

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

Nursery



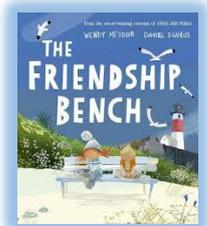
This week in Nursery we are fully immersed in *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*, with lots of hands-on, talk-rich activities to bring the story to life. The children have been creating a large journey map together using marks and symbols to represent the river, long grass, mud and cave, talking about what their marks mean and "reading" the map back to each other. We have been exploring counting through a teddy bear game on the iPads, crawling through tunnels as dark caves while repeating story language, and using art to show how the bear feels at different points in the story. Children have also enjoyed collaging the different scenes, investigating textures in a sensory tray, and taking part in a Teddy Bears' Picnic where role play and back-and-forth conversations are encouraged. Throughout the week we have been focusing on language, feelings and confidence, helping children share ideas, listen to one another and enjoy telling the story in their own way.

Reception

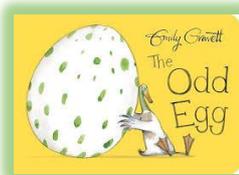
Reception children have had a busy and exciting time learning across the curriculum. They have been enjoying the story *The Friendship Bench*, making predictions about what might happen next and developing their writing skills by using the sentence starter "It is a..." to create longer sentences.

In Maths, the children have been exploring the composition of numbers up to 6, using Numicon tiles to support their understanding. As part of *Understanding the World*, they have continued learning about *People Who Help Us* in our community, including the Police and Fire Service.

The children have also loved investigating reversible changes and exploring solids, liquids and gases through hands-on activities.



Year 1



In English, Year 1 children have been learning that a sentence must include a subject and a verb. They have been developing their skills in identifying the subject and verb in single-clause sentences and using this knowledge to punctuate their writing correctly. The children have even challenged themselves to punctuate a whole paragraph!

This week, we are reading *The Odd Egg* by Emily Gravett. The children will be exploring adjectives to describe different animal eggs and making predictions about which animals might hatch from them. Next week, they will be writing their own *Egg Spotter's Guide* to help the author share information about how to care for the eggs.

In Maths, we are exploring 2D shapes and learning about their properties. In Art, we are continuing to practise our new watercolour techniques, using our imagination to create our own piece of expressive artwork.

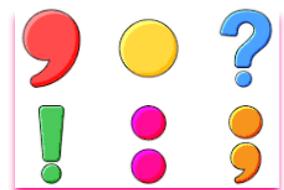
Year 2

Year 2 have continued developing their grammar skills by identifying verbs and subjects in sentences and short paragraphs. They have also been learning how to spot where capital letters and full stops should be added to unpunctuated text. Our next step will be to apply these skills in their own independent writing.

In Maths, we have been using number lines to find the difference between two numbers.

The children thoroughly enjoyed their Art lesson last week, creating still-life drawings using one continuous line. They then added colour by collaging sugar paper over their drawings. Next, they will be using the same technique to create self-portraits.

In Science, we have been investigating different micro-habitats around the school and exploring why these environments are suitable for different living creatures.



Safer Internet Day 2026 – Using Technology Safely

Mark your calendars for Tuesday 10th February 2026!

Next week, our school will join others across the country to celebrate Safer Internet Day 2026. We will talk to the children about using technology safely and kindly, including fun tools like games, apps, and voice assistants. You can continue the conversation at home by asking your child:



- What do you like to do online?
- Have you used a computer, tablet, or voice assistant? How did it feel?
- Who would you tell if something online made you worried?

Together, we can help children enjoy technology safely and happily every day!

Children's Mental Health Week



Also next week, 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 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.

This will be closely linked with Internet Safety Day on **Tuesday 10th February**, recognising that online safety is a key part of protecting children from harm and supporting well-being in an increasingly digital world.

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.



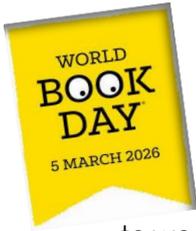
Leaflets will be sent home with children next week to encourage them to explore and learn more about their local area. These activities are designed to be completed outside of class time so we kindly ask families to work through them together at home and return to school once completed. The leaflet offers a fun way for children to observe their surroundings and make real-life connections to their learning.

Pupil Progress Evening – Tuesday 24th March & Thursday 26th March 2026

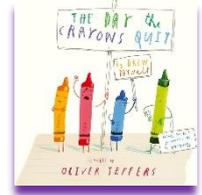
We look forward to welcoming you to our Pupil Progress Evenings. Please ensure that you book an appointment to talk with your child's class teacher. It is important that you understand how well your child is doing and how you can support them further. Booking through your child's Scopay will be open from **Thursday 26th February at 7pm. Deadline to book an appointment will be Monday 23rd March at 9am. Further information to follow and we look forward to meeting with you.**

Our Nursery families will also be offered day time appointments on Tuesday 24th March. The deadline to book the appointment will be Monday 23rd March at 9am.

World Book Day



We are really looking forward to celebrating World Book Day next half-term on Thursday 5th March, when the whole school will come together to share our love of reading. This year, our celebrations are inspired by *The Day the Crayons Quit* by Drew Daywalt, and children are invited to come to school dressed in one single colour to look like a crayon. During the day, children will make a matching headband to complete their costume, helping everyone feel included without the need to buy anything new. Please ensure outfits and shoes are safe to wear in the playground, allow children to use the toilet independently, and are suitable for outdoor play and craft activities, as things may get a little messy. Optional homework activities and competitions will be shared before half-term.



Wonderful News!



We have some wonderful news to share! Mrs. Fisher has welcomed a baby boy. Both Mom and Son are doing well, and the family is overjoyed as they settle in together. Please join us in congratulating Mrs. Fisher and her family on this happy addition!

A*STARs Be Bright, Be Seen Competition – Key Stage 1 Winners!

Congratulations to all our children who took part in the Be Bright, Be Seen competition! Your creativity and effort were fantastic. A special well done to our winners – we are very proud of you! Thank you to Miss Deeming, our A*STAR coordinator, for supporting the children and helping make this competition so exciting.



Celebrating an English Freestyle Wrestling Champion



We are incredibly proud to share some fantastic news with our school community. One of our children, Isher, has achieved an outstanding sporting accomplishment, becoming an English Freestyle Wrestling Champion and earning the Number 1 ranking in Freestyle Wrestling. This remarkable success is a true reflection of his dedication, hard work, and determination both on and off the mat. Achievements like this inspire us all and highlight the importance of perseverance and commitment. Congratulations on this incredible achievement — from everyone in your Park Hall Family.

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	Irsa S	Swimming – 10 Metres Award
Class 6	Jordan P	Kickboxing – Nest Behaved Kickboxer Award
Class 7	Seaton J B	Football – Medal for Scoring a Goal
Class 8	Kiara P	Swimming – Level 3 Award, 10 Meters Award & 15 Meters Award
Class 9	Avneet S	Kickboxing – Best Behaved Kickboxer Award
Class 9	Rubaani D	Swimming – Goldfish 2 Award
Class 9	Isher T	English Championships Freestyle Wrestling – Gold medal award
Class 9	Roman G-M	Gymnastics – Gymnast of the Week
Class 9	Japnoor D	Gymnastics – Award for staying on the beam the longest

Gold Star Assembly Award Winners



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



Congratulations!

Class 2 – Ayesha T	Class 3 – Hiba T	Class 5 – Jorah N
Class 6 – Myla H	Class 8 – Yajna G	Class 9 – Eshaal A

Whole School Attendance

Week commencing Monday 19th January 2026 – 96.6% Highest Attendance Class 9 – 99.4%

Week commencing Monday 26th January 2026 – 96.3% Highest Attendance Class 1 – 99%

Well done Class 9 & 1!

Attendance Target 96%

Class	% Attendance w/c 19/01/26	Class	% Attendance w/c 19/01/26	Class	% Attendance w/c 26/01/26	Class	% Attendance w/c 26/01/26
Nur	95.6	5	99.3	Nur	93.3	5	96.7
1	95.9	6	99.3	1	99	6	96.3
2	94.7	7	98.6	2	97.7	7	94.8
3	96.7	8	89.3	3	94.7	8	95.5
4	98	9	99.4	4	98.8	9	98.4

**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

Monday 9th February 2026 – Mental Health Week

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

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

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

(Parents to arrive via the School Office for the Road Safety Walk)

Tuesday 10th February 2026 – Safer Internet Day

February 2026 Mini Mash Parent Computing Workshop for Reception (Parents to arrive via the school hall)

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

Thursday 5th March – World Book Day

Reception Performance – Wednesday 11th March – Class 1

Thursday 12th March – Class 2

Friday 13th March – Class 3

Pupil Progress Evening – Tuesday 24th March and Thursday 26th March



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/>

Please note:

Year 1 PE will not take place on its usual day of Tuesday 10th February this week. Instead, PE will be held on Friday 13th February for this week only. If your child attends the after-school club on Tuesday, please ensure they bring their PE kit in a bag, so they can get changed in time for the club.

Please note that Reception PE will not take place on its usual day of Friday 13th February. Instead, PE will be held on Thursday 12th February for this week only.