

Newsletter 19 21.3.2025

Dear families.

I am sure you noticed that last week there was not a newsletter sent out. After some feedback and reviewing the amount of time and effort that goes into them we have decided that at the moment it would be better to send them out fortnightly. If there is any other important information that needs sending out in between these letters we will of course send that out on school life or post it on the school website.

We have again had a really busy week at school. On Tuesday we had a visit from the Rhyming Bible theatre show. In this show the Bible was told from start to finish (obviously not every story) through actions, rhyme, rap and fun! The children and the staff thoroughly enjoyed the performance. On Thursday some children from year 1 and 2 represented our school at a multi skills competition.

We have a busy few weeks coming up with our Mother's Day service, Easter pilgrimage and Easter egg and bonnet house competition please see further details in the rest of the newsletter.

Thank you to those of you who attended parent consultations last week.

Please enjoy your weekend.



STAFF IN THE SPOTLIGHT!





Hi, Miss Allard here although the children call me Miss A.

I have worked here at Halesowen for 18 years now as a teaching assistant and the last three years I have also been part of the Nurture team. I love my job and helping the children, it's really rewarding.

I am a mom of three, my children are all grown up and working. I have a gorgeous three year old grandson called Arlo who I adore. I love listening to music and singing along although probably out of tune. I like going to concerts and the occasional festival. My favourite place to be is camping but the seaside.

This week we are meeting Mrs Allard

Mrs Allard is a very caring member of staff who works hard to support all of our children but particularly those who need someone to talk to.



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 24th March- Reception vision screening
Tuesday 25th March- Reception height and weight checks.
Friday 28th March- Mothers Day Service in church am
Week beginning Monday 31st March- RE week
Monday 7th April - Football matches
Wednesday 9th April- Easter Pilgrimage (am details to follow)

Thursday 10th April - Eggs and bonnets- parade will be in the afternoon. Time TBC

Friday 11th April- Take over Day
Friday 11th April- Break up for Easter holidays (no childcare - all children to be collected by 1pm
Monday 28th April- Children return to school.
Monday 5th May- Bank holiday- school closed.
Monday 12th May- Thursday 16th May- SATS week year 6
Week beginning Monday 19th May- talent show (TBC)

Friday 23rd May - Break up for Whitsun holiday Monday 2nd June- Children return to school



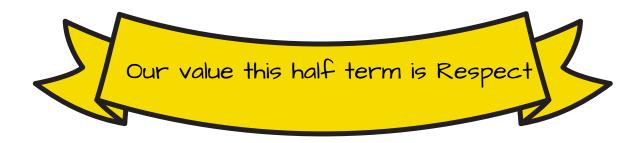
Clubs

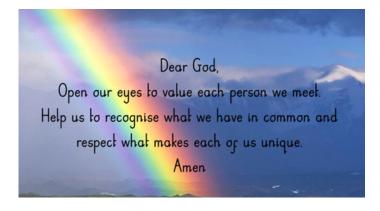


MUSIC AND MOVMENT
Reception and year I have been
enjoying their music and movement
club with Miss Davies. Here they are
doing some "Just Dance"

FOOTBALL

Football training for the football team is not on next week (24/3/25) but will be back on 3/3/25.





Star of the week



19th March
2025

Lara

Karam

Shanelle

Finley

ATTENDANCE REWARDS



Week ending 7.3.25

Well done to the weekly winners
Year 5! Amazing
that as a whole
class they lost less
than one day of
learning!!!!!

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

Week ending 14.3.25

Well done to the weekly winners Year 5! Again losing less than 1 day of learning!!!

Well done also to Reception in 2nd place and Year 2 in 3rd place.



NOTICES AND REMINDERS

Year 6 SATS

Thank you to all the families who attended the year 6 SATs meeting yesterday. We hope you found the information useful. The next few weeks may be stressful for your child, please support them and reassure them. You can do this by making sure they do do some work from their revision books but also encouraging them to have some down time too. It is really important that all children attend school every day during SATS week (12th-16th May) if children are not in school they do not get a mark. It is also important that they have good attendance in the run up to SATS- please only keep them off school if they really ae not well enough to attend. Absence from school makes the children stress out when they return as they have to catch up on what they have missed. We will be running a breakfast club the week of SATS where children will get breakfast and do an activity to wake them all up- this will be paid for by school. We have recently done some practise SATs tests. We do not do this to put additional pressure on the children; we do these so they know what to expect during the real tests. We do our very best to make it all as relaxing as possible and we try really hard to support all the children to just do their very best and reach their potential this is not a competition between children. We thank you for your continued support for your child and for us as a school during this SATs period.

Suspicious activity

We are concerned that some families have reported to us that there has been some suspicious activity, possibly drugs related, on Hales Road and in the church yard. Thank you for letting us know as we can ask all families to be safe and vigilant. If you do see anything you are concerned about please report this directly to the police- either by calling 101 or online. We cannot report on your behalf- they only take reports where details can be given first hand.

Parking

We have been made aware that on Thursday after school there was an incident where one car bumped into another on the High street side of school. We hope both parties can sort this between them or through there insurance. However- my concern is that next time this could be worse and a child could be hurt. Please only park in the marked bays by the old pub- do not block the bays by parking on the kerb, park on the slope up to the key stage 1 entrance (the cars on there are prearranged by the church) or block the school drive. We will be asking parking attendants to come and assess the situation as we are concerned for the children's safety. Please park on public carpark or surrounding streets and walk across- thanks.

Water bottles

Please ensure all children have a school water bottle. For storage they are the right size and shape, the do not break easily or spill on work. If your child brings a bottle which is not a school bottle- it has to remain over by the sink in their classroom and they do not get free access to it all day- only at break and lunchtime. Thanks.

Attendance

Attendance has not been too bad the last few weeks but please can we remind you that if your child is not attending school you should ring first thing on the morning of everyday they are absent to report there absence with a clear reason.

Asthma

If your child has asthma please make sure you do complete their asthma care plan as soon as it is sent to you. Please also ensure your child has their blue inhaler in school and it is in date.

OUR LEARNING



Reception showing good team work using parachute and team work acting out our enormous turnip story through song

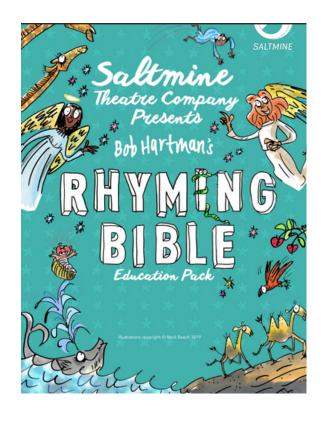


Year 1 made healthy sandwiches in their DT lesson.





Year 4 did a science experiment all about our digestive system (I think it as about how we make poo!!!)



The rapping was good, I liked the visuals and I could see Year 6 were all really into it too, it was age appropriate for everyone.

Mrs Clements

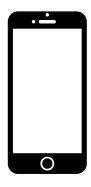
My favourite part was the rap battle from Moses and the pharaoh.

Lillia (Year 6)

It surprised me when they jumped out and started singing a song.

Nylah Skye (Year 4)

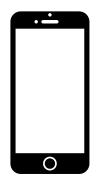
I liked when Jesus came back from the dead. Peniel(Reception)



Parenting Support

Should children have mobile phones?

(taken from the children's society website)



This is really something worth considering as we are seeing a growing impact on children's mental health in school.

Many parents have grappled with when to get their child a mobile phone. And now this subject is reaching political debate around the world. On the one hand, phones have become an essential part of a teenagers' lives and way of staying connected. On the other hand, excessive screen time has been linked with mental health issues, and social media platforms open the door to criminal and sexual exploitation online. We take a closer look at both sides and what schools and organisations are doing to address these concerns.

The good and the bad

While it is easy to associate mobile phones with online harm, most parents actually buy them for their children with safety in mind. They allow parents to keep in touch when children are in school, at a friends, or running to the shops. If there is an emergency, they are reachable. Also, there are various location sharing apps that can come in handy for tracking young people's whereabouts.

That being said, social media does open the door to <u>cyber-bullying</u> and even exploitation in some circumstances. In recent years, there has been a rise in sextortion, with teenage boys being the most vulnerable to gangs blackmailing them to commit crimes using the threat of sharing real and fake explicit images.

There is also a concern around the amount of time young people spend glued to their phones. This increased exposure has been proven to contribute to sleep problems and less desire to take part in physical activity. Mobile phones make it easier than ever for children to spend large chunks of their life online and withdraw from the world around them.

A Channel 4 series called Swiped looks at the harmful effects mobile phones are having on children. Pupils at a school in Colchester took part in an experiment which saw them giving up their phones for 21 days. The results were staggering. The students found that they were more productive and sociable, they concentrated better in lessons and had improved sleep.

Please consider this topic for the good of all of our children's mental health.