

Foundation Stage Newsletter

Friday 22nd May 2026



RECEPTION

Our final week of this half term – that means we have only 7 weeks left with your children!

This week has been mostly about getting ready for our visit to Wild and then thinking about all that we saw – more details about our day below! We used the story of Dear Zoo to help us get in the right mood for our visit, but talked about which animals in the story we might see and which we wouldn't. We enjoyed using the blocks and animals to build our own zoo, look at maps and pictures of some of the animals that we would see at Wild. In Maths we have introduced a 'number track' using numbers 1-10. We have given the children the numbers in a muddle and challenged them to put them in the correct order, giving them 5, then 2, then 8 – they really had to have got a secure picture in their head of the order of the numbers. We then used the number track to play a 'race to 10' game, using a dice to count on the right number of spaces. This is such an important skill as they move on to Year 1 and beyond – any simple board games that use a dice and track would be perfect for this – Snakes and Ladders, Frustration for example!

And we finish the term off with our Praise Assembly where we celebrate the achievements of all of the children – well done to all of them for their hard work this half term. We look forward to seeing them back, refreshed after the half term break, ready for another half term of serious learning, serious play and serious fun!

VISIT TO WILD

We had a fantastic day on Wednesday at Wild. The children enjoyed everything about their day from the coach ride to eating their packed lunches to seeing all the different animals and in particular, watching the spectacular bird show. They had the chance to walk through the lemur enclosure, walk through the Macaw free flight area, the wallaby area and go into the lorikeet enclosure – here they were able to feed the birds! The lorikeets were very hungry and came to perch on the children's arms and hands for their food! After we'd eaten our lunch, we watched the bug show where we saw a tarantula up close and even got the chance to hold a hissing cockroach – it was very tickly! We saw crocodiles, tarantulas, meerkats, otters, armadillos, a pelican, owls and so many more. We eagerly waited for the bird show and weren't disappointed as the birds swooped right over our heads! Before we knew it, it was time to get back on the coach and head back to school – only a few sleepers on the way home! The children listened to the adults all day, we are very proud of how well they behaved – we hope they had lots to tell you about what they had seen.

THURSDAY 4th and 11th JUNE WILL BE PE days – 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 on Friday 5th June. 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

As the children have been learning to use a number track, try playing a track and dice game – Snakes and Ladders, Frustration, Ludo...anything where they have to jump on. Board games also help with turn taking, waiting, celebrating a win but also dealing with when they don't win!

TOYS/ ITEMS IN SCHOOL

We have noticed that we still have a number of children bringing toys in from home. Please keep these at home as we don't want broken, damaged or lost toys. We have also noticed that some are bringing in lip glosses which are being shared. Again, these need to be left at home.

REMINDERS

TUESDAY 2nd JUNE – school photos (class photo, not individual)

TUESDAY 16th JUNE 10-11am Foundation Stage Sports Day (please see separate letter)

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

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Pre-School

I have been very excited to be back this week, and the children have chatted to me all about what they have been up to the last few weeks, and they have been very busy! But that's it. The first half of Summer term has been and gone just like that!! Can't quite believe where the time has gone. Just 7 weeks left!

We have continued to learn about Planting this week. As some of you have already noticed by the children's t-shirts, – the children have loved our tuff tray of soil, pots, seeds and carrots! They have been pretending to plant their own different seeds/vegetables. We have now sent home their beans and sunflowers so get your green fingers on and do your best to grow them! Let them grow a little more in their cups and then please plant them in a plant pot or in the garden. Please send us photos on EvidenceMe of the progress, we would love to see who will grow the tallest. Good Luck!

We have also created our own flowers by sticking parts of the plant together. We talked about the names of each part such as stem, leaves, petal and roots. We have also loved drawing different types of flowers and even had a flower hunt outside to see what we could find growing. We found some daisies, dandelions, some wild flowers and poppies in Forest School.

Thank you so much to those who came to our Share A Story the last few weeks, I really hope you enjoyed reading to your children, as I know the children loved it! I know some of you read the same book over and over but this is so important as children learn the layout of the book and improves their comprehension. I will be added some pictures on Facebook so if this is something you would **NOT** like me to do please let me know as soon as.

Maths + Phonics – This week we have just recapped everything we have learnt over this Summer term. Recapping is so important as this is how children learn by repeating, repeating, repeating!

Forest School – It was lovely to have a warm sunny Forest School today. We decided to do our last cooking session and we cooked some pizza! The children were very excited about this. Again, every single child were fantastic and listened extremely well. They were delicious.

Please may I ask for some junk modelling when we return after half term please? Cardboard, washed yoghurt pots, tubs – anything that may be suitable for building with. Thank you.

Also, as the weather is now warming up – After half term please make sure your child is wearing sunscreen before they come to school. If they stop for Wrap Around then please bring some into school with their name on it and we can apply in the afternoon. And please bring a named sunhat for them to wear!

EvidenceMe Challenge – As its half term – any photos or videos that you may get up too! Anything at all, whether this is a trip out, a family members house, park etc. Have a lovely week- and get ready for an extremely busy end of Summer!!

REMINDERS –

- TUESDAY 2nd JUNE – school photos (class photos, not individual photos)
- Last Forest School after half term – FRIDAY 5TH JUNE
- Please look out for our Sports Day letter with all the information on
- 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

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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

Helpline UK 080 8800 3344

Meningitis Now www.meningitisnow.org

Helpline 0808 80 10 388 or helpline@meningitisnow.org

UKHSA blog post

PLEASE SEE NEXT PAGE



Triple P
Positive Parenting Program
for every parent

Are you pregnant or the parent of a baby under 12 months old?

TRIPLE P FOR BABIES CAN BE DONE ONLINE OR IN A SUPPORTIVE SETTING- IT DOESN'T MATTER IF YOU'RE SINGLE, A COUPLE, YOUNG, OLD, IF THIS IS YOUR FIRST BABY OR YOUR SIXTH

Feel confident & supported

Survival skills for Moms, Dads & Carers

Every Wednesday 1:30 – 3:30pm
at Stourbridge Family hub Dy8
1XF Starting 22nd July 2026

Want to take part?
Visit: www.dudleyparents.co.uk
to book onto a group or complete online
Alternatively email:
parenting@dudley.gov.uk
for more information

BEST START IN LIFE

Dudley family hub network

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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Important Information

- Please note a YELLOW Heat Health Alert has been issued for the West Midlands and is in effect from 9AM on 22/05/2026 until 5PM on 27/05/2026.

There are useful information and resources available on the DMBC summer wellbeing page-
<https://www.dudley.gov.uk/residents/care-and-health/summer-wellbeing/>

DudleyParents  Dudley Family hub network

TOOLKITS FOR PARENTS & CARERS

TWO NEW SETS OF GUIDED SESSIONS COMING UP FOR DUDLEY PARENTS - NO COST!

FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN AGED 2-11

Find out why children behave the way they do. Practical tools for your tool kit as you navigate the early years!

Every Wednesday for 5 sessions starting 20th May
9:45 to 11:45 am
Brierley Hill Family Hub- DY5 3DY
or via TEAMS

FOR PARENTS WHO ARE SEPERATED / DIVORCED - YOU DO NOT NEED TO ATTEND TOGETHER

Get help and information with parenting during or after Separation/divorce. How to co parent or how to cope with doing it alone. Relaxation/anger techniques & more

Every Wednesday for 5 sessions starting 3rd June
5:45 to 7:45 pm
via TEAMS



VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO BOOK:
WWW.DUDLEYPARENTS.CO.UK

EMAIL: PARENTING@DUDLEY.GOV.UK