

Newsletter Friday 27th February 2026

www.wfs.worcs.sch.uk

office@wfs.worcs.sch.uk

Information for Parents



I do hope you all enjoyed your half term and thank you to Jake and the staff who ran holiday club. This is a very short half term, so they are looking at staffing for Easter holiday club already.

Unfortunately, due to a lack of volunteers who have had the necessary safeguarding checks to keep our pupils safe, The Friends of WFS are unable to run the Mother's Day Event this year. I know the members of The Friends are very sad about this, but we need volunteers who will have the necessary checks completed which we will happily pay for. As you know, I will not compromise on keeping our children safe.

Please remember there is no smoking or vaping anywhere on the school site, that includes the staff car park.

I know several of you are concerned about the publication of the White Paper by the government. This link takes you to a parent's guide explaining what they are planning to do.

[What parents of children and young people with SEND need to know](#)

Timeline

When	What's happening
Now to 2030	Consultation open; early investments flowing - £3.7bn for tens of thousands more SEND places, £4bn in earlier identification needs and support.
2026/27	National SEND training programme begins for all staff; Best Start Family Hubs rolled out nationally; and draft Specialist Provision Packages published in Autumn 2026.
2027/28	Final Specialist Provision Packages published. We will design a new needs assessment process based on the packages, working with children, families and experts to ensure assessments involve professionals who know the child, that parents' voices are heard and there is nationally consistent process without parents feeling pressured to pay for extra assessments or costly diagnoses.
2029/30	These changes will be phased. For children having their needs assessed for the first time, new needs assessments will begin from September 2029. For children and young people with an existing EHCP, transition to the new system will begin from 2030, once the new inclusive mainstream system has been fully built. Transitions will then only happen as children naturally move between primary and secondary school, or from secondary school to college. Every child with a special school place in September 2029 will be able to stay in a special school until they finish their education.
2030 onwards	All reforms in place. Children will receive earlier intervention and support in mainstream reducing the need for lengthy legal processes and children with complex needs will have EHCPs backed by new national standards. First children transition from the old system to the new system.

As you can see children within the special school in September 2029 will be able to stay until they finish their education.

As we only had this on Monday too, we are still unpicking and I am sure there will be a lot of changes before anything happens, but I will keep you posted.

**PARENT POP-IN
WFS PARENTS &
CARERS**

**EVERY MONDAY
FROM 2PM IN OUR
FAMILY HUB**

COME ALONG TO ACCESS
SUPPORT AROUND SEND,
FINANCES, BEHAVIOUR, SLEEP,
HOUSING, TRANSPORT AND
MUCH MORE!

THE SUPPORTING FAMILIES TEAM CAN NOW BE
CONTACTED VIA EMAIL AT
SUPPORTINGFAMILIES@WFS.WORCS.SCH.UK

Is my child too ill for school?



It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school when they're unwell.

For guidance on when a child should or should not attend school due to illness, the NHS provides helpful information at:



www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school

If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone school on the first day of your child's absence and let us know the reason they are absent.



Government guidelines explain when children need to be kept off school for certain illnesses and when they can return. These rules help protect everyone's health and make sure children don't miss school unnecessarily.



Please don't forget to pre-book your child's dinner choices for next term through
MyChildAtSchool

Calendar Dates

Please find information and times of school events for 2026
at the end of the newsletter.

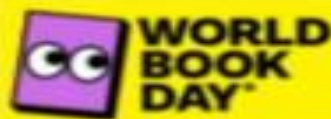


A mixture of post 14 pupils competed in the Panathlon games at Wolverley High School. The pupils won and took home the Gold!

They are going to compete in the regional finals over at Bromsgrove.

Wish them luck!

World Book Day



Friday 6th March 2026

World Book Day is a part of the National Year of Reading 2026. Our focus this year is on Pupil voice and choice. What books do we like the best, what nursery rhymes stop us in our tracks. Is there a comic or graphic novel we can't stop looking at? Do we talk about them or choose a picture of them? Sharing a story, a nursery rhyme or an action song is more important than ever!

What shall I wear?

- You are free to dress up as your favourite book character, but if this is not something that interests you take a look below...

WEAR YOUR PYJAMAS!

If you don't fancy dressing up as a book character how about wearing pyjamas or comfy clothes to relax in as you share stories, audio books, newspapers, nursery rhymes or action songs



Bring an object

- An object that reminds you of a favourite book
- It could be a pillow or soft toy to feel cosy when you choose your story

Super simple costumes you can make at home

Harry Potter

- Black coat or cardigan as a "robe", White shirt + dark trousers/skirt
- A stick as a wand, Draw a lightning scar with eyeliner

The Boy / Girl from The Day the Crayons Quit

- Plain T-shirt
- Colour it with crayons/markers to look like a crayon wrapper
- Make a pointy hat from rolled paper Pick any colour you like.

Gangsta Granny

You need:

- Old cardigan Black trousers/skirt
- Scarf around the head Pillowcase as a "loot bag"

The Cat in the Hat

- Black clothes Paper cat ears on a headband
- White paper tummy taped on Red bow tie (paper or ribbon)
- Tall striped hat made from rolled paper

Charlie Bucket

- Normal clothes
- A homemade "Golden Ticket" (foil + marker)
- Chocolate bar prop (empty wrapper stuffed with paper)

The Very Hungry Caterpillar

- Green clothes
- Red paper mask

Circles of green paper taped down the front Optional: Carry a piece of fruit.

Please enjoy articles this week from classes in Early Years

LEMON CLASS



Orange Class

WFS

Spring 2

It's been a wonderfully fun first week back after half term, with the children settling smoothly into their familiar routines and arriving each morning with big smiles. Some of our learners have been fully engaged in the sensory story We're Going on a Bear Hunt, exploring it through instruments, sensory play, and walking across textured trays that matched each part of the adventure. Others have been following their growing interest in balls—creating marks by rolling paint-covered balls in trays, enjoying ball-pit play, and exploring a range of sensory ball activities. We've also built in calming moments through hand and foot massages and time in the foot spa. Alongside all of this, the children have enjoyed music, crafts, dough play, and plenty of hands-on experiences, all of which has supported them in developing their shared experience skills while strengthening their attention and listening.

Key Dates

- Forest School- Wednesday (please remember to bring wellies and overalls back).
- World Book Day Fancy Dress Friday 6th March

Next week's Sign of the Week is:



Scan the code to watch Bev sign 'wait'

Activities this Week





Apple Class

WFS



Welcome Back Spring 2 - The World Outside

Thank you to all pupils, parents and staff for my warm welcome back to Apple Class. We have a busy half term planned as we begin our topic 'The World Outside'. As we move into spring, our focus will be on the world around us in the great outdoors. We'll explore plants, minibeasts and flowers in a multisensory way to spark pupil's interests and encourage them outdoors. Also, this half term we will be observing World Book Day, Holi Colour Festival, St Patricks Day, Eid, and Easter. We will have themed activities that are appropriately planned for children to enjoy and explore these celebrations. Our curriculum focus is communication, and preparing for the outdoors using visuals to support our understanding.

Book of the Week:



Sign of the Week

To support our story of the week, our sign is "bear". See the images below to practise this at home.



Activities this Week





Apple Class



WFS

This week's learning...

This week, we have enjoyed the story 'we're going on a bear hunt'. We have explored a variety of different textures representing the 'grass, mud, snow, water, and forest', and used these to create collages. We have exploring using instruments to add the rhythm to a story which helped us anticipate what was coming next. We have engaged with lots of physical play and dancing, moving our bodies to the sounds we enjoy.

Your paragraph text

Date for your diary



World Book Day

Friday 6th March

You are invited to send your child to school dressed as their favourite character from a book on this day.

Activities this Week





Apple Class



PHOTOS

We're going on a bear hunt...





RUSSELL HOUSE

MONDAY

Sports Youth Club

TUESDAY

Whitewickets

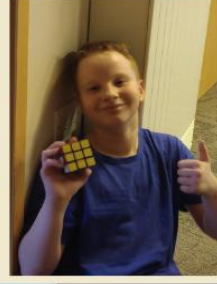
WEDNESDAY

Stourport on Severn

THURSDAY

FizzPop Science





Friends





Home-Start Wyre Forest 8m · 🌐

Worcestershire Parent Carer Forum + The Circle of Hope - Gy.... · Follow
4h · 🌐

🌿 Supporting Gypsy, Roma & Traveller Families with Children & Young People with SEND 🌿 ... more

📍 **STOURPORT**

SEND Support for GRT
Gypsy, Roma or Traveller? Raising children with additional needs? Join us for support on all things SEND. Share your experiences of school, health services & social care.

📍 **Worcestershire PARENT CARER FORUM**

📍 **The Circle of Hope**
SEND Support & Activities

📍 A friendly, non-judgmental community

📍 Refreshments included

📍 Local SEND support

📅 **MONDAY**
2 MARCH 2026

🕒 **TIME**
9:30 AM - 12:00 PM

📍 **VENUE**
ARELEY KINGS VILLAGE HALL, ARELEY COMMON,
STOURPORT-ON-SEVERN, DY13 0NB



Communication and Interaction News and Information



Welcome back everyone,



Early Listening: Awareness of Voice

Children learn about voice and speech sounds before they understand the meaning of words. Listening games are important for children to develop understanding of speech sounds and early words. All children whatever the age learn through repetition. Symbolic sounds can be a e.g., to real words.

Symbolic Sounds

Symbolic sounds are short sounds that are linked to the things they represent.

How can you help?



Symbolic sound activity ideas you can play with your child:

- Animal sounds- choose an animal sound to work on e.g., woof woof for a dog. It helps if it is an animal your child is interested in. Use the animal noise often when playing. Continue to comment and talk about what is happening.
 - Vehicle sounds-choose a vehicle sound to work on e.g., beep beep for car. It helps if it is a vehicle your child is interested in. Use the vehicle noise often when playing. Continue to comment and talk about what is happening.
 - Environmental sounds- choose an environmental sound to work on e.g., Hoover, telephone or a knock at the door. Choose a sound that they are really interested in and include this during the day
- ✓ Remember to keep small objects out of reach of children and make the activities fun.



Kind regards
Communication team



Widgit
CENTRE

Accreditation -
Specialist Level
**Speech and
Language UK**



24.02.25

**There Are 1.08 Million People In Debt To A Loan Shark In
England.
You're Not Alone.
Call 0300 555 2222 Or WhatsApp 07700 102773 For Free,
Confidential Support**

IMPORTANT DATES

Please note: all the dates/times below 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

March 2026	
3	Holi
6	World Book Day
13	Maths Day Mother's Day Gift Shop
17	Pathway 2 Easter Stay and Play – 10.30 – 11.30 – Ash, Poplar, Willow, Rowan, Hazel 1.30 – 2.30pm – Birch, Chestnut, Hawthorn, Maple, Cherry
20	Year 9 - DTP vaccines – more information to follow
20	World Down Syndrome Day
20	Early Years Parent Support Group at Russell House - SENDIASS (Sleep Support) – Information, Advice & Support Service– 1.30 – 2.30pm
23	The Lodge Stay and Play 1.30 - 2.30pm
24	Pathway 1 Easter Stay and Play 9.20am-10.20am – Cedar, Alder, Larch 10.30am-11.30am – Lime, Yew, Fir, Pine 1.30pm-2.30pm – Holly, Beech, Fig, Elm
25	Pathway 4 Parent Pop In – 1.40pm
26	Early Years Easter Egg hunt – 1.30-2.30pm
27	Autism Awareness Day
27	BREAK UP FOR HALF TERM
30 th -10 th	Half term
April 2026	
13	Inset day
14	PUPILS RETURN TO SCHOOL
17	Vaisakhi
20	Pathway 2 Reading Celebration – 10.30 – 11.30 – Ash, Poplar, Willow, Rowan, Hazel 1.30 – 2.30pm – Birch, Chestnut, Hawthorn, Maple, Cherry
21	Post 14 Coffee Morning – 9.30 – 10.20am
23	6 th Form Coffee Morning – 9.30- 10.20am
May 2026	
1	Vesak- Act of Kindness Day (Buddhism)
6	Early Years SALT input at Russell House – 9.30 -11.00am
9	Spring Fair – 11.30am – 2.30pm
13	Pathway 4 Jobs Event – 1.25pm (pupils only, Year 7 upwards)
21	Early Years Teddy Bears Picnic – 1.30 – 2.30pm
22	BREAK UP FOR HALF TERM
25 th -29 th	Half term

June 2026	
1	PUPILS RETURN TO SCHOOL
1	Early Years Parent Support Group at Russell House with Sophie Keyte – Paediatric OT – 9.30 – 11am
3	Eid
5	Y8 HPV vaccines – more information to follow
8	Pathway 2 Sports Day – 9.30 – 11.00am – Ash, Poplar, Willow, Rowan, Hazel 1.15 – 2.45pm – Birch, Chestnut, Hawthorn, Maple, Cherry
10	Pathway 1 Sports Day – 1.15 – 2.15pm Secondary Playground - Cedar, Alder, Larch, Holly, Elm 1.15 – 2.15pm – Primary Playground - Lime, Beech, Fir, Pine, Fig, Yew
12	PRIDE - 6 th Form
17	Pathway 3 & 4 Sports Day – more information to follow
19	Sparkle Day Father's Day Gift Shop
23	Post 14/16 Sports Day
26	Year 11 & 6 th Form Leavers Party – 1.45pm
29	Early Years Pathway information, resources and support for summer holiday at Russell House – 9.30 – 10.30am

July 2026	
7	Pathway 2 End of Year Celebration – 10.30 – 11.30 – Ash, Poplar, Willow, Rowan, Hazel 1.30 – 2.30pm – Birch, Chestnut, Hawthorn, Maple, Cherry
8	Early Years End of Year Celebration – 1.30 – 2.30pm
9	Parents new to 6 th Form meeting – 9.30-10.30am
13	Pathway 1 End of Year Celebration and Summer Picnic – 1.15 – 2.30pm Secondary Playground – Cedar, Alder, Larch, Holly, Elm 1.15 – 2.30pm – Primary Playground – Lime, Beech, Fir, Pine, Fig, Yew
14	Post 14 End of Year Celebration – 1.30 - 2.30pm
15	Pathway 3 Celebration Assembly – 1.30pm
16	Pathway 4 End of Year Celebration - more information to follow
17	BREAK UP FOR SUMMER