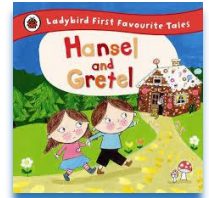


School has been a hive of activity over the past few weeks. We have been learning .....

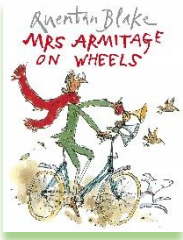
### Nursery

Nursery have had another magical week as we continued our *Once Upon a Time* topic with the story of Hansel and Gretel. The children explored the story through discussion, learning new vocabulary such as *frustrated*, *tempted* and *problem*, and sharing their ideas using "because". In literacy, they helped the witch write spells while practising the 'g' sound. In maths, they counted sweets on the gingerbread house and explored what happens when we add or take some away. The children also designed their own magical wands, built castles in small world, and worked together outside to rescue Hansel and Gretel on a forest obstacle course and experiment in the potion lab. It has been lovely to see their language, imagination and teamwork developing through play.



### Reception

This week in Reception, we have been enjoying the stories *Mrs Armitage on Wheels* by Quentin Blake and *Unplugged* by Steve Antony. The children have been writing sentences about the stories and exploring their predictions and key events through a range of fun activities within our continuous provision. In Maths, we have been consolidating our number bonds to 5 and recording the number sentences in our books. We have also started using Numicon to explore all the different ways to make 10. The children are very excited as they practise their songs and dances for our special Mother's Day performance this week. In PE, we have been developing our ball control and practising different ball skills. In Understanding the World, we have been learning about the past and exploring different places in our country and around the world, looking at similarities and differences and discovering some of the amazing wonders of our planet.

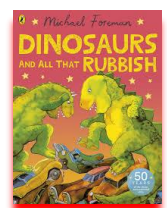


### Year 1

Last week, the children worked very hard completing their spring assessments. It was wonderful to see how much progress they have made and how confidently they were able to apply their learning.

In English, we retold the story *Dinosaurs and All That Rubbish!* This week, we are practising writing command sentences using our "bossy verbs." The children will use these to create their own pamphlets to encourage others to look after our planet.

In Maths, we are developing a deeper understanding of place value and using this knowledge to help us solve problems. In Design and Technology, we have explored how levers and sliders work. The children are now using this knowledge to design their own reward charts for Reception children.



### Year 2

Last week, we had a fantastic time working on our D&T project. Using Purple Mash, the children designed their own cars using CAD before creating them from nets. They carefully used a hacksaw and file to cut their own axles and attached wooden wheels. The finished cars looked fantastic and everyone was very proud of their creations! In English, we have continued our learning about the Great Fire of London. The children have been writing diary entries from the perspective of Samuel Pepys and will soon be writing persuasive speeches to convince the King to help save the city.

In Maths, we have been exploring different ways to calculate multiplication facts, including using arrays and number lines.



## OUR WORLD BOOK DAY CELEBRATIONS

We kicked off our World Book Day celebrations at Park Hall Infant Academy with our infamous Masked Reader assembly. The hall was filled with excitement as a group of mysterious masked readers took to the stage to share a story with the children. Throughout the assembly, the children eagerly tried to guess who was behind each disguise.



After each story, the excitement built as the children began chanting together, "Take it off! Take it off!" before the masked reader finally revealed their identity to lots of cheers and laughter.

A huge thank you to our wonderful staff who took part and helped make the assembly so memorable:

- Mrs Wilson as *Koala*
- Miss Brookes-Smith as a *Unicorn*
- Mrs Rooker as *Santa*
- Mr Tonks as a *Hippo*
- Mrs Wootton as a *Cat*
- Miss Deeming as a *Dinosaur*

The children absolutely loved the surprise and it was a fantastic way to start a day full of reading, creativity and fun.

The celebrations continued throughout the day with our crayon-inspired theme based on *The Day the Crayons Quit*. Children came to school dressed in a single colour to represent their chosen crayon, filling the school with a wonderful rainbow of colours. Classes took part in a range of reading and creative activities, including making their own crayon headbands and sharing stories together. Thank you to Miss Deakin for organising a joyful day that celebrated our love of books and reading across the whole

school.



## Physical Education

Over the last two weeks, we have been delighted to welcome Lee Sanders from the Streetly School Sports Partnership into school to work with alongside our staff and children.

Lee has led high-quality CPD sessions for staff, sharing practical strategies and ideas to further strengthen the teaching of Physical Education across the school. In addition, our Year 1 and Year 2 children thoroughly enjoyed taking part in a high-intensity PE lessons, which were engaging, energetic, and great fun.

It has been a fantastic opportunity for both staff and children, and we are grateful for the enthusiasm, expertise, and inspiration Lee brought to our school.



### Red Nose Day - Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2026



#### **Wear Red Day & Charity Donation Appeal**

We are pleased to announce that our school will be holding a Wear Something Red Day on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2026 in support of Comic Relief.

On this day, children and staff are invited to come to school wearing non uniform with something red — this could be a red jumper, socks, hair accessory, tie, or any small item of red clothing. There is no expectation to buy anything new; a simple splash of red will help us show our support.

We kindly ask for a voluntary donation. All money raised will be donated to Comic Relief to support their important work in helping those affected by poverty.

This is a wonderful opportunity for our school community to come together, raise awareness, and make a positive difference. We appreciate your continued generosity and support.

Thank you in advance for helping us make this event a success.

### Pupil Progress Evening – Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March & Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2026

This is a reminder that our Pupil Progress Evenings are approaching. The Scopay booking system is now open for you to book an appointment with your child's class teacher.

It is important that you take this opportunity to discuss your child's progress and how you can support them further at home. The deadline to book your appointment is 9:00am on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March.

Nursery families are also able to book daytime appointments on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March. The booking deadline remains 9:00am on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March.

We look forward to meeting with you.

### Reminder - Easter Competition 2026



All Easter bonnet and design competition entries need to be brought into school by the morning of Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March.

Children in Nursery and Reception can create an Easter bonnet and our Year 1 and Year 2 children are to create a design based on the Winter Olympics. We are looking forward to seeing lots of creative ideas and



colourful designs.

**Please make sure that all entries are clearly labelled with your child's name and class so that they can be easily identified.**

### British Science Day in School – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2026

On Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2026, we will be celebrating British Science Week in school. This exciting event highlights the importance of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) and encourages children to explore and question the world around them.



This year's theme is "Curiosity: What's your question?" Curiosity is at the heart of discovery, helping scientists, engineers and inventors learn new things and solve problems. We will be encouraging the children to think of their own questions about topics that interest them – from space and animals to sport, music, food or buildings.

To make the day even more exciting, children are invited to come to school dressed as a career that uses science, technology, engineering or maths. While you might immediately think of doctors, nurses, scientists or engineers, there are many other STEM-related careers too, such as chefs, builders, farmers and zookeepers.

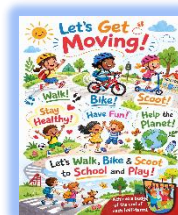
Some simple costume ideas include:

- Farmer: Wellies, jeans and a checked shirt
- Builder/Engineer: Jeans, a t-shirt and a high-visibility vest
- Scientist: A large white t-shirt worn as a lab coat
- Palaeontologist: Trousers, a t-shirt and a magnifying glass

We are looking forward to seeing the children's creative costumes and hearing all of their curious questions as we celebrate the wonderful world of STEM. **Please note that Reception PE day will be on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April for this week only.**

### Active Travel to School

Active travel to school—such as walking, cycling, or scooting—is a great way for children to start their day feeling energised and ready to learn. It helps build healthy habits, supports physical and mental wellbeing, and reduces traffic and pollution around the school gates. Even travelling actively for part of the journey can make a big difference. We encourage families to consider walking, cycling, or parking a little further away and enjoying the rest of the journey together. At the end of each term, children who have actively travelled to school for most of their journeys will receive a special badge to recognise their efforts. Every step or pedal helps create a healthier, safer school community!



### 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.



Achievements		
Class 2	Narayan K	Gymnastics – Level 8 Award
Class 2	Mila B	Rugby – Baby Bears Star of the Week
Class 4	Kyran B	Kickboxing – Nest Behaved Kickboxer Award
Class 5	Veeran S	Kickboxing – Blue Belt Award
Class 6	Jordan P	Swimming – 10 Metre Award & Kickboxing – Yellow Belt Award
Class 6	Leah D	Martial Arts – brown belt award
Class 6	Ayva G	Gymnastics – Active Gym Skills Level 1
Class 7	Rahaan T	Swimming – 10 Metre Award
Class 8	Jacob B	Martial Arts – Orange Belt Award
Class 8	Aurora R	Sports Plus Medal

### Gold Star Assembly Award Winners



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



Congratulations!

Class 1 – Anamta F

Class 6 – Ayra A

Class 8 – Shannanpreet S

### Whole School Attendance

Week commencing Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026 – 95.2%

Highest Attendance Class 1 – 99.7%

Week commencing Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2026 – 96.4%

Highest Attendance Class 1 – 100%

### **Well done Class 1!**

### Attendance Target 96%

Class	% Attendance w/c 23/02/26	Class	% Attendance w/c 23/02/26	Class	% Attendance w/c 02/03/26	Class	% Attendance w/c 02/03/26
Nur	90.2	5	98.5	Nur	94.7	5	98.5
1	99.7	6	91.9	1	100	6	85.9
2	97.7	7	99.3	2	97	7	96.7
3	90	8	99	3	99.3	8	98.6
4	93.2	9	94.3	4	98.4	9	95

**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

**Reception Performance – Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March – Class 1- 2:30pm**  
**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March – Class 2 – 2:30pm**  
**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March – Class 3 – 2:30pm**  
**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March – Comic Relief – Non uniform Day**  
**Pupil Progress Evening – Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March and Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March**  
**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March - Easter Competitions**  
**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March – Last Day of Term**  
**April 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> – Playscheme**  
**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April – First Day of Term**  
**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April – Reception Height and Weight**  
**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April – Reception Eye Screening**  
**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April – Science Day (Reception PE Day Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April)**  
**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April – Reception Eye Screening**



### 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/>