



NEWSLETTER - FEB 2



Dear Parents/Carers,

I am starting today's newsletter with a **half term challenge** for all children **Developing Cutlery Skills**!! Spending every day in the dinner hall, I witness many children who are finding that using cutlery is a little tricky. Whilst staff at school all support children to cut their food and encourage correct use of cutlery, we do need to work together with Parents/Carers to ensure these skills are mastered. As such, I am presenting the children with challenge for the holiday! I would like everyone to work hard to develop their skills and attach some helpful advice for Parents from Oxford NHS, Children's Community Occupational Therapy. It is important that children have these skills modelled by adults and that time is set aside to practice these skills (preferably at a time that is not a rushed mealtime). Playdough activities are a good place to start, before using real food - please have a look at the information attached and enjoy!

I look forward to celebrating achievements in the dinner hall after the half term.



Parents' evening is taking place tonight and tomorrow night and we look forward to speaking to Parents/Carers during the sessions. Appointments are accessed online via SchoolCloud. If there are problems with internet connections, staff will make telephone calls (from unknown ID in most cases) so please keep your phone to hand at your appointment time. A reminder that our half termly Parent Rep meeting is being held tomorrow morning after drop off, please can all members confirm their attendance before the end of today and if any parents have agenda items which they would like to raise, please pass these on to your child's class Parent Representative.

Following a meeting with our PTA a few weeks ago, I would like to just mention a few items that were discussed, including diary dates. Our annual Ifthar will be taking place on **Thursday 13th March** so please save the date (further details from PTA will follow soon).

The PTA are also looking for donations of (logo only) school uniform for their next uniform event. Please bring all donations to school after half term, in preparation for the uniform sale on **7th March**.

A final news flash is the return of the "**Boldmere Wonka Bars**"!! These will be on sale during **World Book Day, Thursday 6th March**. During last year's event, the bars sold out in record time but we have plenty purchased for this year so will hopefully will not have any disappointed customers!

School re-opens on **Monday 24th February** but we wish you an enjoyable half term.

Diary Dates

Tuesday 11th & Wednesday 12th

February - Parents Evening

Wednesday 12th February -

Parents Rep Meeting

Friday 14th February - Break up for half term holidays

Monday 24th February - School re-opens to all pupils

Tuesday 4th March - Year 1 Inspire afternoon 1.30pm

Wednesday 5th March - Year 2 Inspire afternoon 1.30pm

Thursday 6th March - Reception Inspire afternoon 1.30pm

Thursday 6th March - World Book Day

Thursday 6th March - Nursery 2025 Open Day

Thursday 13th March - PTA Ifthar

Wednesday 2nd April - Parents Rep Meeting

Friday 11th April - Break for Easter holidays

Monday 28th April - School re-opens to all pupils

Monday 5th May - May Day Bank Holiday - closed to all pupils

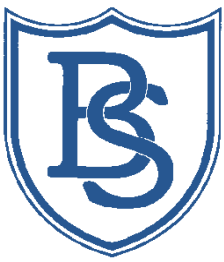
Tuesday 13th May - Year 2 Sports Festival @ Aston Villa Inner City Academy (am only)

Monday 19th May - Reception trip to Ash End Farm

Friday 23rd May - Professional Development Day. School closed to pupils

Friday 23rd May - Break up for half term holidays

Monday 2nd June - School re-opens to all pupils



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Nursery Open Day for September 2025 Intake

Nursery will be holding open sessions on **Thursday 6th March 2025 (9.30am & 1.30pm)** for prospective parents of children who will be eligible to join the nursery in September 2025 (date of birth 01.09.2021 to 31.08.2022). Registration forms are available from the school office or they can be downloaded from the school website under the Parents/Admissions tab.

If you know of anyone that may be interested in a nursery place then please get them to call us on 0121 464 2338. The closing date for completed applications is **Monday 17th March 2025**.



Junior Duke Award

Thank you to all Parents/Carers who have signed up for the Junior Duke award-we have had an amazing number of children join and Mrs. Mason is super excited to be leading the project. The books have been ordered and we are hoping for their delivery before we break up on Friday. Fingers crossed that we can start completing some of the activities during half term!



Reception Trip to Ash End Farm

Can any Reception Parents/Carers who have not already done so complete the consent form for the Reception trip to Ash End Farm along with the meal preference form and return them to school please Payment must also be made via ParentPay by **Monday 24th February 2025**.

Thank you to families that have already paid however we are currently we have only received 50% of the payments.

If sufficient contributions are not received, unfortunately the trip will be cancelled as the school budget is unable to subsidise the shortfall.

Compass Birmingham

Please see the brochure for Compass who will be supporting us in school attached to this newsletter.

Year 2 Sports Festival - Aston Villa Inner City Academy

The letters for the Year 2 Sports Festival at the Aston Villa Inner City Academy on **Tuesday 13th May 2025** were sent home with the children on Friday.

Please can all parents/carers complete the consent form and return it to school by **Monday 10th March 2025**.

Payment of **£4.80** towards the cost of the transport must also be made via ParentPay.

If sufficient contributions are not received, unfortunately the trip will be cancelled.

Medical Appointments

A reminder that if your child will be absent from school, arrive late or have to leave early due to a medical appointment we do need to see some evidence in the school office.

We will need to keep a copy of this to support your child's medical attendance mark on the registers.



Attendance - updated processes

Our amended Attendance Processes have been circulated via Parent Mail, including request for absence forms.

Please can we remind all parents/carers that you need to call (01214642338) or email enquiry-inf@boldmere.bham.sch.uk before **9am** in the morning if your child is going to be absent from school (illness or Religious Observance) or if they are going to be late for any reason. If we have not heard from you then a call will be made to you as part of our responsibility to safeguard children.

Thank you.

Illness in School

Unfortunately it is that time of year where there are many different illnesses circulating. Please follow the link below to NHS guidance which can support you in making a decision if your child is well enough for school.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>



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Reading - Half term challenge!

Find your reading super power! Do you read in bed, under the covers, sitting on the sofa, in the garden or under the stars? Ask a grown up to take a photo of you reading - this could be a favourite comfortable place or somewhere a little bit unusual or even ridiculous! You can choose to read anything that you enjoy. Please send photos to the year group email addresses and Mrs Beesley will add them to the display in the library.



Surprise Readers!

Would you like to be a surprise reader during book week? If Parents/Grandparents/Carers would like to read a favourite story to their class, please email your child's year group by **Friday 14th February** to express your interest.

In your email, please state your child's name and class. We will let you further details, including time allocations, in the week beginning **24th February**. Shhhhhh! It will be a secret!

Book Week - week beginning 3rd March 2025

Book week is fast approaching and we are planning a fun-filled week to celebrate books and reading for enjoyment. During the week we will be holding our INSPIRE workshops when parents/carers are invited into school to work with their children. More information will be available soon. Please see the diary dates for the dates for your year group.

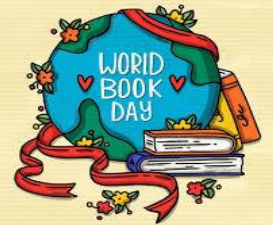


Travelling Book Fair - week beginning Monday 3rd March

The book fair will be in school during book week. It will be open each evening after school from **3:30-4pm** throughout the week. You will also have the opportunity to browse through the books with your child during the Inspire Workshops. There will be a range of books for sale suitable for children aged 0-9 years, with a starting price of £2.99. **Please note that the book fair is cash-less and all payments will be made online.**

World Book Day - Thursday 6th March 2025

We will be using World Book Day as a way to share our favourite books. We are inviting children (and staff!) to dress up as character from their favourite books. Whilst we encourage all children to dress up, we recognise that some children may not want to. If this is the case, then children can always choose to bring in a favourite book instead.



Allergies/food intolerances

If your child has any allergies, please ensure that this information is added to School Grid (Dolce) when you register your child for school meals. This must be completed in addition to notifying the school office. Dolce manage our lunch provision and it is parent's responsibility to provide food allergy information directly to Dolce via the online portal.

Dolce School Catering

If you would like to contact Dolce our school catering company regarding anything to do with school lunches please contact them via customercare@dolce.co.uk

Congratulations Board

Congratulations to these children who are on the Congratulations Board this week:

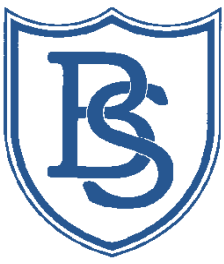
Year 1: Gabi, Arthur & Esther

Year 2: Nye, Bertie & Charlie



Ordering Lunches-School Grid

Please can we remind parents that you need to order lunches for your child via School Grid. If your child is absent from school, please remember to cancel any ordered lunches as soon as possible to help reduce any wasted meals.



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Free Early Talk Boost Training for Day Nurseries, Nursery Schools and School Nursery Classes

The Family Hubs project in Birmingham is funding free Speech and Language UK Early talk Boost training for Day Nurseries, Maintained Nursery schools and School nursery classes.



Early Talk Boost is a targeted intervention aimed at 3-4 year old children who need help with talking and understanding words, helping to boost their language skills to narrow the gap between them and their peers. The programme aims to accelerate children's progress in language and communication by an average of 6 months, after a nine-week intervention.

Children who are selected to take part in the intervention will attend three sessions per week during circle/story time, each lasting 15-20 minutes delivered by an early year's practitioner. The sessions include activities that cover the foundation skills in speech, language and communication that children need for learning and understanding new words, as well as having conversations. The children will then take these books home each week and share them with a parent/carer.

Are you interested in taking part in Early Talk Boost? If so please complete the below expression of interest form to register for a place at one of our training dates in February. **Please note spaces are limited** as these will be face to face sessions from 9.30am - 3pm. You will receive confirmation to confirm that you have been booked on to the training by a member of our team.

Please use this link to book a place <https://forms.office.com/e/znJaMgzt9C>

You will be given the Early Talk Boost Resource kit for free at this one-day training course so please ensure that you have the transport to take it away with you.

Busy Bodies News

February fees have now been added to ParentPay, kindly check your child's account to ensure that your fees are paid and up to date. Should you have any queries about your child's account, kindly contact the Busy Bodies Managers via email on Busies@boldmere.bham.sch.uk or via telephone on 0121 464 1343.

Medical and allergy information

We have recently contacted parents with regards to updating their child/ren medical information or medicine stored at Busy Bodies, a huge thank you to all parents that have returned this information promptly.

If for any reason you have not yet been able to update this information with us, please do so as soon as possible and by Friday 28th February after the half term holiday.

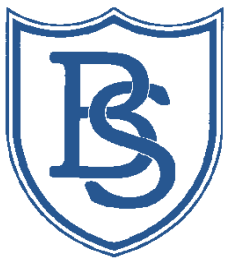
March Booking form

Please note that booking forms are available for collection from the Busy Bodies desk, online at the Federation of Boldmere schools website or the Junior school foyer. Kindly return your booking forms by Wednesday 26th February and fees to be paid by Friday 28th February.

Children attending other club

Kindly indicate on your booking forms if your child will be attending other after school clubs and returning to Busy Bodies afterwards.

May we take this opportunity to wish all our families a really lovely February half term, and we look forward to seeing you when we return.



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Dear Parents/Carers,

We would like to let you know about an NHS service which pharmacies across England are offering for children (as well as adults) called Pharmacy First.

What is Pharmacy First?

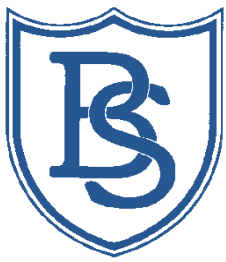
This service enables children and adults to get quick access to healthcare advice as they can walk into a pharmacy and access the service (some pharmacies also offer the service remotely as a video consultation). The person will then be offered a consultation with a pharmacist in a private consultation room. This service takes away the potential delay of having to wait for a GP appointment and may help ensure children get well and back to school as quickly as possible, as well as supporting parents/carers to also get better sooner if they are unwell.

The service supports secondary school aged children in the below age groups who need help with:

- Earache (aged 1 to 17 years)
- Impetigo (aged 1 year and over)
- Infected insect bites (aged 1 year and over)
- Sore throats (aged 5 years and over)
- Sinusitis (aged 12 years and over)
- Urinary tract infections (UTIs) in women (aged 16 to 64 years)

The pharmacist will provide advice and, if clinically necessary, offer an NHS medicine to treat the condition (these medicines are supplied free of charge to children under 16 years, with the normal NHS prescription charge rules applying to people aged 16 or over). The pharmacy will then send an electronic message to the person's GP surgery so their health record can be updated.

Should the pharmacist be unable to help, they will direct the person to their GP surgery or other health professional as appropriate.



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BIB Newsletter Week beginning February 10th 2025

Celebrations

Elijah in Giraffe class for a super speech and language session with Alison.

Harper Rose in ED for working really hard.

Jeevika in LK for working hard in English



PE Champion of the term

Mrs Dale and Mr Jordan have awarded PE Champion of the term to:

Idris in Giraffe class

Thierry in ED

Habiba in LK



This week in the BIB

Giraffe class are learning to identify their names in as many ways as possible.

LK are visiting Boldmere Library on Thursday 13th February for the last time this term.



In Maths, they are completing their unit of work on Fractions. In English, they are revisiting, retelling and sequencing the story of the Chines New Year.

ED and LK are using their creative skills to celebrate Valentine's Day and make cards.

ED have been exploring number in Maths.

They are continuing to practice their independence skills in a range of practical ways.

Letter for parents evening have gone out to you over the last few days.

Please return your slips and we will try and accommodate the time requested.

Don't forget
parents
evening!

Email addresses for correspondence specific to your child's class/year group.

bib-contact@boldmere.bham.sch.uk

nursery-contact@boldmere.bham.sch.uk

reception-contact@boldmere.bham.sch.uk

yr1-contact@boldmere.bham.sch.uk

yr2-contact@boldmere.bham.sch.uk



School Emails

The two separate email addresses for Infants/Juniors are:

enquiry-inf@boldmere.bham.sch.uk

enquiry-jun@boldmere.bham.sch.uk



Mrs S Kenny
Head of School
11/02/2025

Susan Kenny

Newsletter:

The weekly newsletter can also be found on the school website:

<https://www.boldmere.bham.sch.uk>