

# Newsletter

## Spring 2

Dear Parents/Carers,

Hope you all had a good break. With just a few weeks remaining before the spring term ends, we reach an important time to reflect on achievements so far and what we need to focus on over the remainder of the academic year.

I would like to begin by thanking you for supporting the Aqua House charity event, which raised awareness of the work of the emergency services. Through your generous donations, we were able to forward £240 to the Police Charity. We are hugely proud of the enthusiasm our children display each time such events are organised. Our House Captains and Vice Captains did a great job of supporting the activities taking place on the day. Children enjoyed the assemblies during which they found out about the work our Community Police Officers do.

We hope the parents who attended the Year 2 maths workshop found it useful to know how, 'Power Maths' is taught in KS1. Parents were able to gain an insight into the teaching methods and see how we use the resources to support learning.

Our children in Year 6 have been preparing for their end of Key Stage 2 SATs so are well into their revision programmes. The tests take place in May, week beginning 13/05/25. We will provide some further information closer to the date.

Opportunities for our children to experience learning in different ways is very much part of our approach to the wider curriculum, so trips/visits are being organised by staff to ensure children are able to take full advantage of what is on offer.

We continue to promote the importance of healthy lifestyles and active learning with sports coaches supplementing lunchtime activities for the children. The coaches always try to engage as many children as they can with a range of fun, multi-sport and orienteering activities.

You will also see that we have a number of events coming up, greatly enjoyed by all – World Book day is one such occasion when the children can dress-up to represent their favourite book characters and participate in reading activities with a difference. We have British Science Week coming up soon, when everyone is involved in specialised scientific learning – it is usually a great fun week for all! This year we are also planning a science exhibition. Further details of this will follow.

### **A few other updates:**

Our dining room has been completely re-furbished and extended and now provides even better facilities for children during their lunchtimes.

At the front of school, we have opened up the area so that dismissal for Year 4 is easier, with a separate designated area for parents. We would greatly appreciate it if Year 5 and Year 6 parents could also use the waiting area designated for them, at dismissal time – this will really help with keeping everyone safe and avoiding any accidents.

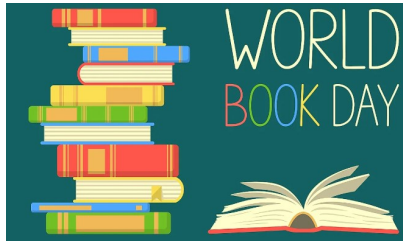
Please note we are having CCTV cameras installed outside the building.

Further enhancements to the outdoor learning areas for children in Early Years.

Mrs N. Matharu

**Spring Term 2 Activities / Events**

We have a great term ahead so please make a note of the things that are coming up. Ensuring children are provided with a wide range of opportunities at school is very important to us. Our aim is to incorporate as many different, enriching experiences as possible for them. This term we have the following taking place:



**Friday 7th March**

The children will have a chance to dress up as their favourite book character. The children will be taking part in activities based on an adventure story in class.



To promote reading for pleasure and to encourage our pupils to read more broadly, we are having a school book fair on Tuesday 11th and Wednesday 12th March.

The book fair will be open from 3.20pm—4pm for parents. Please enter through Phase2 dismissal doors.

Children will visit the book fair during the day and write a wish list of books they like, parents are then able to visit and purchase the books after

**Author Visit—Y1 & Y2**  
**Friday 7th March**

We will be visited by Emilie Lauren Jones. They will be listening, performing and writing poems about Animals. Emilie's poetry has been featured on local and national radio.

**Bikeability**

**Monday 31 March**

Year 5 and Year 6 will be taking part in bikeability this will help children to develop road sense, the ability to navigate and improve their independence - all of which will boost their confidence.



**Responsible Parking**

We request parents and carers to be vigilant and report bad parking. Please be aware civil enforcement officers will be monitoring our streets at the start/end of the school day.



**Red Nose Day Friday 21st March**

We will be supporting Red Nose Day. Please send your child with a voluntary contribution of £1 to support the work of this fantastic charity.



**Ventus Charity Day**

Ventus charity day is on **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2025**. Please send your child/children in something yellow. This year we will be raising money for the Firefighters Charity.

Children will participate in different activities throughout the day to support their understanding of a firefighters role and how the charity supports current and former firefighters.



### Explorer Dome

On Tuesday 25th February, Year 1 will be learning about Antarctica - Scott of the Antarctic a part of their Geography topic and Year 5 will experience taking a closer look at space as part of science work during the Spring term.

On Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March, we are very excited to share that year 6 will be experiencing the Explorer Dome's fascinating show on the human body. Explorer Dome offers a unique opportunity for children to learn practically, as they will be immersed in interactive shows and lots of fun activities. The show will involve a journey into food groups, teeth and the important role of our digestive system.

### Swimming Timetable

We are introducing swimming to our Year 3 pupils each Thursday. This means a transition period is necessary for the change to be implemented, to allow for the current Year 3 pupils to make a start.



If your child is currently in Year 4 though, we aim to provide them with a further opportunity to go swimming, for one term, in Year 5, so that they do not miss out.

### Mid-year Progress Report

At the end of this term, we will be providing a mid-year progress report for your child. It will help you understand how well your child is doing and give you an indication of aspects they need to work on over the next few months. Further to you receiving the progress update, staff will follow up any queries you may have and should you require a follow-up conversation then please arrange with your child's teacher, through class dojo. **We have allocated Wednesday 9th April 3.30pm – 4.30pm for this purpose.**

### Darlaston Library Dates for your Diary



Tuesday 18th March—Y3

Tuesday 25th March—Y6

Tuesday 1st April—Y5

### **Term Dates 2024/25**

#### Summer 1 Half Term

**School closes on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April  
and**

**Re-opens on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April for all  
pupils**