



### Message from Mrs Fellows

First and foremost, I'd like to wish you all a happy and successful new year! It may be a little late, but as you know the snow stalled our first newsletter of the year last week.

We are looking forward to another successful term with lots of fun things to look forward to including after school clubs, Young Voices, workshops, Wear it Red day, a movie night, World Book week, parent's evening and assemblies.

Thank you for your continued support with these events.

I would also like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you for supporting 'Larissa day' - it has been lovely to see lots of happy children wearing pink, purple and butterfly themed clothing. Although it was never an expectation, lots of families have donated to the Larissa Foundation fundraiser for SUDC UK (Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood)- this really is appreciated- we have now raised over £1000- thank you!



### Thank You!

At the end of last term, staff received some lovely cards and gifts from families- we just wanted to pass on their thanks and appreciation. It really is so kind of you.



### The Importance of Good Attendance

At school, we place great importance on regular attendance. When children attend consistently, they not only make stronger academic progress but also build confidence, develop positive learning habits, and feel more connected to their classmates and the wider school community.

We are pleased to share that all children who achieved 96% attendance or above during the last half term should have come home with a 'Thank You' slip recognising their effort and commitment. In addition, any child who achieved 100% attendance for the entire autumn term has been awarded a special certificate to celebrate this fantastic achievement.

Thank you for continuing to support us in promoting excellent attendance. Working together helps ensure the very best outcomes for all our pupils.





### **Message from WMFS to Parents and Carers**

#### **'Don't enter or venture' - Stay away from frozen open water as cold snap continues**

West Midlands Fire Service (WMFS) is urging the public to stay well away from lakes, ponds, rivers, canals and reservoirs as freezing temperatures hit the West Midlands.

Frozen water can look harmless, but it's one of the most dangerous winter hazards we face.

Surface ice can look deceptively solid, but is often thin, fragile and unpredictable. It can give way suddenly - plunging people or pets into freezing cold water and serious danger.

Cold water shock can affect anyone, regardless of age or swimming ability, and can quickly lead to loss of control, exhaustion and drowning.

WMFS is particularly concerned about the risks to children, who may be tempted to play near or on frozen water, and dog walkers who may instinctively venture on to ice or into the water if a pet gets into difficulty.

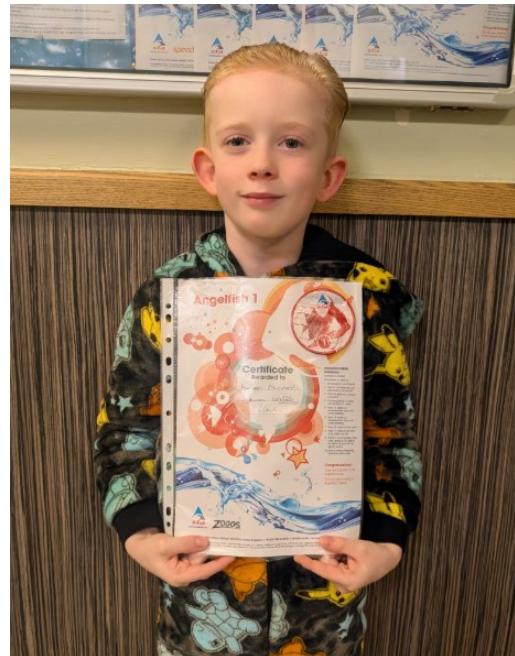
Parents and carers are urged to speak to children about the dangers, to ensure they understand that no ice is ever safe. Dog walkers are advised to keep pets on leads near water during icy conditions. Never step onto ice, and - crucially - don't enter water or venture on to ice if a person or animal gets into difficulty. Call 999 immediately and ask for the fire service."

#### **What to do if **YOU** fall through ice**

- stay calm and shout for help
- spread your arms out across the surface of the ice in front of you
- first check if the ice is strong enough. If it is, then kick your legs to propel yourself forward
- lie flat and use your arms to pull yourself over the ice towards the shore
- if the ice on the water breaks, try to make your way to the bank or shore, breaking ice in front of you as you go
- if you find yourself stuck and unable to escape, wait for help. Stay as still as possible to conserve your energy. Bring your arms close to your sides and keep your legs together, while keeping your head out of the water.



## Pupil Achievements



Well done to Amelia in Year 3 who has been awarded her Level 2 gymnastics award!

Well done to Hudson in Year 3 who has been awarded his Angelfish 1 swimming badge!



Well done to Riley in Year 3 who has been awarded her Level 2 gymnastics award!

Well done to M.J in Year 2 who has achieved an award for excellent writing!

Well done to Ava in Year 3 for her fantastic castle that she has made at home!





# Attendance

This week **328** children have had 100% attendance. Well Done!



Well done to class **5WN** who had the highest class attendance this week with **99.63** Attendance!

Our attendance superstar this week is **Lily** in Year 5!



## 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 - £4.50

### Afterschool club:

Full session 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 been making and creating pictures of nocturnal animals we have been creating for our display board in the Buddies room too.

May we remind you that if you pay by tax free or childcare vouchers, please send them to the Buddies e-mail - **buddies@brook.dudley.sch.uk**.

Thank you

Donation Plea! Does anyone have any dolls (baby and barbie) and clothes that they no longer want or need? We would be very grateful!