



Reddal Hill Primary School Parents / Carers' Newsletter December 2025



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WELCOME

Welcome to the December Parents / Carers' Newsletter.

The month leading up to the Christmas break is an exciting time, albeit busy, with the pupils partaking in lots of exciting experiences, as well as still learning.

Over the past few weeks, some of our pupils took part in a Wind (Woodwind and Brass) concert and/ or a Rocksteady concert. Both concerts were exceptional, with pupils demonstrating impressive instrumental ability. A HUGE well done to all the pupils who took part in these two concerts, and to all the parents/ carers who supported their child when practicing their instrument at home. All the pupils enjoyed a delicious Christmas Dinner on the 9th December and lots of pupils took part in the autumn term's **Bronze Behaviour Champions** activities. I hope that you thoroughly enjoyed the KS1 and KS2 Christmas Carol Concert, which was organised this year by Mrs. Leach, with a very special guest who commenced the concert. A massive thank you to Mrs. Leach for organising this event and to the PTA for the much appreciated PTA Christmas Fayre that followed the concert.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our families who celebrate Christmas a truly wonderful Christmas and a very happy New Year. For those who do not celebrate Christmas, I hope you enjoy a restful and refreshing two-week break.



School Admissions

RECEPTION SCHOOL PLACE 2026: If your child was born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022 then it is time to register your child for a **reception school place** for September 2026. You will be able to apply online at www.sandwell.gov.uk/schooladmissions during the period of **Monday 15th September 2025** until the closing date of **Thursday 15th January 2026**.

(Non-Sandwell residents must contact their home local authority)

YEAR 7 SCHOOL PLACE 2026: Please note: The application process for Year 7 school places for September 2026 is **NOW CLOSED**. If you have not applied for a place for your child, you will now need to complete a late application form. Please click on the following link for late secondary application forms:

<https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/school-admissions/applying-secondary-school>

Please note, National Offer Day for Year 7 is Monday 2nd March 2026.

If you require any support in applying for a school place, then please speak to Mrs. Begum, our Parents Support Advisor, who is more than happy to help.

Staffing Update: A sad goodbye...

As most of you will already be aware, we are saying a very sad goodbye to Mrs. Jackson, who will be retiring at the end of this term. Mrs. Jackson has been a Learning Support Practitioner at Reddal Hill for 22 years. I think that you will all agree that she has been a constant source of support, encouragement, and care for countless pupils. Her commitment to helping children thrive both academically and personally has left a lasting impact on our school community. Many of our pupils have benefitted from her patience, kindness, and expertise, and she will be greatly missed by staff, pupils, and families alike. We are deeply grateful for the extraordinary contribution she has made over more than two decades and we wish her all the very best as she moves on to the next chapter in her life.

Attendance

At Reddal Hill, we really value the attendance of all our pupils. As such, every week, the class with the best attendance, are rewarded with an extra 5 minutes play and our attendance trophy. At the end of each term, the class who has the highest attendance percentage for the greatest number of weeks, will enjoy a movie and popcorn afternoon. Please see below the classes that have won the highest attendance since we returned to school on 3rd September 2025.

Week commencing	Winning class	Percentage
01.09.2025	Lilies and Elephants	100%
08.09.2025	Lilies	98%
15.09.2025	Hagrid	98.3%
22.09.2025	Hagrid	96.9%
29.09.2025	Dumbledore	98.2%
06.10.2025	Hermione	97.2%
13.10.2025	Potter	98.1%
20.10.2025	Dobby and Hagrid	96.9%
Half term		
03.11.2025	Dumbledore	99.2%
10.11.2025	Dumbledore	97.3%
17.11.2025	Hermione	97.2%
24.11.2025	Sunflower	96.4%
01.12.2025	Potter	98.6%
08.12.2025	Hedwig	98.6%

HUGE CONGRATULATIONS TO DUMBLEDORE and HAGRID classes for being the overall **WINNERS** this term! **YEAR 5** have had the best attendance for the greatest number of weeks during the autumn term. The pupils celebrated this achievement with a film and snack afternoon earlier this week.

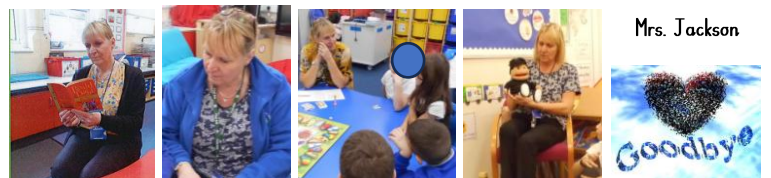
Reddal Hill's attendance for the autumn term 1 2025 was 93.22%. (National: 94.92% - 2024/2025) – unfortunately, we are currently **below** the National percentage. Please support Reddal Hill Primary School by ensuring that your child attends school every day and on time. Thank you.

Please see a message from Mrs. Rogers, the school's **Attendance Champion**:

Attendance and Punctuality Matter!

Attendance: Regular school attendance and punctuality are key to every child's success. When students attend school every day and arrive on time, they build strong learning habits, stay connected with their classmates, and make the most of each learning opportunity. As we enter the season of colds and flu, we understand that some absences are unavoidable—please visit the website via the following link [Is my child too ill for school? - NHS](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/when-to-keep-your-child-at-home) or our school website, for guidance on **when** to keep your child at home and tips for staying healthy.

Punctuality: We are still working to reduce lateness at Reddal Hill. Unfortunately, this week alone, we recorded **107 late marks**. Please help us to reduce this number. If a pupil arrives late, parents/ carers must sign their child/ren into school at the office, before they go to class. This can cause queues and further lateness. To avoid this, please ensure you arrive on time at 8:30am. Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.



Dates for the diary



2025-2026

Autumn Term 2024:

Monday 1st September 2025 - Friday 24th October 2025

Children return to school on Wednesday 3rd September 2025

Half-term: Monday 27th October 2025 - Friday 31st October 2025

Monday 3rd November 2025 - Friday 19th December 2025

Spring Term 2026:

Monday 5th January 2026 - Friday 13th February 2026

Half-term: Monday 16th February 2026 - Friday 20th February 2026

Monday 23rd February 2026 - Friday 27th March 2026

Summer Term 2025:

Monday 13th April 2026 - Friday 22nd May 2026

Bank Holiday: Monday 4th May 2026

Half-term: Monday 25th May 2026 - Friday 29th May 2026

Monday 1st June 2026 - Monday 20th July 2026

Teacher Training Days 2025 - 2026:

Day 1 - Monday 1st September 2025

Day 2 - Tuesday 2nd September 2025




Day 3 - Monday 3rd November 2025

Day 4 - Friday 9th January 2026

Day 5 - Monday 20th July 2026

Books of the Month - Christmas Holiday

Please see below the following recommended book/s you can read with your child. For older children, your child could read this book to you. These books are age appropriate and provide key vocabulary that is important in supporting your child's developing language skills.

EYFS	Key Stage 1	Key Stage 2
 <p>A Christmas Delivery by A. Shepard and S. Warburton</p>	 <p>The Very Last Christmas Present by Adam Baron</p>	 <p>Silent Night by Emma Read</p>

Reading with your child

Reading every day helps children build vocabulary, improve comprehension, and develop confidence. It also sparks imagination and creativity, opening doors to new ideas and adventures.

How does Read to Succeed work?

Every time your child reads at home, they earn a tick in their reading record, even if they read more than once in a day. As they collect ticks, they can achieve exciting milestones:

Bronze Reader - 45 reads

Silver Reader - 90 reads

Gold Reader - 135 reads

For the ultimate challenge, if your child reads 50 different books, they become a

Platinum Reader - even if they read two books in one day!

Platinum Readers receive a £5 voucher as a special reward!

Safeguarding

At Reddal Hill, we take our safeguarding duty very seriously. If you have any concerns about the safety or wellbeing of a child, then you must contact the school or the Sandwell Children's Trust on 0121 569 3100 in confidence. If a child is in immediate danger, you should contact the police, call 999. The school's Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is Mrs. A. Bashir-Pugh and the Deputy DSLs are Mr. J. Stokes, Mrs. H Rogers, Mrs. T. Whitehurst, Mrs. K Beard and Mrs. Begum



We are a Nut Free Zone. We have a number of pupils and adults who are **seriously allergic** to nuts. Please do not send your child to school with ANY Nutella or chocolate spread unless the label clearly states that it **does not contain nuts**. Please support us in protecting our pupils and staff.

Breakfast with Santa's Little Helpers

The pupils tucked into pancakes, toast, biscuits and a refreshing cup of squash for their Christmas Breakfast this year. During this time, they had a visit from two of Santa's 'Little Helpers' who delivered Christmas gifts on behalf of Santa. A HUGE thank you to our two awesome PTA members, Mrs. Lloyd and Miss Evans, for delivering 418 presents to our lovely pupils and for dressing up in your amazing costumes, to make this event extra special. A HUGE thank you also to Mrs. Maxwell for purchasing the Christmas gifts, and the food for the Christmas Breakfast as well as the food for the Christmas parties; your kindness does not go unnoticed.



KS1 and KS2 Christmas Carol Concert

On Wednesday 17th December, the pupils took part in the traditional Christmas Carol Concert. This year, we were delighted to welcome a special guest, Jenny Waldon, who is Mrs. Leach's cousin, who opened the performance with a renowned Christmas song, 'Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas.' Both our special guest and the pupils performed brilliantly, creating a truly memorable carol concert. Thank you to all of our families who joined us for this amazing event.



A massive thank you to Mrs. Leach for organising her first, but definitely amazing, Christmas Carol Concert. It was truly enjoyed by everyone.

Thought for the Month



"The greatest gifts at Christmas aren't wrapped, they are the moments you share and the memories you build as a family." Anon

Kind regards,

A. Bashir-Pugh

Mrs. A. Bashir-Pugh

Headteacher