

Foundation Stage Newsletter

Friday 27th February 2026



RECEPTION

It was lovely to see the children return to school on Monday and we always love to hear about what they had been up to over their week's break – the rain even stopped, if only for a short time!

We heard that many of the children had had pancakes on Pancake Day which fits right into much of our learning this week. Our Drawing Club story has been The Runaway Pancake. This story is similar to The Gingerbread Man and the children notice this! We have also found out that Pancake Day is also known as Shrove Tuesday and how it marks the start of Lent; the countdown to Easter.

In Art we enjoyed getting painty with lots of finger painting. In PSHE we talked about our families and how they are special to us, the children had some lovely comments! In RE we have started to think about how special the world around us is and started this by completing a 'colour Bingo', looking closely in nature to find objects of different colours – black, brown, pink, yellow, green. We are starting to notice how the natural world is changing from winter to spring.

In Maths we have been counting out loud to 20,30,40 and beyond, noticing that the pattern of 1,2,3... happens each time we've reached a 'ty' number – twenty/ thirty etc...I wonder if the children could show off their counting skills at home?

FOREST SCHOOL

The children thoroughly enjoyed our visit to Forest School yesterday. We talked about the rules for Forest school as well as the importance of listening to and following instructions. The children joined with lots of free choice activities this week, giving them chance to explore the area. They used the mud kitchen for mixing and stirring, climbed the tree, played in the tunnel and rocking boat, went on a bug hunt and some of the boys created their own 'stick store' giving us chance to go and 'buy' just the right stick! We had so much fun!

NEXT THURSDAY WILL BE PE – FOREST SCHOOL CLOTHES WILL NOT BE REQUIRED

VISIT TO WILD

Please look out for a letter with further details of arrangements for our visit to WILD on Wednesday 20th May. The letter includes details of payment and lunches.

LENDING LIBRARY

Library will be open again next Friday. We love to see how many of you come in and get involved!

READING BOOKS

We have sent home phonics reading books which should be returned on a Friday. If last week's book has been returned today, your child will be bringing home a different book, along with a certificate to say Well Done for practising reading at home! Spending just a few minutes a day practising segmenting and blending makes a huge difference to the children's confidence in our phonics sessions – keep up the great work you're doing at home!

EVIDENCE ME/ HOMEWORK CHALLENGE –

Look out for a challenge set by either Mrs Burns or Mrs Lewis to support reading/ writing/ phonics!

Next week as part of our Geography learning, we will be thinking about the local environment – the places and buildings in and around Kingswinford. When you are out on a walk to or from school, or on a drive out and about, please talk to the children about some of the things they can see – this could be naming buildings (school, shop, supermarket, church etc) or things like the road, path, pavement, hill, park, fields etc. This will help them to talk about their local environment in our session. You could always ask them to take a few photos of what you see and upload them to EvidenceMe!

FAVOUR TO ASK – Has anyone got a water butt with a tap they no longer need or use? We desperately need one for Forest School so they can access their own water. If you have, please let a member of staff know. Thanks so much in advance.

REMINDERS **WORLD BOOK DAY –** Please see main newsletter for details.

Tuesday 17th March – Parents meetings

Thursday 19th March – Parent meetings

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

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Pre-School

We hope you all had a lovely half term! Thank you to those who have sent in your photos via EvidenceMe – they were lovely to see, and we enjoyed talking about what you got up to! **Chinese New Year!** This week we have celebrated Chinese New Year. We have had lots of fun taking parts in different activities. We have looked at who and why we celebrate Chinese New Year. We learnt red is a very lucky colour and we decorate our house with lanterns! All children made a Chinese Lantern displayed in the classroom. The children had to decorate it first by drawing some pretty patterns and pictures. They then had to cut slits down the paper and then with adults help we could construct the lantern! We looked at different pictures which also relate to Chinese New Year for example the colour red, money/gifts, foods we might see – noodles, rice, prawn crackers. The children also have loved playing in our 'Chinese Restaurant' pretending to be a waiter/waitress or a customer. They have even been practising using chopsticks with cooked noodles! We also touched upon the important Animal Race and how we get the Year of the horse/snake/dragon etc. The children printed with some animal stampers and paint. And of course, taking part in some lion and dragon dancing!

Maths – Number 6 this week! 6 is tricky as we need 2 hands to count to 6! But the children have really started to pick up counting and recognising numbers. We have also been asking lots of questions of what comes before and after. For example, what number comes after number 4? What number comes before 2? Next week we will all be looking at height and length!

Phonics – We have all started phonics together looking at rhyming. Words that sound the same. We sang lots of Nursery rhymes emphasising on those rhyming words such as star and car or wool and full. Even looking at rhyming words in familiar books.

Finally, Forest School started up again this week. And another very wet one!! The original helped the new children learn the importance of the rules in Forest School and around the fire pit. We played with lots of mud and water. We used our imagination to make bug houses. We encouraged the children to find different resources that we could use to make our bug houses such as sticks, leaves, grass etc. We also learnt a new Walking Through The Forest song! Please encourage the children at home to get dressed themselves/shoes on and off etc- this gets them more independent and gets them ready for Forest School and P.E in Reception!

EvidenceMe Challenge – As we have been looking at lots of books, and it being World Book Day – could your child look at their favourite story. (recording this would work better!) Can they talk about what's happening in the book, repeated phrases?

Characters etc. They could do this with any member of their family 😊 Have a lovely weekend.

FAVOUR TO ASK – Has anyone got a water butt with a tap they no longer need or use? We desperately need one for Forest School so they can access their own water. If you have, please let a member of staff know. Thanks so much in advance.

REMINDERS –

- **Please make sure you read the school newsletter from Mr Stevens as there is important information on there too.**
- **WRAP AROUND PAYMENTS** – This is to inform parents who pay for wrap around that charges will now be added on a Monday for that week. Payments will need to be made that same week using the new app. Thank you.
- **WORLD BOOK DAY** – Please see main newsletter for details.
- Please can you make sure that your child has a spare change of clothes including underwear/socks as we now have no spares. Thank you
- There are spaces available for Pre-School starting September 2026! If you have any family members or friends who's child is 3 years old and would like to start Preschool in September please let them know to click on the link to [Bromley Hills Primary School - Pre-School - Register Your Interest](#)

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

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Important Information

- Please read the attached information about the consumption of slush ice drinks and the effect that they can have on younger children under 7 years and the limit for children under 10 years <https://www.food.gov.uk/safety-hygiene/glycerol>
- **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.

Don't forget your child's next appointments to help give them the best protection as they begin to explore the world and mix with more children and people.

Schedule from one year of age to 5 years of age

Age of child	Vaccine given	Diseases the vaccines protect against
One year	PCV MMRV MenB	Pneumococcal Measles, mumps, rubella and chickenpox MenB
18 months	MMRV (dose 2)	Measles, mumps, rubella and chickenpox
	DTaP/IPV/Hib/HepB (6 in 1 vaccine)	Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, polio, Hib and hepatitis
3 years and 4 months	dTaP/IPV (pre-school booster)	Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis and polio
	MMRV if a dose was missed	Measles, mumps, rubella and chickenpox



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

Priorix Tetra

www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/101321/pil

More information on vaccines and porcine gelatine is available on GOV.UK.



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