



# Newsletter Friday 14th February 2025

Ambition Belonging Courage

## Key dates:

<b>WB 17th February</b>	<b>HALF TERM</b>
<b>Monday 24th</b>	<b>INSET DAY (School closed)</b>
<b>Tuesday 25th</b>	<b>Return to school</b>
<b>Tuesday 4th March</b>	<b>Yr 4 Trip to Kew Gardens</b>
	<b>Yr 5 class assemblies (AM)</b>
<b>Thursday 6th</b>	<b>World Book Day</b>
<b>Friday 7th</b>	<b>EYFS games with parents - 8.40-8.55am</b>

## House Point Results Winning House

**Cowdray**

**Cowdray** 884 **Parham** 754

**Goodwood** 690 **Petworth** 444

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy half term! I hope you enjoy reading this one off printed copy of our newsletter which has been shared to ensure that all families see what our weekly newsletter has to offer. Our aim is to give you a weekly insight into your child's learning and to share and celebrate key events from across school. Please also follow our social media accounts using the links at the end of the newsletter for regular updates.

Today, we say goodbye to Jane Stripp, Year 5 class teacher, who is off for adventures new. We will miss her enormously and appreciate her hard work and commitment to the children of BPA. Good luck Mrs Stripp!

Over the half-term, we are having building works to develop our front office area and nurture room. Once they are completed, we have the job of decorating and are sending out a "ground force" plea. If any of you are keen decorators and would like to lend a hand, please do let the school office know. We will send out details first week back but aim to open the school on a Saturday to complete the works; refreshments and music will be provided!

It has been joyous to see the children preparing and rehearsing for their class assemblies. Thank you to families and friends who were able to attend. Providing an audience for the children has been invaluable in giving them with the chance to perform. As a working parent, I do understand that events during the school day are not always convenient for all parents - it is though the only time when children are in school. We have tried to vary timings of events to suit working patterns and hope parents who cannot attend enjoy the photos of events posted in the newsletter and on social media. You are important members of our community and are not forgotten.

Thank you for your continued support and have a lovely half term holiday. We look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday 25th February.

Ms Ley



Mrs Walker has worked at our school for just over a year as class teacher and Early Years Lead. She has been teaching for nearly 13 years. She loves being in Early Years and giving the children the best start to their school journey.

### Fun Facts:

Mrs Walker has swam with both turtles and stingray (even though she is very scared of them)!

### Hobbies:

Going to see Musicals, family trips and going out for yummy food.



# Safer Internet Day

This week, we enjoyed Safer Internet Day across school. This annual day highlights the importance of being safe online and empowers children with knowledge of what to do if they are not happy about something they encounter when using technology. Although this year the focus is on the threats of scams, KS1 and KS2 children have been part of assemblies focused on areas of internet safety most pertinent to their age and every class has focused on an area that is relevant to them. This includes areas including artificial intelligence (AI), safety and age restrictions on social media, their digital footprint and online friendships.



## SLT Coffee Morning



Thank you to all the parents/carers that joined us for a tea/coffee and a catch up on Tuesday morning. It was great to see everyone, talk about your children, successes across school and how we can improve moving forward.

## Brighton Marathon

JustGiving



Mrs Cogram is running the Brighton Marathon in April for the Alzheimer's Society! If you would like to follow her progress or sponsor her, please click here or scan the QR code [JustGiving Marathon](#)



## Year 3 Class Assemblies



This term, Year 3 have been exploring the Romans. The children loved sharing their learning with family and friends in their class assemblies and we hope you enjoyed them. Thank you for all the amazing comments on our social media. The children shared examples from history, art and writing before ending with a fabulous song! Well done to all the children!

## Year 6 Class Assemblies

Year 6 celebrated their learning from this term in their assembly all about the Second World War. They loved sharing their work with their families and friends - such as their writing, art and history - and topped it all off with a splendid rendition of the classic war tune 'It's a Long Way to Tipperary'. Well done Year 6!





# 'Spread the love' fundraiser



Today, we celebrated our 'Spread the love' day with children across school wearing pink or red. This was to raise money to fund a redesign our Early Year learning garden. Any donation, large or small, is much appreciated and can be made via our Just Giving page.

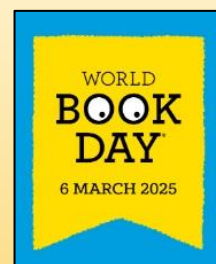
Thank you for your incredible support!

[https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/eyfsbhpa?utm\\_term=xkRbNrPdZ](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/eyfsbhpa?utm_term=xkRbNrPdZ)

## World Book Day - Thursday 6th March

This year's World Book Day is on Thursday 6th March and we are looking forward to a day celebrating our love of books and reading. This year, we would like to invite all children to dress up in costumes inspired by their favourite books! Alternatively, some children may prefer to spend the day wearing their comfiest 'reading' clothes.

Also, Henry Adams have teamed up with Chichester Festival Theatre for a **World Book Day Competition!** All you have to do is **make a book character** out of a recycled tube/cylinder, other reclaimed materials and things you already have at home. Bring your craft characters into school on World Book Day or take them to Henry Adams by Wednesday 12th March! Good luck, we can't wait to see your creations!

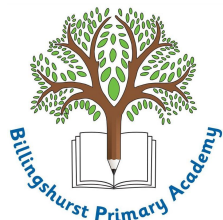


 **Henry Adams**  
estate agents

## BPA Bees

**World Book Day Book Sale** - To mark World Book Day, we will be holding a second hand book sale after school on **Thursday 6th March**. We would be grateful for your book donations, suitable for children aged 4-11. These can be left with the school office after half term.

**Quiz Night** - There are now just a few tables, for up to teams of 6, available for our Quiz Night on Friday 7th March. Book your tickets here: <https://shorturl.at/bZ0eX>



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Instagram - @billingshurstprimaryacademy







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## ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

We want to work with you to ensure your children are attending school, learning and socialising with their peers. Attendance really does matter!

Please do make an appointment to come in and talk to either Miss Ley or Mr Matthews should you have any concerns that are impacting on your child's attendance and we will do all we can to support and signpost you to the relevant services.

Currently our overall attendance figures are just above national figures, but below 96%. Let's keep up the good work and try to achieve above 96% attendance!



Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow



## ATTENDANCE WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

### ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

Children are required by law to attend school 190 days per year. The Government states that every pupil's attendance should be at least 95%.

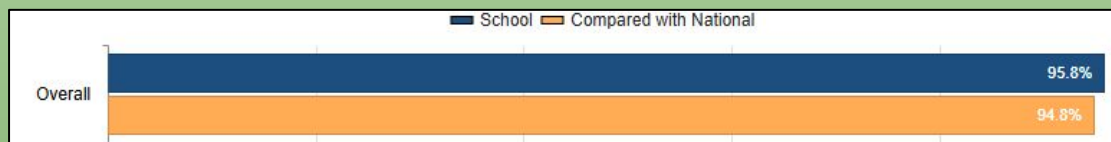
### How do YOU measure up?

Attendance	Days Absent	Weeks Absent	Lessons Missed
95%	9 Days	2 Weeks	50 Lessons
90%	19 Days	4 Weeks	100 Lessons
85%	29 Days	6 Weeks	150 Lessons
80%	38 Days	8 Weeks	200 Lessons
75%	48 Days	10 Weeks	250 Lessons
70%	57 Days	11.5 Weeks	290 Lessons
65%	67 Days	13.5 Weeks	340 Lessons

89% & Below  
Drastic effect on  
academic achievement

95%-90%  
Cause for  
concern

100%-96%  
Excellent



FOLLOW US!



Follow us



Follow us

Join us on our social media channels to keep up to date with key events, see learning from EYFS to Y6 and share many more highlights from across school!

[www.facebook.com/BillingshurstPrimary](https://www.facebook.com/BillingshurstPrimary)  
Instagram - @billingshurstprimaryacademy  
Website - [www.billingshurstprimary.org.uk](http://www.billingshurstprimary.org.uk)

