

NEWSLETTER - JAN 2



Dear Parents/Carers,

I am pleased to say that after the eventful start to 2026 we are getting back into **business as usual** at school! Over the course of the last week, I have had the pleasure of listening to some lovely singing during assembly, have seen some fantastic pieces of writing from Year 1 and Year 2, as well as beautiful art work from Reception. Nursery have also shown excellent listening skills during their PE lessons- Mr Meakin and Mrs Hakim have trained them well - tip toeing through school in one line and setting a great example to the rest of our children!!

This morning, I have also attended violin lessons with Year 1 and Year 2 and had the pleasure of hearing up and down ladders performed by our experienced musicians as well as our new starters. Well done children! Keep up the good work and remember that a little practise every day, even just 10 minutes will help improve techniques. I look forward to hearing all about your concert later this term!



Staffing update.

Last week we welcomed Miss Turner as our new teacher in Bear class. Miss B Turner will be teaching in Bears for the remainder of this academic year. Due to these staffing changes, we have decided to facilitate face to face parents evening appointments for this class so that Miss Turner can get to know you all, and start build professional relationships with children and families in Bear class. Booking appointments will still be via School cloud and further details will be sent to parents next week.

SEND feedback.

A big thank you to all parents who attended school this afternoon to help us review our SEND report. As ever, you provided clearly thought-out feedback which we will now consider when updating the documentation. If you were unable to attend but would like to offer feedback, please email the SEN team on the following email address:

senteam@boldmere.bham.sch.uk. A link to the SEN report can be found at <https://boldmere.bham.sch.uk/send/policy-and-send-report>.

Diary Dates

Monday 9th February - Reception height & weight programme

Tuesday 10th & Wednesday 11th February - Parents Evening Online

Friday 13th February - Break up for half term holidays

Monday 23th February - School re-opens to all pupils

Monday 2nd-6th March - Book Fair

Monday 2nd March - Reception Inspire Afternoon 1.30-3pm

Tuesday 3rd March - Year 1 Inspire Afternoon 1.30-3pm

Wednesday 4th March - Year 2 Inspire Afternoon 1.30-3pm

Thursday 5th March - World Book Day

Thursday 5th March - Nursery Open Day

Friday 27th March - Easter Bonnet Parade 9.15am

Friday 27th March - Break for Easter holidays

Monday 13th April - School re-opens to all pupils

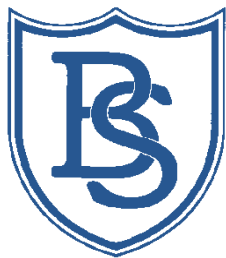
Monday 4th May - May Day Bank Holiday - closed to all pupils

Thursday 21st May - Break up for half term holidays

School Catering update

Parents and carers will be aware of the communication shared last week following the recent visit of the environmental health officer and the subsequent downgrading of the schools' food standards agency rating. In that communication, it was shared that the school were expecting an imminent re-visit to check that the areas of concern identified during the inspection have subsequently been remedied. We are pleased to share that the re-visit took place on Friday 16th January. The environmental health officer identified that the vast majority of issues had indeed been remedied and significant improvements had been made. We have now been advised to book a re-assessment within a four week window in order for the rating to be re-evaluated (with the expectation that this return to a grade 4 and 5).

In the meantime, the school continues to explore further its options relating to its catering provision and we expect to advise parents and carers of the outcome of this exploration later this term.



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Nursery Parents and Carers

The Parent Declaration forms for the Early Education Entitlement funding that you completed in **September 2025** need to be rechecked and signed for the Spring Term.

Please can we ask all parents and carers to come to the school office **as soon as possible**.

It will only take a few minutes to complete.

Thank you.



Nursery Open Day for September 2026 Intake

Nursery will be holding open sessions on **Thursday 5th March 2026 (9.30am & 1.30pm)** for prospective parents of children who will be eligible to join the nursery in September 2026

(date of birth **01.09.2022 to 31.08.2023**).

Nursery registration forms are available from the Infant 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 16th March 2026**.



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.

Thank you.



Height & Weight Measurement Programme

The registered school nurse will be in school on **Monday 9th February 2026** to take the height and weight measurements of the Reception children as part of the National Childhood Measurement Programme.

Details were emailed out last week.

If you are happy for your child to be measured, you do not need to do anything.

If you **DO NOT** want your child's height and weight to be measured, or your child has a medical condition that effects their height or weight, please email the school office on

enquiry-inf@boldmere.bham.sch.uk

by **Wednesday 4th February 2026** so that your child can be added to an 'opt out' list.

Absences

An important reminder about absence requests and penalty notices for unauthorised absences.

The Education Legal Intervention Team have notified school that they have now begun to issue penalty notices (fines) for unauthorised absences.

Please note that fines are issued to **BOTH PARENTS** and **BOTH PARENTS** must pay the penalties.

Failure to pay the penalty notice, will result in the matter proceeding to court and could potentially lead to a criminal record.

Junior Duke Award

It has been lovely to see so many Junior Duke challenges already completed! We have some very helpful, caring and independent children.

Please don't worry if you missed last week's opportunity for children to get their challenges signed. Below are the dates for when children can bring their books into school next.

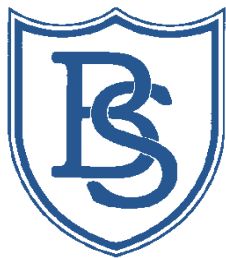
Monday 2nd March

Monday 20th April

Monday 8th June

Monday 6th July- final opportunity.





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Busy Bodies News

Arbor update

We wanted to extend a huge thank you to all our families for your kindness and patience whilst we adjust to the new payment system on Arbor.

We understand that there are still a few teething issues, which we are working to solve as soon as possible. Some parents have made us aware of a few things that they need access to, such as your payments, your invoices and your credit notes.

If you are unable to view your invoice/ booked sessions, kindly email us at busies@boldmere.bham.sch.uk and we will send across a copy for your attention.

Kindly be aware that all transfers have now been completed for January only. Any sessions booked beyond January must be completed by parents via Arbor using the payment item-

Busy Bodies breakfast club Jan-Jul 2026 OR Busy Bodies after school club Jan-Jul 2026.

Payments

A polite notice to ensure that your Arbor account is paid and up to date, we remind parents to ensure that bookings are done on a monthly basis. If for any reason you are booking for the whole term or remainder of the academic year, please note that payments must be paid at least on a monthly basis to help reduce cost and this must be communicated to the Busy Bodies Manager.

Arbor cut off time.

Please note that there is currently a 12-hour cut off point for making bookings on Arbor, if you miss this you will need to contact Busies to book this session on the day.

Bookings for February-

Kindly ensure bookings are completed by Friday 30th January.

Thank you to the lovely parents that have donated some amazing toys recently, the children are really enjoying using them.

The National Year of Reading

The National Year of Reading 2026 is a landmark campaign to reignite a nationwide passion for reading. This is a Department for Education initiative supported by the National Literacy Trust.

The theme is 'Go All In' - from superheroes and football to cooking, dancing and dinosaurs, children come alive when they are exploring things they are passionate about.

Designed to spark curiosity and drive behaviour change, the campaign focuses on the immediate rewards of reading and reading for enjoyment.

This year, we will hold reading focus events each half term so together, we can build confident, curious readers in our school.

For further information for families, please click the following link:

<https://goallin.org.uk/get-involved/families/>

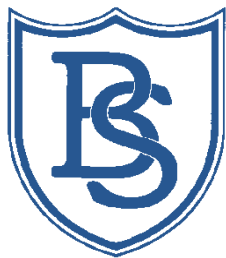


Allergies/food intolerances

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 manages our lunch provision and it is parent's responsibility to provide food allergy information directly to Dolce via the online portal.



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BIB Newsletter Week beginning January 12th 2026

Giraffes

We are enjoying reading our story A Squash and a Squeeze, accompanied by musical instruments. This week, our focus is on anticipating what might happen next in the story and communicating our ideas about it.

In maths, we have been learning about one and lots. The children have particularly enjoyed feeding the monster one cookie and then lots of cookies.

Puffins

Puffins Class have had a busy and exciting week! We have started a new gymnastics unit in PE, focusing on learning and practising safe rolling techniques. The children have shown great enthusiasm and are developing their confidence and control. In class, we are beginning to plan our community build using junk modelling, sharing ideas and thinking carefully about the structures we want to create. In maths, we have been matching numbers to quantities and developing early addition skills through practical, hands-on activities.

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



Congratulations Board

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

Year 1: Reggie, Lincoln & Sienna

Year 2: Asher, Delara & Esther



School Emails

The two separate email addresses
For Infants/Juniors are:

enquiry-inf@boldmere.bham.sch.uk

enquiry-jun@boldmere.bham.sch.uk



Spare Clothes

Our stock of spare underwear in school is running low. We would appreciate donations of any girls' underwear and boys' socks (age 4-7) to top up our supply for when children have occasional accidents. Thank you.

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.
Thank you

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 customer care@dolce.co.uk

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

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

Mrs S Kenny
Head of School
20/01/2026

Sarah Kenny