



Dear Parents/Carers,

Despite the freezing temperatures this week, we have had a fantastic time in school. We welcomed many parents in for our Maths and SATs workshops, the Red Cross came in to help Y6 pupils to manage risk and we celebrated all of the pupils who were recognized this week in our celebration assembly.

1N and 6C both achieved 99.1% attendance this week – a huge well done to them.

Thank you to parents for attending the parent committee meeting, the committee lead will be writing to you soon to share some of the exciting plans they have to help our pupils.

Please find below a wealth of information around dates and workshops that may be of interest to you.

REMEMBER: We move to Bromcom on Monday so make sure you have downloaded the 'My Child at school' app. Speak to the office for support with logging in.


Thank you for your continued support.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs. L Mahony, Headteacher

## *Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility*

### **Spotlight on: FGM**



Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) comprises all procedures involving the partial or total removal of the external female genitalia or any other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons. FGM has been categorised into four types, ranging from a symbolic prick to the clitoris, to the fairly extensive removal and narrowing of the vaginal opening. All these forms of FGM have been found in the UK. FGM is sometimes known as 'female genital cutting' or female circumcision. It's often performed by someone with no medical training, using instruments such as knives, scalpels, scissors, glass or razor blades. Children are rarely given anaesthetic or antiseptic treatment and are often forcibly restrained. It's used to control female sexuality and can cause long-lasting damage to physical and emotional health.

The World Health Organisation estimates that three million girls undergo some form of the procedure every year in Africa alone. It is practised in 28 countries in Africa and some in the Middle East and Asia. FGM is considered to be child abuse in the UK and is a violation of the child's right to life, their bodily integrity as well as of their right to health

FGM is **illegal in the UK**. It is also an offence for UK nationals or permanent UK residents to carry out FGM abroad or to assist the carrying out of FGM abroad.

If you are concerned that a child may be at risk of FGM you can call the NSPCC FGM helpline on 0800 028 3550 for more information or email them at [fgmhelp@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:fgmhelp@nspcc.org.uk)

## **Bromcom My Child At School App (MCAS)**

As you are aware we previously used the Arbor App for communicating to parents. In January 2024 we will be launching our new parent app called **My Child At School (MCAS)**. The MCAS app is our preferred method of communication with you using app notifications.

### **What is MCAS?**

MyChildAtSchool (MCAS) is a portal that can enable parents to view their child's academic performance in real-time via a web browser or mobile app. This facility allows exclusive access to key academic dates, attendance information, timetables and the personal details the academy holds for you and your child.

The following modules which are available in MCAS:

- Notifications
- Pupil details check/update/amend
- Attendance
- Parents evening booking
- Reports
- Assessment
- Dinner/Dinner money

### **Downloading the app and logging in**

The app is simple to download and access using the email address that you have supplied to us.

The app is available through the Google Store or Apple Store, just search for **My Child At School app by Bromcom Computers Plc**.

From the 19<sup>th</sup> January 2024 we will no longer use the Arbor app and the only way to upload funds for Dinner will be through PayPoint or MCAS app. Please note any existing Arbor (credit) will automatically transfer to your MCAS account. You can view the balance in Dinner module and top up the balance in Dinner Money.

We will be having a **drop-in session all day on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2024** where office staff will be on hand to help you get logged in.

### **PayPoint**

In January we will supply each parent with a PayPoint letter which contains a barcode, so you can easily upload payments using the cash PayPoint facility.

**Using PayPoint payments are for those parents/carers who wish to continue to pay for items via cash. PayPoint payments are also recorded by MCAS and can be seen by logging into your MCAS account and viewing your payment history online. Your nearest PayPoint is here: JET - Key Hill, Icknield Street, Hockley, Birmingham, B18 5AU**

## Key Dates

- Wednesdays: Year 3B swimming lessons
- Tuesday 23rd January: Year 4 Maths Workshop
- Wednesday 24th January: Visit from Artis Foundation (Reception and Year 1)
- Thursday 25th January: Year 3 Maths Workshop
- Tuesday 30th January: Year 2 SATS Workshop
- Wednesday 31st January: Year 6 Visit to Black Country Museum
- Thursday 1st February 2024: Parent coffee morning – 8.45am
- Monday 5th February: Year 5 Visit to Warwick Castle
- Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February: Year 1 Phonics Workshop
- **Thursday 8th February: Children break up for Half Term**
- **Tuesday 20th February: Pupils return to school at 8:30am**
- Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February: Reception Maths Workshop
- Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February: Nursery Sharing Stories Workshop

**All Workshops letters will be sent at a near date to the Workshop.**



Rookery **Children's Centre**.  
Address: 60 Mount Pleasant  
Avenue **Handsworth**  
**Birmingham**; Postcode: B21 9QA

Tues 16 January 2024  
Tues 13th February 2024  
Tues 12th March 2024  
10am - 12 noon

Register on our Eventbrite page:  
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/autism-west-midlands-4516901521>



**autism**  
west midlands

## HANDSWORTH PARENT CARER SUPPORT GROUP

Join us for our Parent Support Group where you will be able to meet with other parents, share ideas, celebrate achievements, and offer support.

### What you can expect:

- Guest speakers
- Focus upon wellbeing
- Embracing neurodiversity
- Support, advice & guidance
- Light refreshments

Scan or press QR code to register





Communication and Autism



Access to  
Education

## Spring Term 2024 CAT PAC – Early Years Delivered Online

We would like to invite you to a CAT PAC course, our parent awareness course designed to support you following your child receiving a diagnosis of autism.

- The course has been designed for parents who want to increase their understanding of autism.
- The sessions will be delivered virtually via Microsoft TEAMS, a link will be sent to you before each session.
  - Each session will last for 2 hours

### SPRING TERM 2024

Session 1 – An introduction to Autism	Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> January 9.30-11.30am
Session 2 – Communication and Interaction	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> February 9.30-11.30am
HALF TERM	
Session 3 – Sensory differences	Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> February 9.30-11.30am
Session 4 – Eating, sleeping and toileting	Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> February 9.30-11.30am
Session 5 – Emotional regulation	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March 9.30-11.30am

The subject or title of your email needs to state that it is for the :

**Spring 2024 Early Years Online CAT PAC.**

*In your email please include:*

- Your name and email address
- Your Child / young person's name and school
- Your child / young person's CAT worker (if known)
- Due to limited places, the course will be offered to the first families to contact us.
- *There is an expectation that parents endeavour to attend all sessions if possible.*
- **Please email [A2EGeneral@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:A2EGeneral@birmingham.gov.uk) to reserve a place. You will receive an email response to confirm your place or to tell you that the course is full.**

Yours sincerely,

Viv Walters & Wendy Bantock



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  - Each session will last for 2 hours

### SPRING TERM 2024

Session 1 – An introduction to Autism	Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> January 12.30-2.30pm
Session 2 – Communication and Interaction	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> February 12.30-2.30pm
HALF TERM	
Session 3 – Sensory differences	Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> February 12.30-2.30pm
Session 4 – Eating, sleeping, personal care	Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> February 12.30-2.30pm
Session 5 – Autism and Anxiety	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March 12.30-2.30pm

The subject or title of your email needs to state that it is for the :

**Spring 2024 Primary Online CAT PAC.**

*In your email please include:*

- Your name and email address
- Your Child / young person's name and school
- Your child / young person's CAT worker (if known)
- Due to limited places, the course will be offered to the first families to contact us.
- *There is an expectation that parents endeavour to attend all sessions if possible.*
- Please email [A2EGeneral@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:A2EGeneral@birmingham.gov.uk) to reserve a place. You will receive an email response to confirm your place or to tell you that the course is full.

Yours sincerely,

*Dawn Fisher and Wendy Gibb*