



Newsletter Friday 20th December 2024

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Information for Parents



Another year nearly comes to an end and what a fantastic year it has been for WFS. Just this last week we have all been overwhelmed by the support and generosity of the families of WFS.

11P's Christmas jumper day and gonk sale raised a massive amount for Night Stop.

The Christmas Fair organised solely by the volunteers that are the Friends of WFS was incredible and raised a grand total of £2336.59.

Both Pathway 1 and Pathway 2 Stay and Play were great fun and so many parents came and supported.

The Pathway 3 Concert was incredible with standing room only.

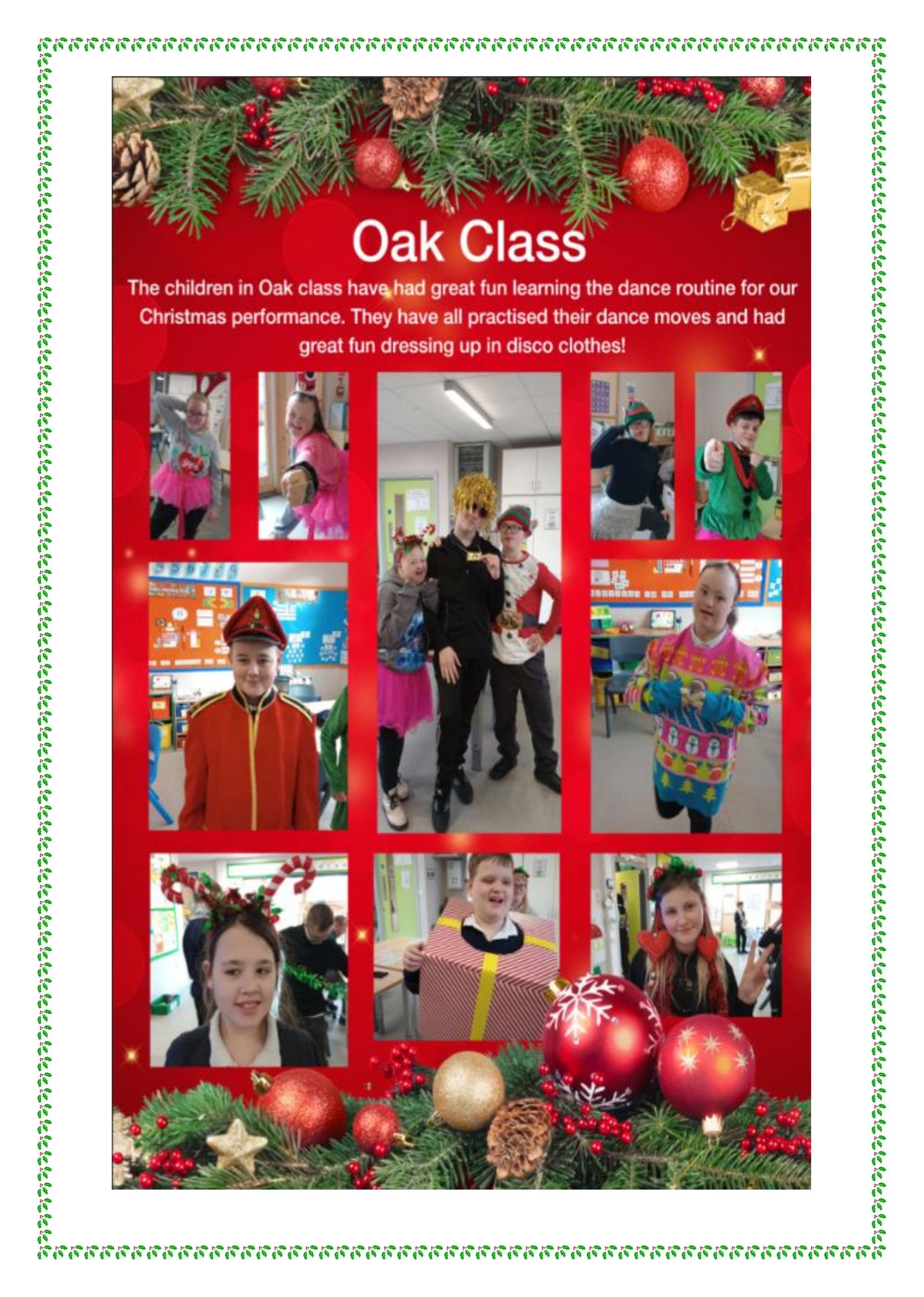
Russell House haven't stopped with Santa visiting Monday night for their Christmas party as well as this morning for breakfast. There have been pantos and Christmas activities galore!

WFS Staff instead of sending each other Christmas Cards have donated to the West Midlands Air Ambulance, after one of our pupils needed their services this term, and we have raised £410 which is marvellous.

On behalf of the WFS Family, thank you for the cards, gifts, kind words and support. We all wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I have a feeling 2025 is going to be fabulous. THANK YOU

See you on the 6th January.



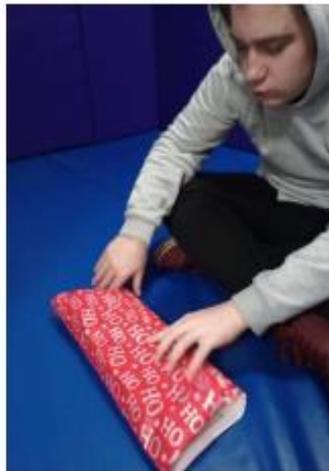


Oak Class

The children in Oak class have had great fun learning the dance routine for our Christmas performance. They have all practised their dance moves and had great fun dressing up in disco clothes!



Rowan Class



Rowan Class this week have looked at all things Christmas! We have been practising wrapping presents, making paper chains, following the steps for sensory bottles and have made our own salt dough decorations!



Larch Class



Willow Class

There has been lots of Christmas fun happening in Willow class!



Olive Class



Olive Class Christmas!!!

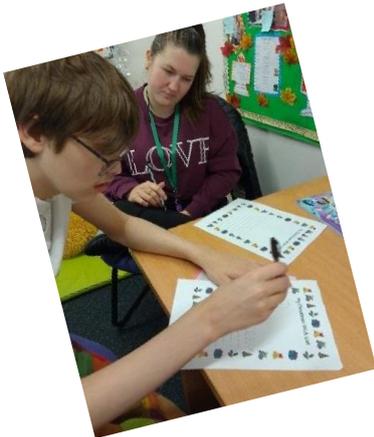
Olive Class have had a wonderful run up to Christmas – we have celebrated 4 birthdays this half term, so we have enjoyed lots of cake and celebrations. We have worked really hard putting together a dance for our performance and have made lots of goodies to take home for our families. We have particularly enjoyed our Christmas themed listening games and team building forest school activities.





Team Quin have been really busy getting ready for Christmas. We have decorated the classroom, written Christmas lists, made and delivered Christingles and Christmas cards, as well as working on our self-regulation, Internet safety, and communication skills.

MCM (Merry Christmas for short!!) to you all, from Quin and his elves Laura and Susie!



Maple Class



11P would like to say a massive
thank you to everyone that
supported Christmas jumper
day and the pinecone gonk
sale.

We raised £338.75 for
Nightstop.

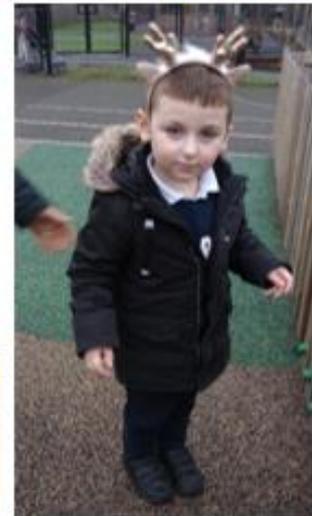


Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas from 11P

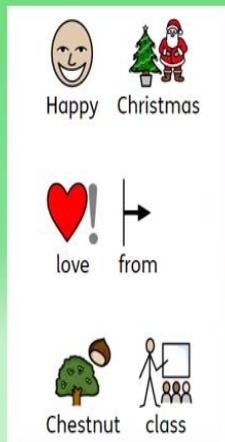


Learning in Lemon Class!

Lemon Class have been very busy getting ready for Christmas with a series of stories and activities themed around festive fun. We have been making Christmas cards, creating decorations for our special people and experiencing baking through making and decorating homemade gingerbread men.



Chestnut Class



We would be very grateful for any empty chocolate/sweetie tubs.

You are welcome to bring them to the school office.

Thank you.



Sycamore Class



Sycamore class have had lots of fun making Christmas decorations, doing Christmas crafts and decorating the tree.





Communication and Interaction News and Information



This week's focus is : **The Festive Season**

Here are some festive activities your child might enjoy

A Christmas Pack from Widgit

This pack contains Christmas activities. There is a symbolised version of the Christmas story and supporting activities including:

- 2 fully differentiated colourful semantics sets,
- multiple choice comprehension cards, word mats and symbolised Christmas counting cards.
- It also includes a range of games and activities such as jigsaws, dominoes and scavenger hunts which can be used over and over again for guaranteed Christmas fun. Just click on the link below.

[Widgit Symbol Resources | Christmas Pack](#)



Keeping to a routine

Many children have a strong need for routine. If schedule and routine is important you might want to :

- Keep a daily schedule and keep it the same as possible, including on Christmas Day.
- Keep a copy of the schedule with you so if anything changes, you can change the schedule so your child can see.
- We have now and next boards templates on our WFS website which can be downloaded and used as simple schedules. Please click on the link [Wyre Forest Special School - Now & Next Board](#)



Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas from the Communication Team

Kind regards
Communication team



20.12.24



We have been celebrating with not one but two Christmas Lunches! Also the elf has been up to no good again!

Hawthorn Class



Hawthorn Class

This week we have done lots of Christmas activities and crafts ready to celebrate the Christmas holidays. We loved the Christmas dinner - thanks James!

Holly Class





12 Social Media Online Safety Tips

FOR CHILDREN WITH NEW DEVICES



With Christmas only a few weeks away, many of you will be using social media to share your excitement with friends and family. Being active on social media is a great way to show others how much fun you're having, but it's important that you know how to use these apps safely and securely so that bad things don't happen. By following our safety tips below, you can make sure that your personal information stays private, your postings are positive and that your social media use overall is responsible, healthy and most of all enjoyable.

1 DON'T ACCEPT FRIEND REQUESTS FROM STRANGERS



Make sure that you set your profile to private so that people you don't know can't find you online. Always tell a trusted adult if a stranger or somebody you don't know sends you a message or a friend request.

2 NEVER SHARE YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION WITH PEOPLE YOU DON'T KNOW

Keep your personal information personal. Sometimes people online aren't always who they say they are and might ask you to share things that you don't feel comfortable sharing.

3 DON'T SHARE EMBARRASSING PHOTOS OR VIDEOS OF OTHERS ONLINE



This could really upset them and could get you into a lot of trouble. Always think twice before posting anything on social media and treat people online as you would in real life.

4 NEVER SEND NAKED PICTURES OF YOURSELF TO OTHERS



This is illegal if you are under 18 and you could get into trouble with the Police. If you are being pressured by someone, always say no and tell a trusted adult. Even if you think it is innocent fun, the photo could be shared with other people and you won't be able to control who else sees it.

5 CREATE A POSITIVE ONLINE REPUTATION



Always be kind and polite when posting comments on social media and only upload pictures and videos of things you are proud of. This forms part of your digital footprint. Everything you do online can be tracked and monitored and could affect what people think of you in real life if it is negative.

6 LIMIT YOUR SCREEN TIME



Social media can be addictive, and it is easy to keep checking newsfeeds or your notifications every 5 minutes which can affect your behaviour and stop you from doing other things. Remember to only use your phone at certain times of the day, turn notifications off at bedtime and go out and have as fun as much as possible. This will keep you fit and healthy and make you appreciate there's more to life than just what's on social media.

7 BLOCK ONLINE BULLIES



Sometimes people might say nasty things to you online or post offensive comments on your pictures or videos. If this happens, always tell a trusted adult who will help you block them from your profile and support you in taking further action.

8 REPORT INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT



If you see something on social media that you don't like, offends you or upsets you, you should always report it to a trusted adult. You should also report it to the social media app who will be able to remove the content if it is against their user policy and can block the person who posted it.

9 ONLY USE APPS WHICH YOU ARE OLD ENOUGH TO USE



Before downloading any new social media app, always check the age-rating. If you need help, ask your parent or carer to make sure that the app is safe for you to use and never download anything which you are too young for as it may contain content that isn't safe for you to see.

10 ALWAYS SECURE ALL YOUR SOCIAL MEDIA PROFILES WITH A PASSWORD



This will help to keep your private information safe and won't allow others to access your profiles without your permission. Make sure your passwords are memorable and personal to you but something which other people can't guess, and always share them with your parents just in case you forget them.

11 ASK PARENTS TO SET-UP 'PARENTAL CONTROLS' FOR SOCIAL MEDIA



When you download a social media app, you should always ask a trusted adult to help you set it up for the first time. This will help you control who sees what you post, who can contact you and make sure you are able to enjoy using the app safely and securely.

12 ALWAYS TALK TO YOUR TRUSTED ADULT IF SOCIAL MEDIA IS MAKING YOU UNHAPPY



Sometimes, social media can make us feel bad about ourselves or sad that we aren't the same as someone else or doing the same things as someone else. Remember, if you ever feel this way, it's really important to talk to your trusted adult(s) like your parents, carers, other adult family members or a teacher, all of whom will be able to support you and discuss your feelings with you to help make you feel better.



Beech Class



Merry Christmas Everyone! Beech class have had an amazing last week. Whether showing off their new skills in the park, pool, soft play or PE or engaging in a fun week of Christmas activities. We've had stay and play, Christmas dinner, parties and all the decorating for the events including designing the tablecloth.

We hope everyone has a great Christmas break, enjoys some well-earned rest and we look forward to the second term starting in January. Well done Beech Class!





Cedar Class



Cedar have been super busy!
We've been making, feeling,
exploring and listening to all
things Christmas.

We wish you all a peaceful
season's greetings and Happy
New Year!!





Happy Christmas from Elm Class



Apple Class





Lime Class

Lime Class

We have had the most magical half term exploring everything Disney! We have been independence superstars, getting ready in our princess and prince outfits and becoming very confident with putting on our outfits and taking them off with less supports from adults.

We have also been sharing different stories with the adults in class. We have explored 'we're going on a bear hunt' with all our favourite sensory items as well as some Disney massage stories which have been very relaxing.

In maths we have been exploring shapes by building towers with different equipment like the stacking cups and wooden bricks, as well exploring shape sorting shapes and working hard to be able to do them all by ourselves!

Then, we have been working on our imitative play by copying different the action – our favourite was copying the different actions to make sounds with the musical instruments.

We have worked super hard this term and can not wait for a well-deserved break at Christmas – Merry Christmas everyone!



YEW CLASS

Newsletter

Christmas week



This week Yew Class have loved our Christmas themed week. We have done a Christmas Movie Morning, a lot of Christmas crafts and our wonderful Christmas stay and play. Yew Class staff would like to wish all of our parents and pupils a very Merry Christmas.



Fig Class

FIG Class

We have been getting into the festive spirit with lots of Christmas crafts and activities. We have enjoyed making Christmas cards and decorations, as well as lots of different Christmas activities putting into practice lots of the different skills we have been developing this half term.



Russell House News











Merry Christmas

LOVE FROM RUSSELL HOUSE



| JANUARY 2025 | |
|---------------------|--|
| 6 | Term starts |
| 21 | Parents Puberty & SEND Meeting - 1.30pm |
| 31 | EYFS Parent Support Group – Sensory OT session – 1.30pm – 2.30pm at Russell House |

| FEBRUARY 2025 | |
|----------------------|---|
| 3 | Children’s Mental Health Week – ‘Know yourself, grow yourself’. |
| 6 | EYFS Stay & Play – 1.30pm |
| 11 | Safer Internet Day |
| 12 | Parents Evening and Life Beyond School |
| | 17th – 21st February – Half Term |

| MARCH 2025 | |
|-------------------|---|
| 7 | World Book Day |
| 21 | World Down Syndrome Day |
| 28 | EYFS Parent Support Group – coffee and catch up – 1.30pm – 2.30pm at Russell House |

| APRIL 2025 | |
|-------------------|--|
| 1 | Pathway 1 Stay & Play – TBC – Parents Welcome |
| 2 | Pathway 2 Easter Stay & Play TBC Autism Awareness Day |
| 3 | Year 9 DTP Vaccinations Pathway 4 – Parent Pop In |
| 9 | Pathway 3 Picnic in the Park |
| 10 | EYFS Easter Event – 1.30pm |
| 11 | WFS new building 10-year-old party |
| 11 | Last Day of Term |
| | EASTER HOLIDAY |
| 28 | Term starts |

| MAY 2025 | |
|--|---|
| 1 | Post 16 – Coffee Morning |
| 5 | School Closed - May Bank Holiday |
| 8 | Post 14 – Afternoon Tea |
| 14 | Pathway 4 – World of Work Event |
| 22 | EYFS Stay & Play – 1.30pm |
| 23 | EYFS Parent Support Group - coffee & catch up– 1.30pm – 2.20pm at Russell House |
| 26th – 30th May – Half Term | |

| JUNE 2025 | |
|-----------|--|
| 2 | Term starts |
| 5 | World Environment Day |
| 10 | Pathway 1 – Summer Picnic – Parents Welcome |
| 13 | Father's Day Carer Gift Shop |
| 19 | Year 8 HPV Vaccinations |
| 20 | 6 th Form Pride Summer Fayre Dress Down Donation Day |
| 27 | Leavers Party Make Music Day |

JULY 2025

| | |
|----|---|
| 1 | Pathway 2 – Sports |
| 2 | Pathway 2 – Sports |
| 3 | Parents new to 6 th Form – 9.30am EYFS Sports Day – 1.30pm |
| 4 | EYFS Parent Support Group – Pathway Information with Deputy Head & Pathway Leaders – 1.30pm – 2.30pm at Russell House |
| 7 | Post 14 & Post 16 - Sports |
| 8 | New to Reception Parents Meeting |
| 9 | Pathway 2 Celebration Stay & Play |
| 10 | Pathway 3 Sports – 9.30am Pathway 1 Sports & Celebration - afternoon |
| 12 | Summer Fayre |
| 14 | Pathway 1 Sports & Celebration - afternoon |
| 15 | Post 14 Class Celebration |
| 16 | EYFS Celebration – Morning – TBC Pathway 3 - Awards |
| 17 | Pathway 4 – End of Year Awards |
| 18 | TERM ENDS |

Please note: all the above dates / times are subject to change.

Please can we remind all Parents & Carers to keep the school office updated with any change of details, i.e., telephone numbers, addresses, list of contacts. Thank you.