by listening for beginning, middle and end sounds in CVC words, and working on letter formation to write words. In Maths, we explored the composition of 4 and 5 using Numicon tiles and are beginning to recall some number bonds. In Understanding the World, we have talked about significant people in our lives, shared memories and explored technology, comparing old and new devices—the Beebots were a particular hit! This week, we are excited to begin learning about Winter.



### Year 1



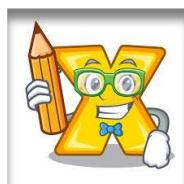
Last week, the children were thrilled to discover that a mysterious visitor had been in our classrooms! Muddy footprints, nibbled fruit, and scattered green fur revealed that a huge, friendly-looking creature with horns had wandered in because he was feeling a little hungry.

In English, the children created their own wanted posters to warn others, using their knowledge of statements, questions, and commands. This activity hooked them perfectly into our new story, *Billy and the Beast* by Nadia Shireen, and they were eager to begin reading it.

In D&T, the children have started sewing Christmas decorations for the hall tree, while in Science, they carried out some fieldwork to identify the signs of Winter. In Maths, we have been exploring number bonds to ten, using these to find related facts and solve problems. The children have also been busy practising for our Winter Performance and are very excited to share it with parents next week!

### Year 2

In English, we have continued our work around the book 'Me and You'. We have looked at the alternative version of events for Goldilocks, where she is a young girl that gets lost and takes shelter in the home of the Three Bears. We have looked at retelling the story from different points of view, particularly focussing on the emotions of the characters. In Maths, we have continued to look at multiplication, thinking about how we can use arrays to show calculations. We have also learnt about money; identifying the value of different coins and calculating change from 20p and 50p. Our Gymnastics lessons are progressing well, we have learnt a variety of different rolls, jumps and leaps. We even had a go at using different hand apparatus, including hoops, ribbons and balls. In Geography lessons we have been looking at world maps and locating different continents and oceans.



### Poppy Appeal 2025

A big thank you to everyone for their generous donations to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2025. Together, we raised an impressive **£402.46**! Your support is greatly appreciated and will help make a real difference to those in need.

## Acorn Sparkle Day - Reminder for Friday 5th December



A quick reminder that this Friday, 5th December, we will be holding a non-uniform day in support of Acorn Sparkle Day. We kindly ask for a £2 donation per child—

- £1 for non-uniform, and
- £1 for a strip of raffle tickets to enter our School Council's exciting tombola event.

In addition, we would be very grateful for any donations of unused children's gifts, which will be used as prizes for the tombola. Your support helps us make this event fun and successful for all of our children.

Thank you for your generosity and continued support!

## Christmas Cards

Children are welcome to bring Christmas cards into school for their friends. A Christmas post box will be available for them to post their cards, and these will be distributed at the end of the week.

Please encourage your child to have a go at writing their own cards. Class lists with children's first names were sent home on Monday.

Due to the high number of allergies in school, we kindly ask that no **sweet treats** are placed inside Christmas card envelopes, as we are unable to verify ingredients.



**Please remember that we are a nut-free school.**

## Christmas Lunch

If you would like your child to enjoy a Christmas lunch on **Tuesday 16th December**, please note that orders must be placed by **Friday 5th December**.

Please don't forget to make your selections on School Grid. The Christmas Lunch menu is listed below.

### **Mains**

- Roast Turkey Christmas Lunch
- Puff Pastry Christmas Cracker (VG)

### **Accompaniments**

- Homemade Roast Potatoes (VG) (GF)
- Carrots (VG) (GF)
- Garden Peas (VG) (GF)
- Brussels Sprouts (VG) (GF)
- Gravy (VG) (GF)

### **Desserts**

- Reindeer Shortbread (VG)
- Sticky Toffee Pudding with Custard (choice) (V)
- Fresh Fruit (VG) (GF)



<https://app.schoolgrid.co.uk/>

## Year 1 - A Cup of Cheer Performance

We are excited to invite Year 1 Parents to our Winter Performance – A Cup of Cheer! Class 5 will perform on Tuesday 9th December, Class 4 on Wednesday 10th December, and Class 6 on Thursday 11th December. We look forward to welcoming you to enjoy the festive songs, performances, and celebrations the children have been practising so enthusiastically. Please can all parents arrive via the hall doors, the show begins at 9:30am.



On the day of the performance, our School Council will be selling delicious mince pies and hot chocolate to help spread some seasonal cheer. If you would like to enjoy a warm drink and a tasty treat, please remember to bring **£1.50** with you. We look forward to seeing everyone join in and support the event!

## Hurricane Productions – Aladdin Pantomime



On Wednesday, 17th December, we are delighted to welcome Hurricane Productions into school for a performance of this year's pantomime, *Aladdin*. The children will enjoy a fun-filled show packed with music, comedy, and plenty of audience participation.

The production is suitable for **Reception age children and above**, making it a perfect festive treat for the whole school. This is always a highlight of the season and a wonderful opportunity for children to experience live theatre without leaving the school. We are sure the performance will be a memorable and enjoyable event for everyone.

This day will also be our **Christmas party day** and a **non-uniform day**, so children are invited to come dressed in festive or party clothes. It promises to be a fun and memorable day filled with entertainment, celebration, and holiday cheer for all children.

### Infant Academy Christmas Disco – Wednesday 17th December 2025

We are delighted to share the arrangements for this year's Infant Academy Christmas Discos:

- **Reception:** 3.30–4.15pm

Reception children will go straight to the disco at the end of the school day, so there is no need to collect them at 3.20pm. Please collect your child from their classroom door at 4.15pm.

- **Year 1:** 4.30–5.15pm

Please arrive and collect your child from their classroom door.

- **Year 2:** 5.30–6.15pm

Please arrive and collect your child from their classroom door.



Please note that **tickets will not be available to purchase on the night**, and **children cannot be admitted without a ticket** due to fire safety regulations. Each ticket includes a snack and a drink. Tickets will be distributed before the close of school on **Friday 12th December 2025**.

Wednesday 17th December will also be our **Christmas Party Day**. Children are invited to attend school in non-school uniform; however, please ensure they wear suitable footwear for the day.

### **Who are our SUPERSTARS ...**



Celebrating the achievements of our children out of school. Lots of children have been busy reading and completing the Summer Reading Challenge. They have also been busy achieving in swimming, dancing, footballing and gymnastics.



<b>Achievements</b>		
Nursery	Jovan M	Swimming – Water Skills 1 Award
Class 1	Idrees A	Little Kickers - Player of the Week Award
Class 4	Ayah A	Swimming – 5 Metres Award
Class 5	Amore A	Swimming – 5 Metres Award
Class 5	Zoya L	Stagecoach Performing Arts Award
Class 6	Diya R	Swimming – Learn to swim 2 Award
Class 6	Hollie W	Funky Fusion School of Dance – Pupil of the Week
Class 7	Hana M	Walsall Football Club Competition Medal
Class 7	Haadi S	Islamic Centre Level 1 Curriculum Certificate
Class 8	Harcharan R	Swimming – Octopus 1 Award
Class 8	Anika S	Ballet – Primary Grade Award
Class 8	Hukam B	Swimming – Learn to Swim 1 Award

### House Point Assembly



This term, children who have accumulated 20 house points will receive their Bronze House Point Award. The School Council will also be counting up all the house points awarded this term to see which house colour wins the House Trophy. It's always an exciting celebration of effort, teamwork, and achievement!

## Gold Star Assembly Award Winners

In recognition of your learning, progress, attitude, effort and upholding the school learning habits and values.  
Congratulations!

Harvin B - Class 1

Amaanah K - Class 5

Charan R - Class 8

## Whole School Attendance

Week commencing Monday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2025 – 95% Highest Attendance Class 7 – 100%  
Week commencing Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2025 – 95.6% Highest Attendance Class 7 – 99.1%  
Well done Class 7!

### Attendance Target 96%

Class	% Attendance w/c 17/11/25	Class	% Attendance w/c 17/11/25	Class	%Attendance w/c 24/11/25	Class	% Attendance w/c 24/11/25
Nur		5	94.6	Nur	95.8	5	95
1	83	6	99.3	1	88.7	6	97.8
2	96	7	100	2	97.7	7	99.1
3	97.7	8	96.2	3	87	8	97.6
4	99.2	9	98.1	4	98.8	9	99

**High focus on attendance. Please ensure your children are attending daily and on time.  
Don't miss the phonics learning at 9.00am!**

### DATES FOR THE DIARY

#### **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2025 – Acorns Sparkle Day**

We would love for the children to wear something sparkly and ask for a **small donation** to support this special fund raising day. This year's School Council are excited to host a tombola! Our non-uniform day will be on **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December**, with a **£2 donation** (£1 for non-uniform and £1 for raffle tickets). We would also welcome **unused children's gifts** for tombola prizes.

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2025** - Year 1- Class 5 Parents will be invited into school for a cheerful performance to celebrate the season at 9:30am (a cup of cheer)

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2025** - Year 1- Class 4 Parents will be invited into school for a cheerful performance to celebrate the season at 9:30am (a cup of cheer)

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2025** - Year 1- Class 6 Parents will be invited into school for a cheerful performance to celebrate the season at 9:30am (a cup of cheer)

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2025 – Party Day (Non-Uniform)**

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2025 – Aladdin In - School Pantomime**

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2025 - Christmas Disco (Further information to follow)**

**Reception - 3.30pm – 4.15pm**

**Year 1 - 4.30pm – 5.15pm**

**Year 2 - 5.30pm – 6.15pm**

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025** - School closes for Christmas, usual time 3.20pm

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026** - School opens, usual time 8.45am

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026** - deadline for applications for Reception and Year 3 September 2026

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2026 – PTA Meeting 9am (in school and online)**



#### Inset Days

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2026**

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2026**

#### Term Dates

Please click on the link below for the current academic term dates.

<https://www.parkhall-inf.walsall.sch.uk/term-and-holiday-dates/>