



Message from Mrs Fellows

The first half of the autumn term has absolutely flown by and what a fantastic eight weeks it has been! As we reach the half-term break, we can reflect on a truly action-packed start to the school year, filled with memorable experiences, achievements and reasons to celebrate.

Our pupils have embraced a wide range of enrichment opportunities. Year 5 and 6 children enjoyed taking part in Bikeability sessions, helping them to develop important road safety skills. Forty of our Year 6 pupils had a wonderful residential experience at Frank Chapman, creating memories and demonstrating independence, resilience and teamwork. We have also been delighted to offer a broad range of after-school clubs, with children enthusiastically participating in activities across the school.

Our Year 4 pupils in 4C have successfully completed their first block of swimming lessons. Years 3 and 4 enjoyed a vibrant Flamenco Day, bringing learning to life through music and dance. Thank you to everyone who made a contribution towards this event. Our youngest learners in Butterflies thoroughly enjoyed their Three Little Pigs workshop, and Year 4 pupils took part in an inspiring art workshop that helped develop their creativity and confidence- thank you to all the parents that came along.

We are incredibly proud of the way our school community has come together to support others. Our Macmillan Coffee Morning was well supported and helped raise valuable funds for an important cause. Year 2 and Year 5 pupils impressed audiences with their excellent Harvest assemblies, and we were pleased to donate a generous collection of harvest produce to the Black Country Food Bank.

Sporting opportunities have also been plentiful, with a group of pupils proudly representing Brook at a local rugby festival. Across Key Stage 2, children have continued to embrace a wide range of leadership opportunities, demonstrating responsibility, maturity and pride in our school.

We were thrilled to welcome so many families to Parents' Evening and are grateful for the overwhelmingly positive feedback received. Thank you to everyone who attended and continues to work in partnership with us to support your children's learning. We have also captured plenty of smiles during our recent school photograph day!

One of our greatest achievements this term has been attendance. With whole-school attendance currently standing at just over 97%, this is a significant improvement on the same point last year and something we should all be immensely proud of. Thank you to our families for supporting us in ensuring children are in school every day and ready to learn.

Finally, I would like to extend a huge thank you to our wonderful pupils, dedicated staff and supportive families. The successes of this term have only been possible because of the strong partnership we share. We wish you all a restful and enjoyable half-term break and look forward to welcoming everyone back for another exciting half term.



We are only just in our first half term and we are already incredibly proud of the wonderful progress our children are making! Our Strong Foundations are shining brightly as the children in Pre-school and Reception arrive each day full of enthusiasm, curiosity and a love of learning.

The children are becoming increasingly confident and independently as they follow routines, understand expectations and demonstrate **Readiness** to learn. They are also developing positive **Relationships** with staff and their peers, helping them to feel safe, secure and ready to explore new experiences.

Our **reading** journey is already well underway. The children are enjoying nursery rhymes, learning sounds and beginning to blend them to read simple words. Our themes brought to life through stories, storytelling, role-play and drawing giving children opportunities to develop their imaginations, communication and language skills.

We have also been embracing the Autumn season through **real life experiences** in our school garden through our exciting *Muddy Mondays* and *Wild Wednesdays*! The children have loved climbing trees, making autumn recipes in the mud kitchen, decorating leaves and using the natural materials to experiment and create! These hands-on experiences encourage **resilience**, develop gross motor skills and provide wonderful opportunities for the children to explore, investigate and learn together.

It is wonderful to see our children thriving, growing in confidence and embracing new challenges. We are incredibly proud of the strong foundations they are building everyday, giving them the very best start to their learning journey.

Please read our UPDATED Early Years Foundation Stage Policy [EYFS Policy.pdf](#) you can find it on our school website!



Our New Morning Routine

A little change to help everyone start the day calmly and ready to learn!



8:40am

Doors open – learning starts!

Activities will be on the board ready for children to start straight away.



8:50am

Every child should be in class!

Register is taken.



8:50 – 9:20am

Children who arrive between these times will receive a 'L' mark.



After 9:20am

Children will receive a 'U' mark which is a unauthorised session for the whole morning and has a direct impact on their attendance data.



**Let's work together
to make every morning count!**



Punctuality matters!

Over the last few weeks, we have been closely monitoring punctuality across the school and have noticed that too many children are arriving after the start of the school day. Whilst we appreciate that mornings can sometimes be busy and unpredictable, arriving on time is extremely important. A positive start to the day helps children settle quickly, engage in early learning activities and ensures they do not miss valuable teaching time.

We would like to remind families that all children should be in school and ready to learn by **8:50am at the latest.**

To help support families and make the morning routine smoother, we have decided to adjust our start-of-day arrangements. From after half term, cloakroom doors will open at **8:40am**, rather than 8:45am. Children should be on the playground from **8:30am**, ready to come straight into school when the doors open.

From the moment children enter their classrooms, learning begins. Whether this is through handwriting activities, reading, fluency practice or mathematical thinking, every minute counts. Children who arrive late can miss important learning opportunities, key instructions and valuable time with their classmates, making it more difficult for them to start the day successfully.

Please also remember that we offer a **free breakfast provision** each morning. If getting to school on time is proving challenging, this may be a helpful option for your family. Children who attend are provided with breakfast and enjoy a calm, positive start to the day before heading to class, ready to learn.

Let's work together to ensure that our classrooms are full and ready to learn by **8:50am** each morning so that every child can make the most of every learning opportunity. Thank you for your ongoing support in helping us give our children the very best start to each school day.



We can't wait to welcome you all for what promises to be a memorable evening of community spirit, spooky fun and spectacular fireworks. If you haven't already secured your tickets, don't delay!



Quick Actions ▼

[Attendance](#)

[Clubs](#)

[Meals](#)

[Payments](#)

[Assignments](#)

[Report Cards](#)

[School Shop](#)

[Trips](#)

[Basket](#)

🎆 Spooktacular Fireworks Event 🎆

Last week, we began promoting our exciting **Brook Spooktacular Fireworks Event**, and we are delighted to share that tickets are already selling quickly! This year's event promises to be a fantastic evening for the whole family, with plenty of spooky fun alongside our spectacular fireworks display.

There are a few important details we'd like to share to help everyone get into the spirit of the event:

👻 Dress to impress!

We would love to see our children dressed in their best spooktacular costumes on the evening, so please keep those Halloween outfits at the ready and join in the fun.

🎃 Help us decorate our school grounds.

We are hoping to transform our school garden into a spooky spectacle. If you have any Halloween decorations or pumpkins that are still in good condition after Halloween and you would be happy to donate them, we would be very grateful. Donations can be brought to the school office after half term.

🏮 Join our lantern parade.

We are planning a spooktacular lantern parade as part of the evening's celebrations. This could be a lovely half-term craft project for children and families to enjoy together. We would love children to bring along their homemade lanterns and take part in the parade.

🚶 Please walk if you can.

As there will be **no parking available on site**, we kindly ask families to walk to the event wherever possible. This will help ensure the safety of all attendees and make arrivals and departures much smoother.

Pupil achievements!



On the weekend, Amie completed her grading and was awarded her Purple Belt!

Well done Amie!

Well done to Amelia who has achieved her grade 3 in gymnastics!

Well done Amelia!



On the weekend, Grace completed her grading and was awarded her Yellow Belt!

Well done Grace!

Well done to Jaiden who completed his brown/red belt in MMA and was awarded a medal for technique and good listening skills

Well done Jaiden!



**BLACK COUNTRY
FOODBANK**
LOVE . CONNECT . INVEST

Thank you very much for all of the food bank donations that were sent in to school over the past few weeks. The donations were gratefully received on Monday when year 3 and 4 school council children took them to Brierley Hill food bank.

Look out for a new school council newsletter which will explain what we have been up too this halfterm and what we have planned!



Year 6 Rugby festival



A group of our Year 6 pupils had a fantastic time at the recent Rugby Festival, where they enjoyed learning new rugby skills through a variety of fun skill-based activities and games. Throughout the afternoon, the children showed great enthusiasm, determination and teamwork as they developed their passing, catching and attacking skills before putting them into practice during a series of mini-games.

The pupils represented the school exceptionally well, demonstrating excellent sportsmanship, respect and encouragement towards both their teammates and other schools. Their positive attitudes and willingness to try new challenges made us incredibly proud. Most importantly, everyone had a great time, enjoyed being active and came away with new skills and wonderful memories from a successful day of rugby.



Attendance Celebration Disco!

Our very first Attendance Celebration Disco was a huge success! All children who achieved 95% attendance or above during this half term were invited to attend, and it was wonderful to see so many pupils celebrating their commitment to coming to school every day.

We are already looking forward to planning our next attendance disco and hope even more children will qualify for an invitation. Regular attendance plays a vital role in children's learning, wellbeing and sense of belonging, and we are keen to recognise and celebrate this achievement throughout the year.

We do appreciate that some children have experienced genuine illness this half term, which may have resulted in attendance falling below the 95% threshold and, understandably, feelings of disappointment. As this was our first attendance celebration, we will continue to review the criteria moving forward. We recognise that absences at the beginning of the academic year can have a greater impact on overall attendance percentages, and we want to ensure that our approach remains fair whilst continuing to promote the importance of excellent attendance.

Congratulations to all of our attendees, and we look forward to celebrating with even more children at the next event! 🎉



Discover more
events and
activities



What's on this school holiday?

WORDSLEY LIBRARY

Day	Time	Activity
SATURDAY 24TH OCTOBER	10.00AM-1.00PM	SATURDAY FAMILY CRAFT **Drop in** - Suitable for ages 3+
MONDAY 26TH OCTOBER	2.00PM-3.00PM	DAY OF THE DEAD SKELETON CRAFT **Booking Essential** - Suitable for ages 4+
TUESDAY 27TH OCTOBER	10.30AM-11.00AM	RATTLE & RHYME **Booking Essential** - Suitable for ages 0-4 years
TUESDAY 27TH OCTOBER	2.00PM-3.00PM	GHOST TRAIN CRAFT **Booking Essential** - Suitable for ages 4+
WEDNESDAY 28TH OCTOBER	10.30AM-11.00AM	RATTLE & RHYME **Booking Essential** - Suitable for ages 0-4 years
WEDNESDAY 28TH OCTOBER	2.00PM-3.00PM	GREEDY GHOST CRAFT **Booking Essential** - Suitable for ages 4+
THURSDAY 29TH OCTOBER	10.30AM-11.30AM	HALLOWEEN SCENE CRAFT **Booking Essential** - Suitable for ages 4+
THURSDAY 29TH OCTOBER	2.00PM-4.00PM	LEGO DROP IN SESSION **Drop in** - Suitable for ages 3+
FRIDAY 30TH OCTOBER	2.00PM-3.30PM	PROFESSOR BLACK & FEAR IN THE FOREST **Booking Essential** - Suitable for ages 6+
SATURDAY 31ST OCTOBER	10.00AM-1.00PM	SATURDAY FAMILY CRAFT **Drop in** - Suitable for ages 3+
SATURDAY 31ST OCTOBER	1.30PM-2.30PM	LEGO SPIKE: MAKING LEGO MOVE WITH CODING **Booking Essential** - Suitable for ages 6+
ALL WEEK!	ALL DAY!	HALLOWEEN PICTURE TRAIL **Drop in** - Suitable for all ages!

**All activities must be booked
unless stated!**

Please speak to a member of staff, telephone 01384
812765 or email wordsley.library@gll.org to book
your FREE space!



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BETTER

In partnership with

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DONATIONS

If you have any spare tights or socks, they would be gratefully received!

INTO EMPLOYMENT Health and Social Care

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- Take part in work experience opportunities
- Interview with a local employer
- Improve your confidence and job prospects

What will I learn?

- Safeguarding and Confidentiality
- Equality, Diversity and Inclusion
- Communication Skills
- Teamwork and Problem Solving
- Customer Service
- CV Writing and Job Applications
- Interview Skills
- Job Search Techniques
- Confidence and Resilience
- Care Excellence and Quality Standards
- Deaf Awareness
- Workplace Expectations

Supported by Dudley Council and NHS

Venue: Brierley Hill NLC
Dates: 9th November to 4th December 2026
Time: 9:30am to 2:30pm
Duration: 4 Weeks (20 Sessions)
Eligibility: Adults aged 19+ actively looking for work
Entry Requirements: Entry 3 English and Maths

Course Enquiry
01384 818143

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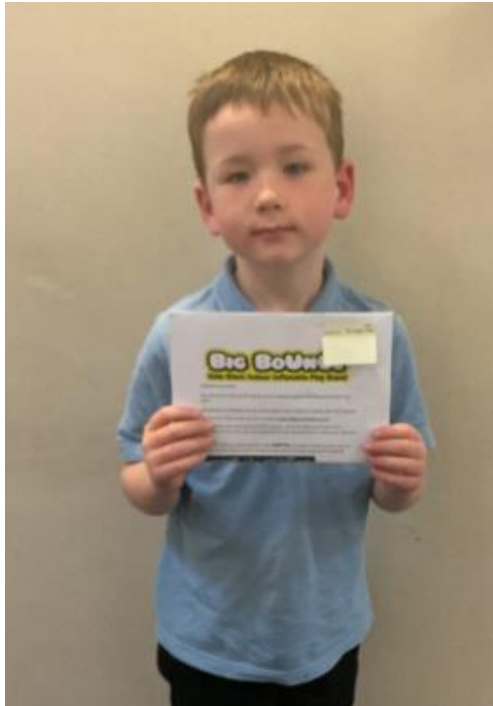
We unfortunately get numerous complaints every week regarding the way parents/carers drive & park around school, but due to the wet weather & increased cars this week, these have increased.

Cars blocking driveways meaning residents cannot access or leave their property, cars parking around bends, children running unsafely between cars and people actually getting out of their cars to shout & challenge residents.

We need to be considerable and respectful when driving and parking around school.

We also have a very limited number of spaces on the front car park and these are strictly only available for parents/carers who have shown us a valid blue badge.

ATTENDANCE UPDATE



We wanted to give a huge shout out to Year 5 this half term, their commitment to attendance cannot go unrecognised and we want to celebrate the fact they have had 15 days with 100% attendance!

This week's prize is a £20 voucher to use at any Big Bounce event over half term! Every child that had 100% attendance from the beginning of term was entered into a draw to win the voucher and the winner is Eddie!

Congratulations!



Brook Buddies



Brook Buddies parents it's that time again! If you require a place at Buddies this year, please remember you need to fill in a new Buddies agreement, which can be found here:

<https://forms.office.com/e/V2Sw2WJSHb>

1 form needs to be completed for each child.

Brook Buddies runs every morning and evening. Why not join us for breakfast or some after school fun?

Our session times & prices are below:

Breakfast club:

7:30am-8:45am - £4

Afterschool club:

3:20pm-5:45pm - £8.00

All bookings must be made by Thursday of the week before you require childcare.

To get in touch, please call our mobile: **07970704158**

Our email is **Buddies@brook.dudley.sch.uk**

This week in Buddies we have enjoyed carving some spooky pumpkins!

We have enjoyed creating some firework pictures ready for bonfire night too!