



Reddal Hill Primary School Parents / Carers' Newsletter March 2026



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WELCOME

Welcome to the March Parents / Carers' Newsletter.

I cannot believe that the Easter holiday is already upon us. Where has the spring term gone? As you would expect, the pupils have had an extremely busy half term. Alongside completing their classwork and assessments, they have also taken part in a range of fun and rewarding activities. Our Year 3 pupils delivered a fantastic Easter performance for their parents and carers. We have also enjoyed several school trips: Year 5 and Year 6 visited Wolverhampton University as part of the Children's University programme, and Year 2 visited Cradley Heath Library. In addition, eight girls from Years 5 and 6 **WON** the KS2 Girls' Football Tournament at the West Bromwich Albion Dome in March. A well-deserved trophy will be presented to the girls after the Easter holiday in recognition of their amazing skills and effort.

A few reminders: please ensure that your child does not wear hooped earrings to school, as these can be easily pulled out on our very busy playground. Please also remember to remove your child's earrings on PE days, or teach them how to do this themselves and provide a small box or pot for safe keeping during their lesson. It is important to establish these good habits early, as secondary schools may issue sanctions for incorrect uniform. We appreciate your support in helping your child develop these positive routines. Thank you.

Finally, I would like to wish all families who celebrate Easter a wonderful holiday, and to those who do not, an enjoyable Easter break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back after the holiday.

School Admissions

RECEPTION SCHOOL PLACE 2026: Please note: The application process for reception 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 reception application forms:

[Applying for a reception place / Year 3 junior school place | Sandwell Council](#)

Please note, National Offer Day for RECEPTION is Thursday 16th April 2026.

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.

Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL) – UPDATE

After the Easter holiday, we are excited to begin Phase One of our OPAL journey. To launch this phase, we will be introducing nine new zones across the playground, each thoughtfully designed to encourage meaningful, active, and imaginative play.

The children have already taken part in three Play Assemblies, alongside all teaching staff, where they explored the behaviour expectations for each zone and worked together to negotiate fair and consistent rules. As we move forward, these zones and expectations will be closely monitored and carefully adapted to ensure they meet the needs of all children and continue to develop positively throughout the OPAL process.

We are truly looking forward to seeing the children enjoy this next step in their play experience.

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 5th January 2026.

Week commencing	Winning class	Percentage
05.01.2026	Hagrid	93.8%
12.01.2026	Dumbledore	98.7%
19.01.2026	Lilies	99.3%
26.01.2026	Elephants	97.8%
02.02.2026	Hermione	97.7%
09.02.2026	Dobby	98.3%
Half Term		
23.02.2026	Lilies	98.1%
02.03.2026	Lilies	100%
09.03.2026	Buttercups	98.7%
16.03.2026	Sunflowers	92.3%
23.03.2026	TBC	TBC



🌟 **Huge congratulations to Lilies Class!** They achieved the **highest attendance percentage** for the **most weeks** throughout the spring term. What an incredible effort and commitment from everyone. Enjoy your well-deserved film and snack this week – you've earned it. **Well done, Lilies Class!**

Reddal Hill's attendance from September 2025 to spring term 1 2026 was 92.47%. (National: 94.85% - 2024/2025) – unfortunately, we are currently **below** the National percentage.

🧠 **The Importance of Good Attendance**

We want to take a moment to remind all families how important regular school attendance is for every child's learning and wellbeing. When children attend school consistently, they:

- Build strong learning habits that set them up for future success
- Keep up with new lessons and avoid gaps in their understanding
- Develop confidence by taking part in class activities
- Strengthen friendships and feel more connected to their school community

Even small amounts of missed time can add up and make it harder for children to stay on track. We truly appreciate your support in helping your child arrive on time and ready to learn each day. Working together, we can give every child the best possible chance to thrive.

Staffing Update

We are pleased to inform you that **Miss Foster (Learning Support Practitioner)** has recently returned to school following the birth of her beautiful baby son. **Mrs Williams (class teacher)** will also be returning after the Easter break, having welcomed her own beautiful baby boy.

Mrs Taylor, who was appointed on a temporary basis to cover Mrs Williams' maternity leave, will work alongside our Year 5 staff. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Mrs Taylor for the dedication, care, and continuity she has provided during her time with Buttercup Class and Year 2.

SCHOOL MOTTO: GLEE: 'Growing – Learning – Enjoying – Excellence'

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 2025 - 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

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>Pip and Egg by Alex Latimer and David Litchfield</p>	 <p>The Big Green by Ken Wilson-Max</p>	 <p>Dragon Girl and the Awakened Flames by Jenny Moore</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

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.

Inclusion Information - Down Syndrome Awareness



On Monday 23rd March, the school delivered a very special World Down Syndrome Awareness assembly to recognise World Down Syndrome Day (21st March 2026). The children learned what Down Syndrome is, and we held discussions to help them understand that everyone is unique and that we should always show kindness, respect, and inclusion. The pupils enjoyed singing "Old MacDonald" using Makaton. They were fantastic at joining in with the signs, and it was a lovely way to promote communication and understanding. We are incredibly proud of how thoughtful, engaged, and enthusiastic the children were throughout the assembly.

Parent Support Advisor (PSA)

A huge thank you to Mrs Begum, our PSA, for organising a Paediatric First Aid workshop for our parents and carers. The session was very well attended, and the participation, enthusiasm, and effort shown were greatly appreciated by both Mrs Begum and the course leader. A big thank you as well to the wonderful parents/ carers who took part, and to the course leader for delivering such an informative session.



Thought for the Month

'The most important work you will ever do will be within the walls of your own home.' -

Harold B. Lee.

Kind regards,

A. Bashir-Pugh

Mrs. A Bashir-Pugh

Headteacher

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