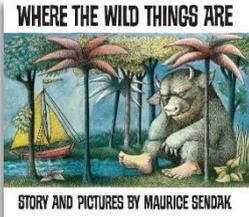


School has been a hive of activity over the past few weeks. We have been learning

Nursery



Nursery children have been busy exploring the wonderful story *Where the Wild Things Are* by Maurice Sendak. They have enjoyed reading the book together and have been creating their own pictures inspired by the characters and events in the story. The children also took part in a very exciting "wild rumpus," where they played musical instruments, sang songs, and danced along to the music, just like in the story. Alongside this, Nursery have been learning about wild animals, exploring where they live and discovering different animal habitats through discussion and play.

Reception

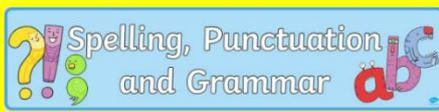
In Literacy, the children have begun exploring *Farmer Duck* by Martin Waddell, practising phonics through writing CVC words and simple sentences. They have also been developing letter formation and learning to write uppercase letters alongside lowercase letters.

In Maths, we have been focusing on adding one more and subtracting one less with numbers up to 8, using Numicon tiles and drawings to support understanding.

In Understanding the World, we have launched our topic *People Who Help Us*, learning about family members' jobs and the important roles of Doctors and Nurses. We are looking forward to exploring freezing and melting and investigating solids and liquids through fun, hands-on activities.



Year 1



In English, the children have been enjoying developing their grammar skills by learning about action verbs and being verbs. Later this week, they will be applying this learning to their sentence work, helping them to better understand how grammar supports meaning and structure. This will support the children with independently constructing clear and coherent sentences.

In Maths, we have been practising addition by counting on from the larger number. The children have explored number patterns and used known number facts to help them solve more challenging calculations more efficiently. They have really enjoyed discovering how using what they already know can make addition easier.

In Art, the children have been exploring watercolours and experimenting with different techniques to create a range of effects.

In History, the children have been enjoying learning about the Battle of Hastings. They have created their own timeline of events and explored the key figures involved, as well as the reasons why the battle took place.

Year 2

This week in Year 2, the children have worked hard across the curriculum. In English, they focused on building clear single-clause sentences by identifying subjects and verbs. In Maths, they practised number bonds and developed their skills in addition and subtraction. In history, the children fact files about the famous engineer Isambard Kingdom Brunel. In Art, they experimented with colour mixing and produced their own expressive paintings, while in PE they had great fun learning a dance to *Thriller*. It has been a busy and enjoyable week of learning for Year 2!



Road Safety Reminder



There was another near miss on the roads outside our school grounds this morning. We ask all families to please take extra care when parking and when bringing children to and from school.

With so many young children around, the area becomes very busy. We encourage families, where possible, to use a *Park and Stride* approach by parking a short distance away and walking the rest of the journey. This helps reduce congestion and makes the

area around school safer for everyone.

Safety is always our priority. Thank you for helping us look after each other and keep our children safe.

Park Hall Infant Academy – New Website Launch

You may have noticed that our school website has a fresh new look. This is an exciting development for Park Hall Infant Academy, and we thank you for your patience while we transition from our old website. During this time, some areas, such as the calendar, may not yet be fully up and running. We expect this transition period to last for a couple of weeks. A helpful new feature of the website is our *Virtual Office*. This provides a range of useful tools, including reporting your child's absence and sharing information about medication needed in school. We hope this will make busy mornings a little easier, particularly when the school office is very busy.

We hope you enjoy using our new website and find it helpful.



Birthday Sweets



We are aware that some children in our school have specific dietary requirements for health, religious, or ethical reasons. When sending in birthday treats, we ask families to please be mindful that not all children can eat all types of sweets.

We are not able to tell parents what to send, but simply sharing this awareness can help ensure that all children feel included during celebrations.

Thank you for helping us create a considerate and welcoming environment for all our pupils.

Reminder – Be Bright, Be Seen Competition

Don't forget! Our "Be Bright, Be Seen" competition is still open.

Children are invited to design a bag that helps them stay visible and safe during the darker winter evenings. Designs can be colourful, reflective, or include creative safety features.

Deadline for entries: 23rd January. We cannot wait to see the children's bright and imaginative designs. Thank you for your continued support.



Children's Mental Health Week



From 9–15 February 2026, we will be taking part in Children's Mental Health Week. This year's theme is "This is My Place", which is all about helping children feel safe, happy and that they belong.

During the week, children will enjoy simple activities, stories and discussions that help them talk about feelings, understand kindness and know that it is always okay to ask for help. We want every child to feel that school is a place where they are cared for and listened to.

Children's Mental Health Week happens every February and reminds us how important it is to look after our minds as well as our bodies. Thank you for your continued support in helping our children feel happy and confident at school.

Lunchbox Reminder

We kindly remind parents and carers to be mindful when preparing lunchboxes. We have a high number of children in school with nut allergies, including some who require EpiPens, so we ask that lunchboxes remain nut-free to help keep everyone safe.

We would also like to remind families that certain foods, such as grapes and dates, can be a choking hazard for young children. Please ensure these are cut in half lengthways before being sent into school.



Helping Us Care for Our Nursery Children

A reminder to all Nursery parents and carers that children do sometimes have little accidents during the day. While we do keep spare clothes in Nursery, our supplies are currently running low.

Please ensure that your child has a named spare change of clothes on their peg at Nursery, to be used if needed. This helps us make sure children can get changed quickly and comfortably.

School Belongings!



Please remember to label all items of your child's uniform and coat with their name.

With 30 children in each class, it can be difficult to return lost items when clothing is not labelled, as much of the uniform looks identical. Labelling belongings helps ensure items are returned to the correct child.

Any named clothing will be returned to the child. If your child has taken home the wrong item of uniform or has been changed into school clothing during the day, can all items belonging to the school please be returned as soon as possible.

Thank you for your support.

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 1	Harvin B	Swimming – Stanley 1 Award
Class 4	Avani P	Swimming – 25 Metres Award
Class 5	Riya B	Kickboxing – Best Behaved Kickboxer Award
Class 6	Jordan P	Kickboxing – Best Behaved Kickboxer Award
Class 8	Brinley	Basketball – Medal for joining the team

Gold Star Assembly Award Winners

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

Congratulations!

Farhan S - Class 1	Uthman H - Class 2	Krm K P - Class 4
Leah D - Class 6	Jai K - Class 7	Holi S - Class 9

Whole School Attendance

Week commencing Monday 5th January 2026 – 95.3% Highest Attendance Class 5 – 99.1%
 Week commencing Monday 12th January 2026 – 97.5% Highest Attendance Class 6 – 100%

Well done Class 5 & 6!

Attendance Target 96%

Class	% Attendance w/c 05/01/26	Class	% Attendance w/c 05/01/26	Class	% Attendance w/c 12/01/26	Class	% Attendance w/c 12/01/26
Nur	92.7	5	99.1	Nur	96.5	5	97.1
1	97.8	6	93.5	1	98.3	6	100
2	96.6	7	98.7	2	94	7	97.9
3	94.5	8	96.6	3	97.7	8	98.6
4	91	9	93.6	4	98.4	9	97.1

**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

Tuesday 27th January 2026 – PTA Meeting 9am (in school and online)

Monday 9th February 2026 PM – Reception Class 1 Road Safety Walk

Monday 9th February 2026 – Mental Health Week

Tuesday 10th February 2026 PM – Reception Class 2 Road Safety Walk

Wednesday 11th February 2026 PM – Reception Class 3 Road Safety

Tuesday 10th February 2026 – Safer Internet Day

February 2026 Mini Mash Parent Computing Workshop for Reception

Class 1 – 9:30am – 10:15am – Tuesday 10th February

Class 2 – 9:30am – 10:15am – Monday 9th February

Class 3 – 2:30pm – 3:15pm – Tuesday 10th February

Friday 13th February 2026 – Last Day of Term

Monday 23rd February 2026 – First Day of Term school opens usual time 8:45am



Inset Days

Friday 19th June 2026

Monday 20th 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/>