



# Reddal Hill Primary School Parents / Carers' Newsletter January 2025



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## WELCOME

Welcome to the January - Parents / Carers' Newsletter.

A belated Happy New Year to all of our pupils and families. I hope that you all had a lovely break over the Christmas holidays.



The pupils have arrived back with a positive attitude towards their learning, and continue to work hard. During the first week back, the pupils who belong to the Planet **SATURN** received an afternoon film and snack to celebrate raising the most Planet Points during the autumn term, for demonstrating exemplary behaviour, a positive attitude towards their learning and making super progress too; this was a fantastic way to start the new year. The pupils in Year 1 are getting ready for their year group assembly, which will take place on **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February**, and pupils in Year 5 and Year 6 are looking forward to their residential trip to Plas Gwynant.

Just a quick reminder, please ensure that your child does not wear hooped earrings at school as these can easily be pulled out in our very busy playgrounds. If your child would like their ears pierced, please aim to do this at the beginning of the summer holidays; this will allow adequate time for the child's ears to heal, and earrings can also be removed when your child is taking part in Physical Education (PE), when they are back in school.

Also, please ensure that your child only wears trainers, which should be black, when they are taking part in PE. Black shoes should be worn when wearing school uniforms. It is important to commence with these good habits before your child move onto high school, where they will face sanctions for not wearing the correct uniform. Please support us as a school and your child in establishing good habits. Thank you.

## School Admissions

Please note: The application process for reception places for September, is **NOW CLOSED**. If you have not already applied for a place for your child to start reception in September 2024, you will need to complete a late application form. Please click on the following link for late reception application forms:

<https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/downloads/download/198/late-reception-application-form>

Please note, Offer Day for Reception is Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2025.

Please note: The application process for Year 7 school places for September 2025, is **NOW CLOSED**. If you have not already applied for a place for your child to start high school in September 2025, you will 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 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025.

If you require any support in applying for a school place, then please speak to Mrs.

## 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 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

Week commencing	Winning class	Percentage
06.01.2025	Hermione	99.2%
13.01.2025	Sunflowers	97.9%
20.01.2025	Dumbledore	95%



Reddal Hill's attendance for autumn term 2024 was **93.15%**. (National: 94.75% - 2023/2024). Unfortunately, we are 1.6% below the National percentage. This gap has **INCREASED** further since autumn term 1. Please support Reddal Hill by ensuring your child comes to school every day Thank you.

## Young Voices Concert

On Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January, 26 Reddal Hill Choir members from Year 4 to Year 6, visited the BP Pulse Live Arena in Birmingham, to take part in the Young Voices Concert! All of the pupils had an absolutely amazing time, so too did the adults who accompanied the pupils! The choir sang beautifully and danced with Urban Stride and performed like superstars. They also had the pleasure of performing with well-known artists such as: MC Grammar, Tommy Blaise (the main singer from Strictly Come Dancing) and Souparnika Nair. It was a brilliant experience and the choir were an absolute credit to our school!! Well done to the Reddal Hill Choir and thank you also to Mrs Leach and Mrs Davies for organising this awesome experience for our pupils.



## Dates for the diary



2024-2025

### Autumn Term 2024:

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024 - Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Children return to school on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Half-term: Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2024 - Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2024

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024 - Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024

### Spring Term 2025:

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025 - Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Half-term: Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2025 - Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2025

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2025 - Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2025

### Summer Term 2025:

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2025 - Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2025

Bank Holidays: Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Half-term: Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2025 - Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2025 - Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2025

### Teacher Training Days 2024 - 2025:

Day 1 - Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024

Day 2 - Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2024

Day 3 - Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Day 4 - Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025

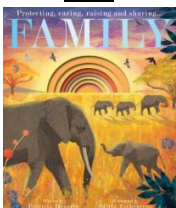
Day 5 - Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2025

For the school term dates for 2024-2025, please refer to the school [Term Dates 2024 - 2025 / 2025 - 2026 | Reddal Hill](#)

## Books of the Month - February

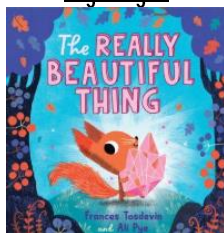
Please see below the following recommended book/s you can read with your child. For older children, your child could read this book to you. These books are age appropriate and provide key vocabulary that is important in supporting your child's developing language skills.

### EYFS



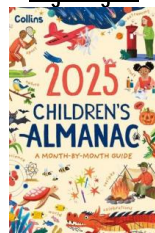
Family  
by Patricia Hegarty

### Key Stage 1



A Truly Beautiful Thing  
by Francis Tosdevin

### Key Stage 2



2025 Children's Almanac  
by Collins Kids

Remember, there are a range of EXCELLENT online reading books, located on our school website, that you can share with your child at any time.

[virtual-library-final-draft.pdf \(primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com\)](#)

Reminder: The Scholastic UK are bringing their Book Fair to Reddal Hill Primary School on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February until Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February. Look out for our Book Fair Competition to win a £5 book voucher!

## 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 Mrs. J. Nisbet, Mr. J. Stokes, Mrs. H Rogers, Mrs. T. Whitehurst and Mrs. K Beard.



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.

## Start Small, Dream Big Careers Education Programme

On behalf of Reddal Hill, Mrs. Whitehurst is implementing the Start Small, Dream Big Careers Education Programme across the school. As part of this programme, Mrs. Whitehurst invited Andy from Severn Trent Water to visit our pupils to deliver an assembly to talk about the water cycle and how Severn Trent clean the water for us to drink and use. The pupils found out how people waste water and what we can do to save this precious resource. The assemblies were very exciting and interesting. Thank you, Andy and thank you Mrs. Whitehurst!

\*As a family, please note some things that you can do to help our environment in saving water: remember to turn the tap off when you brush your teeth; reduce the time that you are in the shower; use a bowl of water to wash the dishes or put the dishwasher on eco-mode.



## Start Small, Dream Big Careers Education Programme...

Following on from the Severn Trent Water assemblies, the pupils in Year 4 also took part in some 'water saving' workshops. The pupils worked in groups to identify if a fictitious family in Water Street saved water or wasted water by representing this in the water tubes. Each millilitre represented a litre. The pupils had great fun measuring the water and sorting the cards into savers or wasters.



## Thought for the Month

'I have yet to meet a parent who hasn't failed at some point. But the great parents are the ones who learn from their mistakes.' Kara Carrera

Enjoy the rest of spring term!

Kind regards,

*A. Bashir-Pugh*

Mrs. A Bashir-Pugh

**SCHOOL MOTTO: GLEE: 'Growing - Learning - Excellence'**