



Dear families,

Another busy week at Halesowen full of learning and fun.

The main thing I have to share with you today is that our Ofsted report is now available to send to you. We are so pleased with it and proud of the journey the school has been on! The children here are amazing and I think this will be evident when you read the report. Thank you so much for all of your support. We want our school to be a community. Without all of you our successes would not be possible- thanks to all of the staff, children and families for making me a very proud head teacher right now.

Ofsted says:

The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Early years provision	Good

Mrs Knowles

STAFF IN THE SPOTLIGHT!

Hi, I'm Mrs Bowen and I first started working here at Halesowen C of E Primary way back... in 1988(!!) as a Nursery Nurse, then as a Higher Level Teaching Assistant. After being here for 18 years, I left and went to work at another local primary school for 16 years, before returning 2 years ago and having the privilege to take up the role as the Pastoral Lead, a job I love and which gives me the opportunity to support both children and parents.

Out of school, I've been married to my husband for 34 years and we have a son and daughter who now have their own homes. Last year was a very special year for us as we became grandparents for the first time to our lovely granddaughter. I love spending time with my family and also enjoy reading, knitting, walking my daughter's dog and holidays.

This week we are meeting Mrs Bowen

Mrs Bowen is our pastoral lead so knows most of you very well as she works to support families and children here at Halesowen C of E .



HOUSE POINTS

These are the house points up to 17.1.25

Lyttleton
54

Hone
50

Grazebrook
49

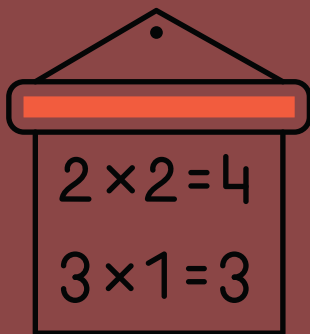
Dudley
51

HOUSE EVENT

COMING SOON...

NEXT WEEK WE WILL BE LAUNCHING
OUR TIMES TABLE HOUSE EVENT.

MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW...



Diary Dates

This list is correct at the time of publishing this newsletter. We will add to this as the term goes on so please keep checking.

Monday 6th January : Staff training day

Tuesday 7th January: Children return to school

Monday 13th January- clubs start

Monday 13th January- Sparks visit to Year 4 from fire brigade

Wednesday 15th January- Year 5 River Walk

Thursday 16th January- Athletics competition at Windsor

Thursday 16th January- Taster Day- all children entitled to a free school meal will be asked to try something- please order something for them.

Friday 17th January- World Religion Day

Wednesday 29th January- Chinese New Year

Monday 3rd February- Football match (TBC)

Tuesday 11th February- Safer internet day

Friday 14th February- Take Over Day

Dates to be confirmed: Times table house challenge, Phonics meeting for Reception and Year 1 families.



CLUBS

Clubs start week beginning 13th January.

Monday- Board games club- Year 1 and 2

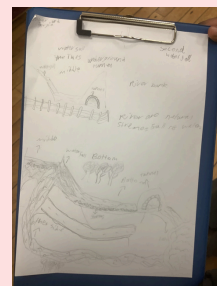
Wednesday- Dodgeball club- Years 5 and 6

Thursday- Sign language club- Years 3 and 4

All clubs are now full- please add children's names to waiting lists at the office

Our Learning

Year 5 went on a walk this week to look at the river Stour that runs through Halesowen. Field work in Geography is important and we are lucky we have a river so close.

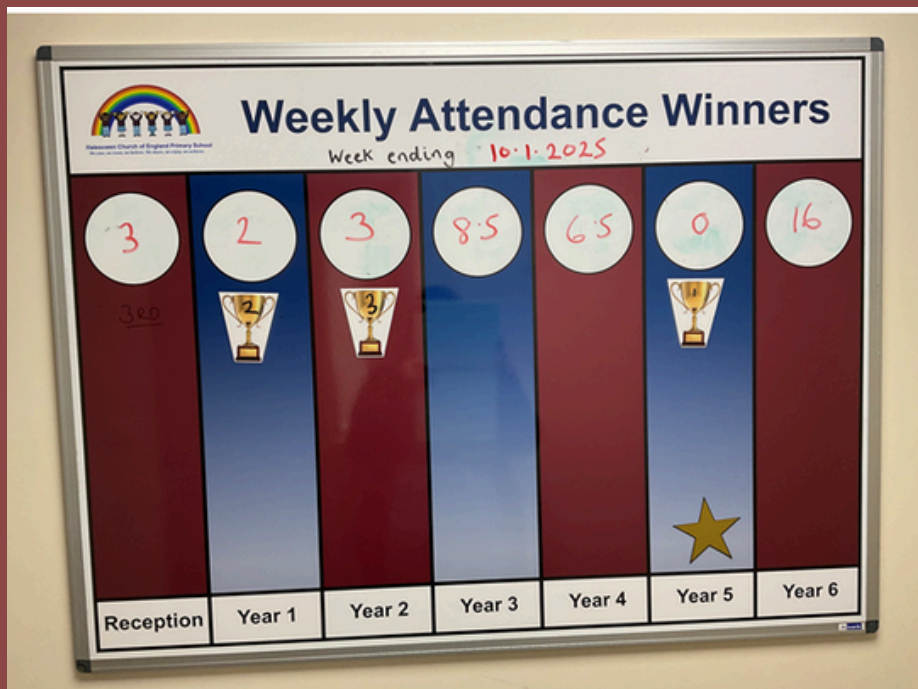


Star of the week

Our last Star of the Week was on 3rd December 2024.
Well done to all of these children.



ATTENDANCE REWARDS



Well done to the weekly winners Year 5 with an amazing 0 absences!!!

Well done also to year 1 in 2nd place and reception and year 2 in joint 3rd place.



Our value this half term is hope

NOTICES AND REMINDERS

Staff updates

We have some staffing updates to share with you. These mainly concern Year 3. We are sorry to say that Miss Sahota has not returned after the Christmas break due to personal reasons. Mr Pritchard kindly agreed, in the short term, to cover the class for the whole week so it would be consistent for them. We do however now have a longer term solution. We are pleased to share that Miss Davies, who previously taught reception, and left in the Summer to teach abroad is returning to us. She will be the new year 3 class teacher. Mr Pritchard is remaining with us until 31.1.25 to support transition.

We also have 2 teaching assistants working with us. One has been with us for a while but is staying on for a while longer supporting in key stage 2- her name is Mrs Den- Hartog and a new teaching assistant will start with us on Monday supporting in Reception and key stage 1. Her name is Miss Palmer.

In addition to this we are also supporting a number of students at the moment so children may mention other names when they come home

Nut Free tuck and dinner

Please can you ensure that you do not send any products containing nuts for tuck or packed lunch as we do have children with severe nut allergies. This includes Nutella spread on sandwiches etc

Dinner ordering

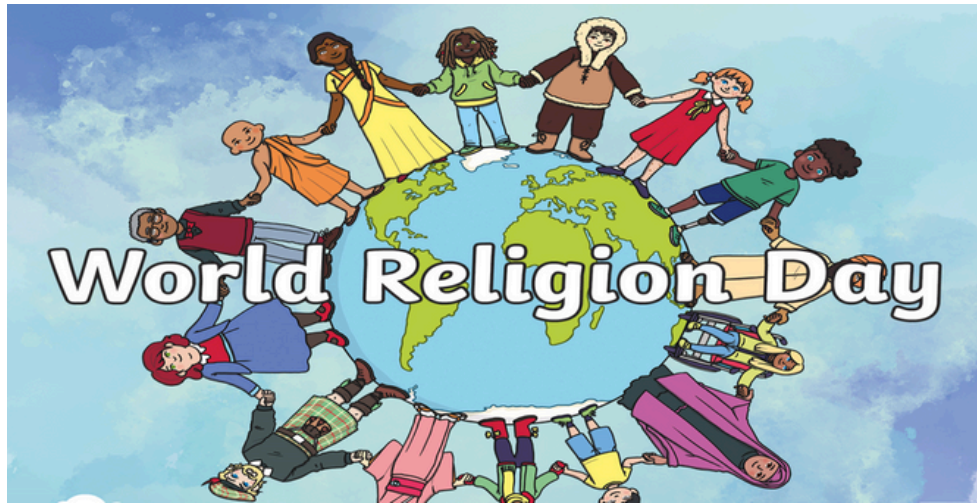
We still have a large number of children on a Monday without a dinner ordered. Children then are given a cheese sandwich and fruit salad. Please ensure you remember to order lunches for a Monday.

Attendance and punctuality

We really need to work hard to make sure children are in school and arrive on time so they can be learning. If children are not attending you need to call the office first thing. The bell goes at 8.40 please ensure children arrive before this time .

Friday child care

Can we remind families that Friday afternoon is not “school” . Childcare sessions are run by teaching assistants and a sports coach. Whilst we still expect high standards of behaviour it is not the same as school and is a little more relaxed. We are noticing that some children’s behaviour can be an issue. If this continues we would have to withdraw the child care place- just like we would in an after school club.



Sunday 19th January is World religion Day

We learnt about the six main world religions today in our collective worship. Children have been asked to find out more over the weekend.

They are:

- Christianity
- Islam
- Buddhism
- Sikhism
- Hinduism
- Judaism

We found out that all of these religions have a sacred book and special place to worship.

We also found out that all of the religions believe:



New section on Newsletter

As a school one of the things we are asked to help with is children's behaviour at home. We are going to add something each week for you to read/ look at that might help with behaviour, social and emotional or mental health needs.



Morning routines to get children to school on time

Struggling to wake up in the morning is something most of us experience every once in a while, even kids. It's normal for a child to need a little extra encouragement to get ready for school from time to time. But when they're refusing to get out of bed every morning, or it's a frequent battle to wake them up, it can be frustrating and concerning for everyone involved.



Why Do Some Kids Refuse to Get Out of Bed in the Morning?

There are a variety of reasons that might contribute to your child's unwillingness to leave their bed when it's time to get ready—some of which have to do with school start times, which are obviously out of your control.² But before you jump to concerns about bedtime routine or anxiety, consider that it could be as simple as what's going on in your child's sleep cycle.

Tips For Establishing a Consistent Morning Routine

One strategy for helping ease the pain of getting up in the morning for school is to establish a morning routine that's predictable from day to day. Kids thrive on routine, and knowing what to expect and having tasks to complete can act as a motivator. For younger kids, it's helpful to break tasks down into small steps and offer praise when they do them successfully.



Consider Using a Reward System

For younger kids, you may consider using a reward system to help motivate them to complete daily tasks, like getting dressed or brushing their teeth. The reward doesn't have to be a toy or anything huge. Even a sticker chart might do the trick, and could give your child a sense of accomplishment.

Ask Your Child How They'd Like to Be Woken Up

Some kids thrive with alarm clocks; others might prefer a gentle wake-up from their parent or caregiver. Emotional events during the waking hours can affect sleep, so if your child is jolted awake each morning by a loud, unpleasant sound, they may associate waking up with fear or anxiety.¹ Try out an alarm clock that uses songs or calming sounds instead. It might take some trial and error before you figure out what works best, but it's worth it to find the right strategy that will make mornings go more smoothly.



Plan for the Morning at Night

Consider including your child in this decision making. For example, pick out their clothes before bedtime, and have them pick out the pants and socks to wear. Give them two or three breakfast options, and have them choose which they'd like to eat. This gives them a little more in control, and makes the following morning easier for you.

It also works to have a consistent and calm bedtime routine



- Avoid Food and Drink Right Before Sleep (e.g. not too much water before bed making them need a wee in the night)
- Steer Clear of Screens – not on screens for 30 minutes before bed
- Introduce Calming Bedtime Rituals– a warm bath or shower, sharing a story– anything calm