



Bawnmore Community Infant School and Cygnets Pre-School Newsletter



5th December 2025

Head of School's Letter



Dear Parents and Carers,

We're all in the festive spirit today, and the children (and staff!) look fabulous in their Christmas non-uniform. Thank you for all your generous tombola and raffle prizes. A huge thank you also to the group of FOB volunteers who spent the morning labelling prizes, the afternoon setting up our Christmas Fayre stalls in the school hall and classrooms and the early evening running the event! It was lovely to welcome so many of you into school to join us for this, raising vital funds for the school.

On Sunday 7th December, KS1 children have been invited to sing at the Christingle Service at St Mark's at 4:00pm. Everyone is welcome to join the congregation for this special occasion.

Our Rocksteady children enjoyed performing for their families and the rest of the school on Tuesday. They were amazing! We definitely have some rock stars in the making. There are still one or two spaces available for lessons starting next week. If you are interested, please visit Rocksteady Music School for details and booking information.

This morning, our Year 2 pupils performed their assembly for friends from Bilton Infant School and on Monday, all the children will perform their Christmas plays to the whole school- a great way to practise in front of a real audience before their assemblies for parents and families on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons.

All families should now have received four tickets for our assemblies (two for Tuesday and two for Wednesday). Please remember to bring your tickets with you, as there will be no entry without them due to fire safety restrictions. You are welcome to take your child home straight after their assembly if you wish.

Reception: 1:20pm

Year 1: 1:50pm

Year 2: 2:30pm

We'll do our best to run on time, but clearing and resetting the hall between year groups can take longer than expected. Please bear with us and avoid arriving too early, as there is nowhere warm and dry to wait. If you are bringing younger children or babies, please take them out if they become unsettled, as noise can be distracting for the performers.

On Tuesday, our Year 1 and 2 children are invited to sing at Westlands Care Home. Please note the start time is now 5:00pm (not 5:30pm as previously advertised). All children taking part will get to meet Santa! It's not too late to sign up- please complete the form or email the office.

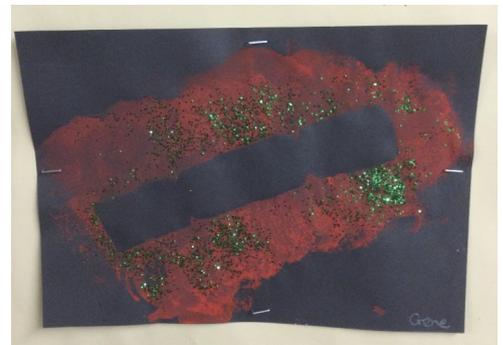
On Thursday, children will enjoy a live performance of Dick Whittington by the professional touring theatre company, Chaplins. Please ensure we have received your payment for this.

On Friday, the whole school will take part in the national Santa Dash, where we will run, jog, or walk our daily mile. Children should come to school in festive wear- jumpers, hats, or headbands. We are doing this to stay active and raise money for Myton Hospice Care. A voluntary donation of £1 would be appreciated.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend,
Pam Davey
Head of School

Club Creations

This week in Puffins, we've been diving into the festive fun! The children loved creating stunning Christmas silhouette pictures, crafting beautiful paper plate angels, and finishing the week with a sweet treat—delicious melted snowman biscuits! It's been a joyful, creative week full of Christmas cheer.



Values Book

Date: 5.12.25

Class	Child's Name	Award	Reason
RD	Sully	Wonderful Work	Fantastic letter formation and real care taken when he is writing.
	Trinity	Certificate	For such astounding confidence and resilience to stand and sing a solo in front of the whole school and parents! Amazing!
	Charlie	Values Sticker	For gaining confidence to contribute his brilliant ideas to class discussions.
	Fearne	Values Sticker	For her determination to try hard with her phonics and such confidence when blending.
	Fern	Values Sticker	For being a very responsible and respectful member of the class ad always helping everyone and caring for our classroom and resources by tidying up.
RS	Helena	Wonderful Work	Wonderful CVC caption writing.
	Fraser	Certificate	For being kind, helpful and resilient during active learning time.
	Jovan	Values Sticker	Great sharing and kindness to his peers.
	Harper	Values Sticker	Great reading and writing and always wanting to try and have a go.
	Lara	Values Sticker	Being an all round superstar and always showing kindness.
1H	Aria	Wonderful Work	For working hard on her Traction Man story, using descriptive vocabulary and keeping her presentation neat.
	Isla	Certificate	For being an all round superstar - kind and hard working with a positive attitude to school life.
	Zach	Values Sticker	For trying so hard in his learning this week.
	Jonas	Values Sticker	For always showing respect.
	Katie	Values Sticker	For always demonstrating an excellent attitude during Nativity rehearsals.
1R	Elliot	Wonderful Work	For a sustained writing and improvement in letter formation in his Traction Man story.
	Pheobe	Certificate	Always demonstrating our school values, following our school mission and being a kind and dependable friend.
	Charlie	Values Sticker	For being a valued member of our class and contributing to discussions and taking risks with his learning
	Max	Values Sticker	Always taking care of our classroom and his friends.
	Isabelle	Values Sticker	Always being ready to lend a helping hand.
	Robert	Values Sticker	For independent writing with flare.
2K	Suharshith	Wonderful Work	For a great set of instructions on how to make a safari jeep.
	Mari	Certificate	For always sharing her amazing animal knowledge with everyone!
	Max	Values Sticker	For working hard on his reading.
	Nedas	Values Sticker	For working on his handwriting.
	Mia	Values Sticker	For always being a wonderful member of our class.
2W	Nefeli	Wonderful Work	Excellent representations of 2D shape
	David	Certificate	Fabulous determination in our Christmas play
	Ameline	Values Sticker	For good resilience when coming into school
	Conan	Values Sticker	For a great shepherd's dance!
	Leo	Values Sticker	For fantastic reading!

Celebrations

Attendance Award

Congratulations to 1H, our Attendance Champions this week, with an impressive 97.8% attendance! Well done! Our whole school attendance was 92.7%, which is a very much lower than usual due to bugs, coughs, and colds going around. Please remember to send your child into school if they are well enough to attend-we really appreciate your support in keeping attendance high. Together, let's aim for higher attendance next week!



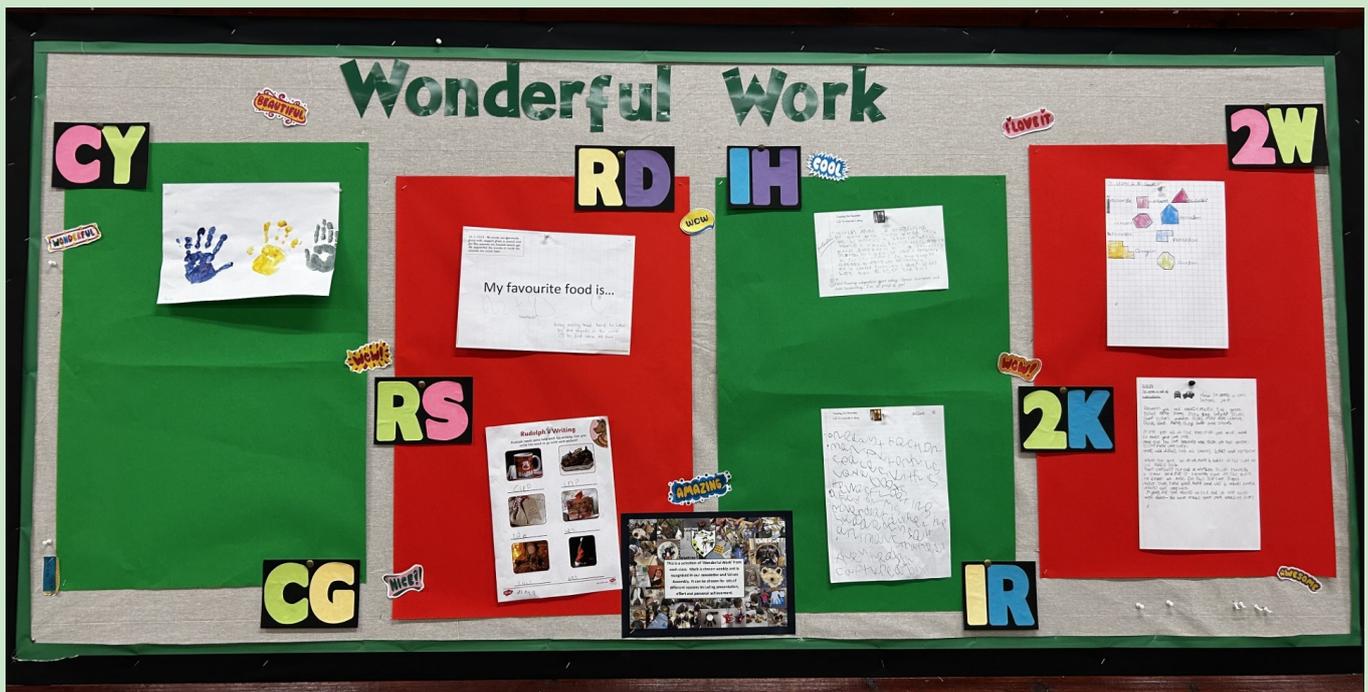
Assembly Award

Congratulations to RS who have been chosen as our Assembly Champions this week.

Lunchtime Award

Congratulations to 1R who have been chosen as our Lunchtime Winners this week.

Wonderful Work



Celebration Assembly

This year, on **Tuesdays** we invite the children to share any certificates, medals or trophies that they have been awarded in the previous week at clubs attended out of school e.g. swimming, gymnastics. Please send these in with your child on a Tuesday morning.

Calendar

6	Sun 7 th December	4.00pm	All	St Mark's Church	Our choir have been invited to sing at the Christingle Service at St Mark's Church. Everybody is welcome to this festive celebration.
6	Tue 9 th December	R 1.20pm Y1 1.50pm Y2 2.30pm	All	School Hall	Year Group Christmas Assemblies. Performance 1. Families are invited to watch their child(ren)'s assembly. 2 tickets per family will be issued for each date. Reception -1.20 p.m. Year 1- 1.50p.m. Year 2- 2.30pm Children can be taken home following their performance if you wish.
6	Wed 10 th December	R 1.20pm Y1 1.50pm Y2 2.30pm	All	School Hall	Year Group Christmas Assemblies. Performance 2. Families are invited to watch their child(ren)'s assembly. 2 tickets per family will be issued for each date. Reception -1.20 p.m. Year 1- 1.50p.m. Year 2- 2.30pm Children can be taken home following their performance if you wish.
6	Thu 11 th December	During school day	All pupils	School Hall	The whole school will enjoy an early lunch followed by watching a touring production of "Dick Whittington".
6	Fri 12 th December	During school day	All pupils	School Playground	Children are invited to come to school wearing their festive gear including festive jumpers, hats or head bands to complete the Santa Dash. £1 voluntary donations to Myton Hospices.
6	Fri 12 th December	9am-11am	Cygnets		Cygnets Christmas Crafts Morning. Cygnets families are invited to take part in some seasonal arts and crafts activities.
7	Tue 16 th December	During school day	Rec-Year 2 Pupils, parents and carers	St Mark's Church	Join us as we walk to St Mark's Church for a Christmas Service.
7	Wed 17 th December	During school day	All pupils	School Hall/ Classrooms	Christmas lunch & class parties. Children are invited to come to school in non-uniform.
7	Thu 18 th December	3.15pm-4.30pm 4.45pm-6.00pm	Cygnets and Reception pupils Year One and Year Two pupils	School Hall	School Discos. Adult helpers will be required. More details later on. Cygnets and Reception pupils are invited to attend a disco from 3.15pm-4.30pm. All children attending this disco will need to be accompanied by a designated adult. 4.45pm-6.00pm. Year 1 and 2 pupils are then invited to attend their disco without an adult.
7	Fri 19 th December	3.10pm	All		End of term. Puffins Wraparound Care closes at 5.00pm on this day.
<p>Christmas Holidays</p> <p>Saturday 20th December- Sunday 4th January</p> <p>(5th January: Staff Training Day- School closed to children)</p>					

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about YOUTUBE KIDS



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

As its name suggests, YouTube Kids is a child-friendly version of Google's online video-sharing platform. Its colourful user interface is designed with young people in mind, and it offers a curated, family-friendly experience with features like age-based content settings and parental controls.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT BYPASSING FILTERS



YouTube Kids is less likely to show inappropriate material than YouTube, but there have been reports of the app showing age-inappropriate content to young viewers. One investigation found that YouTube Kids had shown videos that promote skin bleaching, weight loss, drug culture and firearms to children as young as two, as inappropriate content had bypassed the platform's algorithms and human moderators.

BE WARY OF ADVERTISING



Like Google's regular YouTube app, YouTube Kids features pervasive advertising before a video plays. While these adverts are designed to be family friendly and are subject to a strict review process, it's worth noting that YouTube Kids collects information around children's viewing to inform targeted content and advertisements.

DESIGNED TO BE ADDICTIVE

YouTube Kids is designed to be addictive. The platform's design features, such as the constant stream of new videos and the reward system of points or virtual stickers, can be very engaging and make it difficult for children to switch off. Research has shown that spending too much time using digital services such as YouTube can lead to screen addiction, affecting children's daily routines, studies, and even their social lives.

SETTINGS CAN BE CIRCUMVENTED



YouTube Kids offers built-in parental controls, enabling you to set screen time limits and curate the content children are able to view; however, children are often more tech-savvy than we think. They can easily bypass or tweak these settings if they have access to the associated Google account password, thereby exposing themselves to age-inappropriate and potentially dangerous content.

AI-GENERATED MISINFORMATION



There is also a risk of children accessing videos that contain disinformation and misinformation. A BBC investigation found that some YouTube channels are using artificial intelligence (AI) technology to create misleading "scientific" videos that are recommended to children as educational content. These videos included conspiracy theories and ideas that lack scientific backing.

DATA COLLECTION RISK



While there are limits on the data that YouTube can collect on children under 13, children can still inadvertently give away sensitive information when using YouTube Kids. The platform collects data on children's viewing habits, content searches and location, which YouTube and third-party advertisers can use.

Advice for Parents & Educators

PARENTAL CONTROLS



YouTube Kids offers several settings that allow you to manage what content children can view. For example, you can choose what level of content you want them to access, such as "Preschool" or "Younger". You can also turn off the search function, so that only those videos approved by the YouTube Kids team themselves will appear on a child's recommendations list.

SET TIME LIMITS



The built-in parental controls let you keep a tab on how long children spend watching videos. You can set a timer that limits screen time and disables the YouTube Kids app once a specified length of time has been reached. It's also worth speaking to children about the dangers of spending too much time on YouTube, to ensure they remain focused on other, more important activities.

CHECK WATCH HISTORY



YouTube Kids has made it easy for you to keep an eye on what the children in your care have been watching on the app. By clicking on the "Recommended" icon at the top right of the home screen, you can see which videos they've been viewing, and how much of each. If a child watches YouTube Kids while signed into a Google account, you can check their history through Google's "My Activity" page.

WATCH TOGETHER



It's important that you try to make YouTube Kids a fun and positive experience for children. One way to do this is by introducing watching sessions, where you all gather around and share the most enjoyable videos that you have recently watched. This can be a great way of giving you both new things to talk about and of keeping an eye on what they're watching.

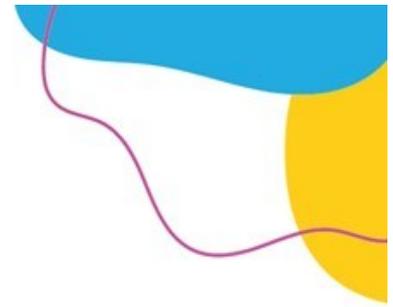
Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced journalist with more than 10 years of experience covering the technology industry. Previously a senior cybersecurity reporter at TechCrunch, Carly is now a freelance journalist, editor, and copywriter. Her bylines include Forbes, TechRadar, Tes, The INQUIRER, The Metro, Uswitch, and WIRED.





Mental Health in Schools Team Tips For Wellness



Winter Wellness

It is important to focus on our wellness during the colder months. Winter is a time where our bodies may start to crave the same warmth and comfort we had during the summer months. We might associate winter with the winter blues, but we need to try and create some space for self-care and slow down to nourish our physical and mental health! Sometimes we might feel the winter blues because of the lack of sun and vitamin D we are getting. This is why our mental wellbeing should be a big focus during these months, and we should find creative ways to stay on track, keep up motivation, and look after ourselves.

Our Top Tips For Winter Wellness:

1. Wrap up warm and lay down with a blanket and a hot drink.
2. Do some **fun activities outside** in the natural sunlight such as going for walks or seeing friends (you might need to wrap up warm for this!) Even on cold days, fresh air and natural light boosts our mood.
3. **Stay active** – try indoor exercises to help get your body moving during the colder months. You could keep your energy up by dancing, swimming, or practising yoga. You could also find an exercise video online for you to do at home!
4. You might even want to go to your local café and read a book in the daytime or have a warm relaxing bath when you're home after a cold day.
5. **Keep up your routines**- getting up in the morning is harder in winter when it's cold and dark. Shorter days also make it tempting to sleep more, but consistent sleep helps your mind feel balanced.
6. **Eat well and stay hydrated** — good nutrition fuels your brain and body.
7. **Talk about how you're feeling** — sharing your thoughts can help if you're feeling low or stressed.

Remember to always make time for yourself at the end of a long day!

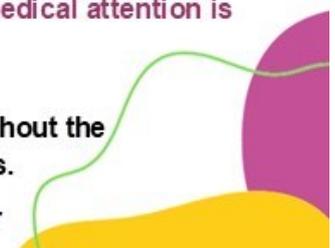
Scan the QR code for more ideas about how to keep well in Winter:



In Coventry and Warwickshire, for any urgent mental health concerns, contact the Children and Young People's Mental Health Crisis support available 24/7, by calling NHS 111. Alternatively, call 999 or visit A&E in an emergency, for example if medical attention is required.

MHST are available to support you and your school throughout the school year including term time and school holidays.

Please contact your school's Mental Health Lead for information and advice.



2
DAYS

Christmas
Jumpers
Welcome!



AK



COACHING

Christmas Holiday Club

- Football ● Tag Rugby ● Frisbee ● Dodgeball ●
- Basketball ● Netball ● Hockey ● Tennis ●
- Cricket ● Rounders ● Gymnastics ● Table Tennis ●

PLUS, PLENTY OF OTHER FUN GAMES



MON 22nd DEC

TUE 23rd DEC

0900-1600

£17 FOR THE DAY

AGE 5-11

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SCHOOL

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The Gingerbread Man
14 - 23 Dec & 2 - 4 Jan



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