



NEWSLETTER

- Oct 3



Dear Parents/Carers,

What a lovely start to the week we have had - celebrating **Diwali** with all our staff and school families has been a joyous occasion! As a school, we always enjoy learning about and celebrating Diwali by watching videos, listening to stories and taking part in craft activities such as making clay divas and rangoli patterns with chalk or coloured sand. We would love to hear how you have been celebrating at home. Please feel free to send in photos, cards, or any other special objects with a few notes that help your child to share with their friends how they have been celebrating at home.



This week we are looking forward to welcoming Parents/Carers into school for our **Autumn Term Parents' Evenings**. The meetings will be face to face, in school and we encourage children not to attend on this occasion. Meetings are for **10 minutes only** and we politely request that all parents adhere to these timings. Classrooms will also be open for parents to take a look at what has been learnt this half term- please feel free to wander! A parent feedback form will be sent following the evenings, and we would be grateful for any feedback.

Harvest Festival



In R.E. the children are learning about the **Harvest Festival**. This has included thinking about where our food comes from as well as the people who produce and harvest our food. We have also talked about why we celebrate Harvest and give thanks for the food we have.

As part of our Harvest celebrations, once again we would like to support the Aston and Nechell's foodbank. Each year Suzi, the foodbank project manager, is overwhelmed by the generosity of our Boldmere family. This year they would particularly like donations of cereal, pasta, UHT milk, long life fruit juice as well as tinned meat, fish, vegetables or fruit. Please can all donations be brought to school by



Friday 24th October ready to be collected by Suzi's volunteers.

PTA Firework Event

The PTA have released ticket sales for our annual **Firework spectacular** on **Friday 7th November**. As expected, the event is selling fast so please ensure you purchase tickets as there is no admittance on the night without tickets. We would also welcome helpers for the event -whether that be helping on stalls, being a safety Marshall, or lending a hand for setting up/clearing away. This event is the biggest event of the year but is only made possible with volunteers helping on the night -please help out if you can.



PTA will also be holding a **book swap** and **jumper sale** after school on **Friday 24th October from 3.15pm**. The pop-up stalls will be on tables by the training room (between the two schools).

Diary Dates

Wednesday 22nd & Thursday

23rd October - Parents

Evening 4pm-6.30pm.

Friday 24th October- Break up for half term holidays.

Monday 3rd November-

School re-opens to all pupils.

Thursday 6th November -

School Open Day for Reception 2026

Monday 8th December -

9:30am (RI) Robins Christmas Performance

Tuesday 9th December -

9:30am (RM) Hedgehogs Christmas Performance

Wednesday 10th December -

9.30am (RW) Penguins Christmas Performance

Monday 8th December - 2pm

(1L) Owls Christmas Performance

Tuesday 9th December - 2pm

(1M) Meerkats Christmas Performance

Wednesday 10th December -

2pm (1S) Lions Christmas Performance

Monday 15th December - 2pm

(2U) Parrots Christmas Performance

Tuesday 16th December - 2pm

(2G) Seals Christmas Performance

Wednesday 17th December -

2pm (2B) Bears Christmas Performance

Friday 19th December- Break up for Christmas holidays.



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Governor Applications

Many thanks to you who have sent in a completed nomination form for the governor vacancy. We have been overwhelmed by the number of parents who are interested in joining the schools governing board. The next stage is to proceed to a parental election. Further information will be sent to all parents/carers on **Monday 3rd November**.

This will include a ballot paper, along with a written statement from each applicant.

All ballot papers should be returned to school offices (Infants or Juniors) by closing date of 9.00am,

Friday 14th November.

Successful candidates will be notified following the ballot process. This information will be shared in school newsletters the following week.

Parent Class Rep

Meetings were held last week, and we send thanks to all of those who attended.

We can now confirm with parents/carers that Reception will be joining in with **enrichment activities** after half term, following the successful trails with Year 1 and Year 2 this half term.

Parental contributions for the sessions are requested as the sessions are in addition to our statutory curriculum offer.

A donation of **£10.00** is requested for each child, and this can be paid via **ParentPay** from today. Thank you to all parents who have already contributed.

School council

A huge thank you and well done for the School Council applications submitted.

Year one and Two classes are busy voting for their two class representatives this week so watch this space for when they are announced!

School council representatives will be going straight to work once elected.

They have the Harvest Festival display to keep organised ready for the Foodbank to collect and Poppies to sell for the Poppy Appeal.

Mrs Mason will be holding the first official School Council meeting after half term.



School Photographs

Individual school photographs

will be taking place on **Friday 14th November.**

At the current time, only the Infant school has booked the photographer.

We have a new company delivering the service this year and they will facilitate sibling sittings before school, starting at 8.00am.

If you would like sibling photographs taken, please come to the **Infant school office to queue from 8.00am.**



Reception Open Day

The Reception open day will be held on **Thursday 6th November at 9.30am and 1.30pm**

We are holding two sessions during the day, at 9.30am and 1.30pm. If you have a child due to start Reception next September, please just come along to meet the team and have a tour of school. There is no need to book.

Following the sessions, information will be shared on our school website.

Pantomime time is here again- oh no it isn't! We are very excited to be hosting another pantomime performance at the end of November. M&M productions are visiting to showcase Robin Hood, and this year children in Year 2 will have a workshop opportunity after the performance! This annual, pre-Christmas event is an amazing opportunity for children to be involved in a live theatre production. All children, including BIB classes will have the opportunity to watch the production on **Monday 24th November** and we are requesting parental contributions of **£5.50** per child to cover the cost of the booking, which this year is £1400. Payments should be made via ParentPay by **Monday 10th November**; at which time we can confirm the booking.



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Arbor Update

Yesterday you should have received a log in request for our pupil information system, Arbor.

Please log into this and check that all of the information we have for your child / children is correct and update anything necessary. You can do this on a PC or by downloading the Arbor app.

Please note: if you use Busy Bodies, you already have a log in but please check that your child's information is up to date.

The purpose of this change is to improve how we communicate with you and in future we will be using Arbor as our primary method of communication, you will also be able to reply to messages on Arbor and contact the school this way. The portal will also allow you to view your child's attendance and in the future, you will be able to book clubs and trips on here as well (we will communicate with you when this migrates over from ParentPay).

Please can we ask that you log in and check details before our return from half term on 3rd November, if you have any issues, call the school office for support.

Thank you.



Arbor

Bookbags

We have a number of children who are attaching key rings onto the book bag handles. Whilst it is lovely to personalise bookbags, unfortunately they are causing issues with safety in corridors and cloakroom areas.

Please can all **keyrings and toys be removed from bookbags**.

Large rucksack type bags are also causing issues around school as they are too large to fit into drawers. Please can we ask Parents/Carers to consider purchasing school bags from the office, in order to help manage children's personal items. We source suppliers of our Bookbags to ensure the sizes are compatible with our school drawers.

Bookbags are **£4.10** and payments are made via ParentPay.

Draw string PE bags are also available at a cost of **£3.30** Thank you for your co-operation.

Reception Admissions - September 2026

An email was sent out to all Nursery children last week. The online application process is now live to register your child for Reception 2026. Please visit the website at: www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions for further information.

The closing date for applications is
Thursday 15th January 2026.

Year Two Parents

Transfer from Year 2 to Year 3 September 2026

An email was sent out to all Year 2 children last week. The transfer from Year 2 to Year 3 online application form can be found by visiting:

www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions

The closing date for applications is
Thursday 15th January 2026.

Attendance for Children in Reception

Parents have recently been given logins to access Arbor. Via Arbor parents are able to see their child's attendance percentage. Due to Reception children attending part time during their first week of school it has made children's percentages appear low. Please do not be concerned, the part time week is authorised and therefore won't affect the final attendance percentage. This is also considered when monitoring children's attendance throughout the year.

Parking

The safety of your children when using the roads and pavements around school are of paramount importance.

The BCC link for reporting illegally parked vehicles is below and I would urge all parents/carers who see traffic violations to report the incidents.

https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20109/parking/1983/report_an_illegally_parked_vehicle





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Coffee Morning

Compass Mental Health

Support for Children and Young People

Friday 7 November
9.30am - 11.30am
Featherstone Children's Centre
Highcroft Road
B23 6AU

Compass provide early intervention for children and young people aged 5-18 years old who have mild to moderate mental health issues. This includes anxiety, low mood, stress and school transitions.

 To book a place visit
www.growfamilyservices.org/coffeemornings



Does your child have Tics?

Join us for a workshop with Prof Andrea E Canvanna

Tic disorders are the most common movement disorders in childhood, with full-blown Tourette syndrome affecting about 1% of school-age children.

Tics are frequently associated with other neurodevelopmental conditions, including both ADHD and ASD.

This session will provide an introduction to Tourette syndrome and other tic disorders from a behavioural neurology perspective, with focus on their impact and management in the educational setting.

WEDNESDAY
12th November
2025
11am - 12pm
ONLINE

To book a place please visit
www.growfamilyservices.org/sendtalks



Challenging Behaviour

Non Violent Resistance

Join us for a workshop with Al Coates NVR practitioner.

Thursday
11th December
6.45pm - 9pm
Four Oaks Methodist Church,
155 Lichfield Road,
Sutton Coldfield,
West Midlands
B74 2UU

About the Session
This session will explore the underlying causes of challenging behaviour and its impact on families.

We'll look at practical ways parents can build resilience and manage their child's behaviour more effectively.

You'll also get an introduction to Non-Violent Resistance (NVR) and take away a range of supportive strategies and ideas that really help.

To book a place please visit
www.growfamilyservices.org/sendtalks



ARFID, PICA, Eating

Supporting SEND children with ARFID, sensory challenges, and mealtime stress. Do mealtimes feel like a struggle? Does your child avoid certain foods or seem anxious about eating?

Join us for a workshop led by Alison Hart - Occupational Therapist, exploring:

- What ARFID (Avoidant/Restrictive Food Intake Disorder) is
- How sensory processing can affect eating
- Practical strategies to support positive mealtime experiences
- When and how to seek further help

Thursday
13th November
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To book a place please visit
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Funded by



SCCT
Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust

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11th December
6.45pm - 9pm
Four Oaks Methodist Church,
155 Lichfield Road,
Sutton Coldfield,
West Midlands
B74 2UU



OTHER SEASONAL DATES ...



Friday 12th December - Rudolph Run for Birmingham Hospice

Thursday 18th December - Christmas party day

Friday 19th December - Church service tbc

Forgotten Items

Please ensure that your child has all the items that they need when they arrive for school including book bags, lunches, water bottles, coats and hats to minimise disruption to children and staff during the school day.

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

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

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

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 new separate Email addresses for Infants/Juniors are:

enquiry-inf@boldmere.bham.sch.uk

enquiry-jun@boldmere.bham.sch.uk





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Busy Bodies News

As we draw to the end of this half term, we would like to say a huge thank you to all of our families for the kindness and support you always show.

The children have settled into this year really well. This half term they have had some key work sessions talking about safety, looking after each other and being a good custodian of our school values. Our Boldmere children always shine with brilliant attitude and willingness to help.

A few students who have stood out this half term for being super helpers are:
Elsie T, Delilah, Elsie P, Yusha, Ayana, Masie and Hope

These children have either shown kindness in supporting our Reception children to settle into the club, being litter pickers or simply helping to sweep the playground. Fabulous job everyone, well done.

Diwali celebrations

We would like to extend a super happy Diwali to all that are celebrating this week. We will have a few activities such as Mehndi (using henna) on Wednesday. The children will also be taking part in creating some rangoli patterns to add to our display for Diwali.

If for any reason you do not wish for your child to take part in the Mehndi activity, where the staff member will use henna to create a pattern on the children's hand, kindly inform us via email: busies@boldmere.bham.sch.uk and we will ensure that they can participate in another activity.

Busy Bodies food

After half term we will be changing the food menu to accommodate warmer snacks. This will include, beans or spaghetti hoops on toast, pasta, toasted muffins/ bagels. As always there will be a variety of fruits and vegetables available, and water for the children to have.

Gentle reminders

Kindly check that you have completed the Busy Bodies fees increase Forms sent to parents two weeks ago to show that you have read and understood the proposed changes to take place in January. We will resend an email to ensure that everyone has an opportunity to respond to the email.

Please check your child's Arbor account to ensure that fees are paid and up to date. Should you require any support with Arbor, please do not hesitate in contacting the Busy Bodies Manager.

Have a wonderful half term when it finally arrives.



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BIB Newsletter w/c Monday 20th October 2025

Giraffes

This week in Giraffes Class, we've had a fantastic time exploring through creativity, sensory play, and hands-on learning! The children made brilliant firework pictures using pipettes and paint, developing their fine motor skills while creating colourful explosions on paper.

In maths, we've been investigating 2D shapes and their properties. The children enjoyed exploring different shapes through fun, practical activities.

We also took part in an exciting physical sensory walk! The children dipped their toes into a variety of textures and materials, engaging their senses and having lots of fun along the way.

Puffins

Puffins have had a wonderfully creative week filled with colour, celebration, and curiosity!

We enjoyed painting our clay divas as part of our Diwali activities, carefully choosing bright colours and adding beautiful decorations to make each one unique. The children also got into the spooky spirit by making paperchain skeletons — a fun way to explore patterns and practise their fine motor skills.

During Bucket Time, we investigated colour mixing through exciting, hands-on experiments. The children loved watching how different colours combined to make new ones.

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. Thank you.

Ordering Lunches Via 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.

Sharing recipes!

Please find attached a recipe for '**Chocolate Mint Cookies**' which the children at the Pudding & Pie Club thoroughly enjoyed making last week! **Chocolate Mint Cookies** are sweet, crunchy treats with rich chocolate and a cool minty twist — like a fresh breeze and a chocolate party in every bite!

Hope you have fun making it again at home!



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



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SEND Coffee Afternoon - Meet the Services, Tuesday 25th November, 1.45pm-3.15pm

Our next SEND Coffee Afternoon will take place in the school hall at Boldmere Infant and Nursery School on Tuesday 25th November, from 1.45pm until 3.15pm.

This afternoon will be an opportunity to 'Meet the Services'; Deb Parker (Communication and Autism team), Lisa Taylor-Hawkins (Language, Learning and Strategic Support - formally Pupil and School Support), Anna Gordon (NHS Speech and Language Therapist) and Emily Hartland (Occupational Therapist) will all be on hand to give an overview of their services and how they support children, families and schools.

It is also a great opportunity to chat and share experiences with other parents and carers, as well as enjoy a hot drink and a biscuit! If you would like to attend this session, please indicate your attendance on the form below so that we can plan ahead.

<https://forms.office.com/e/CXAnNrRQan>



Our Coffee Afternoon is open to parents/carers of children at Boldmere Infant and Nursery School, Boldmere Junior School and Boldmere Inclusion Base. Please note that your child does not need to be on the SEND register, or have a diagnosis, for you to access this. NB.

We understand that parents/carers of children in Boldmere Inclusion Base may need to leave earlier to collect their children.

Many thanks,

Mrs S Kenny
Headteacher

21/10/2025