

# Foundation Stage Newsletter

## Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2026



### RECEPTION

This week has flown by – I can't believe there is only one more week until half term!

We have carried on our learning about all creatures great and small this week – hunting for minibeasts again at Forest School, watching on the playground for birds and squirrels, and in Science, we thought about animals who are looked after in a Zoo. We thought about how we are looked after at home – having a bath, having our food, having somewhere cosy to sleep and then thinking about how the animals in the zoos are looked after too. Next week we will have chance to find out how the staff at Wild look after the animals and birds there.

In PSHE we thought about how we can look after our bodies by eating a healthy and balanced diet. We thought about lots of different types of food and how they are good for our bodies, but that sometimes a treat is ok. Next week we will be thinking about a 'rainbow' of food! I wonder who has the most colourful meals at home! Our story for Drawing Club was a great fit for this – it's called Kitchen Disco, all about how the fruit in the fruit bowl spring to life when we're sleeping and have a disco!

In RE we have been continued to find out about special places, this week finding out about a Mosque as a special place for Muslims. We found out that Muslims use a prayer mat when they pray and had chance to make our own.

In Maths we have been practising ways to remember number pairs that go together to make 10. We have been using our fingers to help with this, counting fingers standing up, and fingers folded down, knowing that there are always 10 fingers! Number rhymes such as Ten in the Bed or 10 Green Bottles are great songs to practise and reinforce this.

### WEDNESDAY 20<sup>th</sup> MAY – VISIT TO WILD

We are looking forward to taking the children for our visit to Wild Zoological Park on Wednesday. Here are a few more details about our visit.

We will have time to explore the Zoo, seeing many of the animals close up! There will be chance to feed some of the animals and to walk through some of the enclosures. The children do not have to do either of these activities if they don't want to, but it is a very special opportunity. We will watch two shows whilst we are there – an animal show and the bird show. Whilst watching the bird show, there is no shaded seating, **so it is really important that the children have a cap/ hat to protect them from the sun – suncream is advisable too.** If the sun is strong and your child does not have a hat, staff may decide that, for your child's safety, they are taken into a shaded area and will therefore miss the spectacular show.

Please send your child with **IN THEIR FULL UNIFORM**. They will also need a waterproof jacket (just in case!) and a cap/ hat. If you have asked that a lunch is provided from school, this will be ready for us to pick up on the way to the coach. Your child will need a refillable water bottle.

It promises to be a super day!

**THURSDAY 21<sup>st</sup> MAY WILL BE A PE day** – please make sure your child has shorts, T-shirt and pumps/ trainers for PE – if it is dry weather we will be using the field for our PE session. Children will take their water bottle so please make sure this is in school too!

### LENDING LIBRARY

Library will be open again next week. Please return this week's books (and any others you might find at home!) ready for a new book.

### READING BOOKS

Phonics reading books have been swapped today if your child returned the book issued last week, and they will have received their certificate! We have also made many of the titles on Collins Hub available so that there is a bank of books to read at home. Spending just a few minutes a day reading or practising segmenting and blending words makes a huge difference to the children's confidence during phonics and reading.

### HOME CHALLENGE

To get ready for our PSHE lesson next week where we will be thinking about the colours of the foods we eat, we are challenging the children to really notice what colours their food is – is it all a similar colour or is there a rainbow?

### TOYS IN SCHOOL

**We have noticed that some of the children are bringing in toys from home. Please can toys stay at home – some of the children are swapping or giving away their toys and we are concerned that they may get lost, damaged or even broken.**

### REMINDERS

WEDNESDAY 20<sup>th</sup> MAY – visit to Wild Zoological Park (see above for more details)

FRIDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> MAY – MUFTI DAY in support of FEREDAY FIRST RESPONSE (see letter from Mr Stevens sent earlier this week)

FRIDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> May – Praise Assembly @ 2.45pm...all welcome!

TUESDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> JUNE – school photos (class photo, not individual)

**Contact us** If you have any questions, please ask or you can email us: [kburns@bromhills.dudley.sch.uk](mailto:kburns@bromhills.dudley.sch.uk) [rlewis@bromhills.dudley.sch.uk](mailto:rlewis@bromhills.dudley.sch.uk) [elloud@bromhills.dudley.sch.uk](mailto:elloud@bromhills.dudley.sch.uk) (Mrs Smallman's email) **Please see the last page for important information**

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### Pre-School

It's been another busy week in Pre-school! We have introduced our new topic for the next couple of weeks – planting! The children have listened to the story of Jack and the Beanstalk, joining in with the Fee Fi Fo Fums! They have enjoyed retelling the story using our story spoon puppets and acting out the story using the castle and characters in our small world tray. We couldn't listen to the story of Jack and the Beanstalk without planting bean seeds! The children listened carefully to the instructions and did a super job planting their bean seed and are enjoying checking on them every day watching to see if they have grown! The children have been keeping a close eye on what's happening with their sunflower seeds and some have noticed that roots and shoots are starting to appear! Now we have sunflowers and beans to watch – I wonder what we might plant next week!

As well as all of this the children have enjoyed using the Flower Stall where they could buy and sell flowers. They enjoyed being the shop assistant and the customers, really getting into role! Outdoors the children have enjoyed junk modelling, using their imaginations to create all sorts of things. The rainy weather has meant that we could get out the brooms to sweep the puddles away – a favourite activity, especially when there is a spot of washing up liquid added to make bubbly puddles!

After watching the caterpillars grow, spin their cocoons and hatch into butterflies over the last few weeks, it was time to say goodbye. On Tuesday, we took the net outside, opened the top and watched as they flew away. Everyone was very excited to see them all being released! I wonder where they have flown to, look out for butterflies in your garden, you never know, one of them could be a Bromley Hills butterfly!

**Maths** – We have continued to learn about 2D shapes this week. The children have been encouraged to notice shapes in the environment and to count the number of sides they have as well as the corners too.

**Phonics** – In Phonics we have played an I Spy game. The teachers have been spying things around Pre-School and just like Segmenting Seb, they have been segmenting its name – c-o-a-t or c-ar or h-a-t. The children had to be Blending Ben's and blend the sounds together to work out what the teachers were looking at. This is such an important skill to practise ready for Reception, and a really simple game to play at home! As well as I Spy we have also been playing a 'Silly Soup' game where the only ingredients could begin with the sound 's' – I wonder what 's' things you could find at home to make your own Silly Soup.

**Forest School** – Another lovely session in the Forest this week. The children made models of bugs using clay and adding natural materials – sticks, grass, flowers – to use as legs, eyes and wings! They have also played in the mud kitchen, sued the water butt to collect water looked for bugs, built campfires, played under the shelter den and used the stepping stone 😊

**EvidenceMe Challenge** – A creative challenge this week! The children are bringing home an outline of a butterfly. They can decorate this however they want to – pencil colouring, paint, stickers, sticking shapes, or anything else they can think of...we can't wait to see their creations! Please send them back to Pre-School from Monday onwards – remember to encourage your child to write their name so we know who's is who's.

If you have any questions or queries, please speak to one of the Pre-school team or email [info@bromhills.dudley.sch.uk](mailto:info@bromhills.dudley.sch.uk) and someone will get back to you as soon as they can.

### REMINDERS –

- Please check previous Forest School letter/email regarding dates
- Share A Story – last session next Thursday
- FRIDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> MAY – MUFTI DAY in support of FEREDAY FIRST RESPONSE (see letter from Mr Stevens sent earlier this week)
- TUESDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> JUNE – school photos (class photos, not individual photos)
- Please make sure you read the school newsletter from Mr Stevens as there is important information on there too.
- **Please see the last few pages for important information** Any questions or if you need support please just ask or email me on [epowis@bromhills.dudley.sch.uk](mailto:epowis@bromhills.dudley.sch.uk)

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## Important Information

- **From Public Health** – Please click on the link for nutrition guidance for healthy lunchboxes <https://www.dudleyhealthylunchbox.org.uk/>
- **From Public Health** – MMR / MMRV vaccination is vital because measles is highly infectious and can lead to serious complications, including pneumonia, meningitis and, in rare cases, long-term disability. Both vaccines are safe and the MMR provides effective protection against measles, mumps and rubella, and the MMRV vaccine also includes protection against chickenpox (varicella), helping to keep children, staff and the wider community safe.

From Lead For Childcare - It is always important for parents and carers to make sure that children stay up to date with all their routine vaccinations, as these offer important protection against infectious disease outbreaks. Parents and carers should also be aware and alert to the signs and symptoms of invasive meningococcal disease. For more information, visit the NHS website <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/meningitis/> or see the information available from two charities who offer free support via their websites and helplines [Meningitis B outbreak: what you need to know](#) – UK Health Security Agency

The Meningitis Research Foundation [www.meningitis.org](http://www.meningitis.org)

Helpline UK 080 8800 3344

Meningitis Now [www.meningitisnow.org](http://www.meningitisnow.org)

Helpline 0808 80 10 388 or [helpline@meningitisnow.org](mailto:helpline@meningitisnow.org)

UKHSA blog post



## Types of MMRV vaccine

The MMRV vaccine contains weakened versions of living measles, mumps, rubella and chickenpox viruses. Because these viruses are weakened, they do not spread easily to other people.

There are 2 MMRV vaccines which work equally well: **ProQuad** and **Priorix Tetra**. ProQuad contains porcine gelatine (gelatine from pigs) and Priorix Tetra does not. If you want your child to have the vaccine without gelatine, talk to your practice nurse or GP.

Further information is available in the patient information leaflets.

### ProQuad

[www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/101444/pil](http://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/101444/pil)

### Priorix Tetra

[www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/101321/pil](http://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/101321/pil)

More information on vaccines and porcine gelatine is available on [GOV.UK](http://GOV.UK).

