

Foundation Stage Newsletter

Friday 20th March 2026



RECEPTION

Thank you to all of you who came to Parents Evening this week – it was really lovely to meet with you and to be able to share the children's achievements.

What a beautifully sunny and warm week we have had. The children have loved being able to play out in the sunshine and Yesterday we made the most the sunshine and had our PE session outside on the field! The children had different activities to complete – hula hooping, javelin and beanbag targets. For their first outdoor PE the children did brilliantly, listening to instructions and joining in with everything – well done everyone! In the outside classroom they have had lots of fun painting, playing target games, planting bean seeds just like Jasper from our story from Drawing Club last week – I wonder how many beanstalks we will have? Planting seeds and looking closely at flowers has been part of our topic work about Spring and Growing... Next week we will be launching a Family Growing Project – more details to follow! It's been lovely talking to the children whilst on the Daily Mile where lots of them have noticed how they can see changes in nature as we move into Spring – buds on the trees, different colours of blossom, spring flowers. This week's Drawing Club story has been 'Pip and Egg', a story about how an apple seed (Pip) grows roots and grows into a tree while Egg is a bird who can fly far away, but comes back to her friend Pip when she needs to build a nest for her own egg! The children loved talking about the different places that Egg saw as she flew around – the countryside and the city and this fitted in well with our Geography where we talked about the different landscapes around the UK. In Maths we introduced the idea of 'doubles' – eg $4+4=8$ etc. Lots of the children already knew some double facts but have enjoyed spotting doubles on dominoes and dice!

And Mufti and face paints was a great way to finish off the week! As always the children looked brilliant as they joined in with this event – thank you to all of you who were able to make a donation to support Comic Relief.

FOREST SCHOOL

NEXT THURSDAY WILL BE FOREST SCHOOL – the children can wear clothes appropriate for Forest School – this must include long trousers/ leggings/ joggers and a long-sleeved top. They also need their waterproof coat in school. If they have a puddle suit, please make sure this is in school too. We will send puddle suits home next week for a wash. Please also make sure you check that the wellies the children have in school still fit – they have done a lot of growing since September!

LENDING LIBRARY

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

READING BOOKS

If last week's Phonic reading 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 – reading books have been made available on Collins Hub – please log on to access these.

There are a few messages on Evidence Me too. If you are unable to access this, please let us know so that we can resend links.

REMINDERS

Friday 27th March – PRAISE ASSEMBLY @ 2.45pm – all welcome!

Friday 27th March - end of term

TUESDAY 14th April – Summer term begins (INSET day on 13th April – school is closed to pupils)

THURSDAY 7th MAY – SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED DUE TO POLLING FOR LOCAL ELECTIONS

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

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Pre-School

It's officially Spring today and what lovely weather we have had at the end of this week! So this week we have looked at our topic of 'Spring'. The children have had a lovely time outside enjoying the sunshine where they have been able to complete some observational drawings of the flowers we have in the garden. The children have painted some lovely pictures of the daffodils. We discussed parts of flowers such as stem, roots and petals. Also, inside and outside, children have been making their own Spring potions in the water tray. Using yellow playdough and some items we found around Pre-School, children made their own Play-Doh daisies. They were amazing! We have been drawing lots of things we might see more of in Spring such as rainbows, minibests, different types of flowers and baby animals such as lambs, chick and piglets!

Red Nose Day! What some amazing face paints so well done to those adults who are very creative! And thank you to those who donated to Comic relief!

Maths – This week we have looked at Capacity in Maths – full and empty. We looked at different containers being full and empty and this matched along with our water tray to see if children could make their potion full. We then discussed nearly full/nearly empty and more or less. For example, who has more water? Who has less water?

Phonics – In Phonics, we have continued looking at rhyming which we will keep repeating - Words that sound the same. We played rhyming bingo, so the teacher held up a word (for example hat) and the children had to shout out if they had the matching rhyming word (bat or cat!) We also played a memory game where we had to close our eyes whilst the teacher took a rhyming picture away. The children had to try really hard to remember what pictures we had hidden and the rhyming word!

Forest School – At last a dry Forest School! Unfortunately, we weren't able to have a fire today but instead, due to the lovely weather we were able to tree climb. Children were allowed to climb trees safely with an adult nearby. We teach the children if you climb trees, it has to be with an adult and they have to try really hard to get down safely. We will have plenty of fires after half term doing some cooking! Children made their own spring potions using different materials they found in Forest School.

EvidenceMe Challenge – Unfortunately we didn't have many pictures of signs of Spring so it is the same challenge for you. Thank you to those who sent in pictures – can you find something different this time? Spring hunt/walk, either in the garden or on a local walk. See if your child can find something that happens in Springtime. Daffodils growing, buds appearing, sun shining, daisies in the grass, blossom trees etc. Have a go. Have a lovely weekend!

You should all have received a letter/email about Share A Story! This is something we have done the last few years, and the parents and children really enjoy spending just 10/15 minutes reading some of our familiar stories with their child/ren. This can be parents, nannies, aunts/uncles. (If it is anyone different that we don't know please just let us know beforehand)

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 the children can access their own water. If you have, please let a member of staff know. Thanks so much in advance.

REMINDERS –

- Last Forest School session this side of Easter. Please check previous Forest School letter/email regarding dates.
- Break up for Easter – 27th March – Children come back to school on **TUESDAY 14th APRIL** (inset day on Monday 13th April)
- Share A Story dates
- Voting day – Thursday 7th May – School is closed for Voting.
- Please make sure you read the school newsletter from Mr Stevens as there is important information on there too.
- 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.

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

Helpline UK 080 8800 3344

Meningitis Now www.meningitisnow.org

Helpline 0808 80 10 388 or 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

Priorix Tetra

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

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

