

# Five Ways Primary School Newsletter

## Inform Magazine

December 2025  
Issue 1 for 2025/26

Headteacher: Mrs R Mander



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### Upcoming Events

Spring Term Begins  
Monday 5th January  
2026

Half Term  
Monday 16th February  
-Friday 20th  
February 2026

Easter Break  
Monday 30th March -  
Friday 10th April  
2026

May Day  
Monday 4th May  
2026

Half Term  
Monday 25th May -  
Friday 29th May  
2026

Last day of Summer Term  
Friday 17th July 2026

### Nursery News Starting School



The Nursery children have had a very busy first term at school getting to know each other and making new friends.

We have enjoyed becoming Maths Detectives, using our noticing skills and looking for signs of autumn. We have collected autumn treasures, talked about how the leaves change at this time of year and enjoyed filling different containers with conkers and acorns. We also explored pumpkins, using our sense to investigate the outside and inside of them. We then rolled our pumpkins down ramps, talking about how far they went.

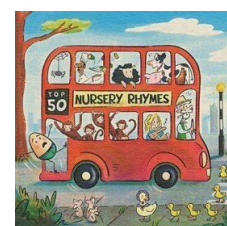


### Nursery News



### National Nursery Rhyme Week

During National Nursery Rhyme week, we had lots of fun singing a different focussed rhyme each day, along with all of our Nursery favourites. The children created some fantastic boats out of recycled materials with their grown-ups at home for the rhyme 'When I Was One'. The children enjoyed pretending to be pirates and walking the plank. We had a great time engaging in different activities for the rhymes, one of our favourite activities of the week was making our own crowns!



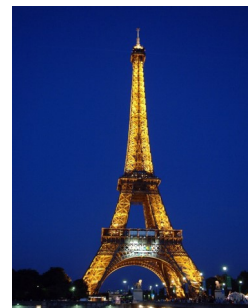
### Children In Need

Nursery supported Children in Need by wearing something spotty. We listened to stories about how Pudsey helps children. We practised our scissor skills by cutting out our very own Pudsey masks.



### International Day

During International Day, all of Nursery boarded our Five Ways Airlines flight 306 to Paris. The children had their boarding passes ready and sat beautifully whilst listening to the inflight safety measures delivered by the cabin crew. After arriving safely, the children were taken to a cafe where they tasted French food. They enjoyed croissants, chocolate crepes, French bread, cheese and red wine (juice) all while taking in the sites and famous landmarks of Paris.



### Christmas Excitement!

On Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December, Nursery and Reception welcomed Santa's special reindeer and cheerful elves. We had a magical time petting and feeding the reindeer.



### Reception News

Reception have been discovering autumn! Our Reception children have had a wonderful time exploring all the signs of autumn. They have noticed the colourful leaves falling from the trees, the crisp air, and even spotted conkers and acorns during outdoor play. These treasures have been used in creative activities back in the classroom, sparking lots of conversation and curiosity.



We did not stop there! The children were fascinated by pumpkins - we explored their shapes, colours and textures, and even had a go at scooping out the seeds. The highlight was making delicious pumpkin soup together. Everyone loved helping with the chopping and stirring, and of course tasting the finished result!





## Children in Need

Reception had a thoughtful and engaging day learning all about *Children in Need* and why it is such an important event. We watched videos together and talked about what the day means for ourselves and for others around us. The children learned about the charity, how it helps poorly children and their families, and why fundraising makes such a big difference. We shared ideas about how we can support the charity and show kindness to those who need it most. It was lovely to see the children asking questions and showing real empathy as they began to understand how their actions can help others.



## Exploring Italy!



Reception had an amazing time celebrating International Day by learning all about Italy. We discovered lots of interesting facts about the country and even learned how to say some simple phrases in Italian - the children loved practising their new words! We listened to lively Italian music and explored famous landmarks like the Colosseum and the Leaning Tower of Pisa. We even became pizza chefs! The children had so much fun creating their own pizzas using a variety of tasty ingredients. It was a fantastic way to learn about another culture while enjoying hands-on experiences that brought Italy to life in our classroom.

*We're Going on a Baby Hunt*



We are thrilled to share that during our wonderful performances of

*"We're Going on a Baby Hunt!"*  
we raised an amazing **£250.12** for  
**Birmingham Children's Hospital.**

Thank you so much for your generosity and support; it truly makes a difference. We are proud of our children and grateful to our school community for coming together for such a worthy cause.



### Year 1 News

Year 1 have been learning about pumpkins. They learned how to produce a still life drawing of a pumpkin in pencil, and then painted it. They used chalk pastels to add the patterns, inspired by the artist Romero Britto.



These drawings are by Scarlet B, Billy, Evie-May, Layla and Rueben.



### Year 1 News

International Day - Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2025.  
India - Year 1



During the day, we completed lots of fantastic activities to celebrate International Day in Year 1. We loved learning lots of facts about India and making our very own Indian flag.



All of the children learned about the elephant festival, 'Jaipur'. We enjoyed watching videos of the festival, designing our own elephant and 'henna hands' for this special occasion. Here are Teddy, Evie and Charlie showing off their flags and elephant from Miss Heeley's class and Bailey, Scarlet and Charlie from Mrs Rowley's class, showing off their flags and 'henna hands'.



### Year 1 News



We learned some traditional Indian dancing which was lots of fun. Here are some of us showing off our moves!



We also had some poppadoms at snack time and tried lots of different dips. We had mango chutney and mint yogurt! Here is Ollie, Isla and Lucas from Miss Ball's class.



### Year 2 News

### International Day - Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2025

### St Kitts



We had a fantastic visit from Mr Michael today; his Dad was born in St Kitts. Mr Michael told us all about his heritage and some amazing stories. We loved learning about his Dad's first hand experiences living in St Kitts, and we asked lots of questions, which Mr Michael knew all the answers to! We wrote some of the facts that we had learned!



**Year 2 News**

**International Day - Friday 21<sup>st</sup>  
November 2025**

**St Kitts**

We looked at the location of St Kitts on a map and learned lots of interesting facts about the country. We looked in detail at the flag and made our own! Here are Frankie M, James P and Mila W from Miss Buchan's class, with their fantastic flags.

We listened to lots of traditional music and videos of festivals that take place in St Kitts. We loved all the colours and costumes. We made our very own colourful mask, while we danced to some music!



**Year 3 News**

Over the half term holiday, Year 3 children were invited to take part in an art competition based on the theme of animals supported by the WWF. Children were encouraged to make a small donation with their entries and we are delighted to announce that Year 3 children have raised £43.72 for the charity and have voted to adopt a Giant Panda. The winner of the art competition will be announced shortly.

The entries have created a fabulous display in our Year 3 corridor.

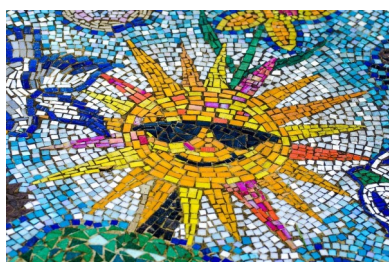


### Year 4 News

On Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November, it was International Day and Year 4 children studied the country of Greece. We looked at some of the history of the country, participated in a Greek Dance workshop, completed a reading relay in teams and looked at the Greek artist called Antoni Dragan. The children produced some pop art inspired Greek artwork.



Here is a photo from Miss Myatt's class featuring Skyla, Joey and Thomas.



### Year 4 News

On 7<sup>th</sup> October, Reverend Ann, from St John's church, came to visit each Year 4 class. She wanted to discuss our current understanding of the term 'Harvest'. She explained why Harvest is an important time for Christians. We thoroughly enjoyed meeting Reverend Ann and talking to her.

Here are some photographs from Miss Wright's class: Leo, Amelia and Aaizah with Reverend Ann.



This term, on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October, Year 4 were also visited by a representative from the Cannock and District Foodbank. They learned lots of information about what foodbanks are, where they can be found and how they can donate food to help. The children really enjoyed sharing how they have donated food in the past in their local supermarkets and were happy to hear how donations from schools, such as our own, helped fill some of the empty shelves the foodbank has had recently.

Here is a photo from Miss Emery's class featuring Mila, Olivia, Max and Albie with Mrs Diane Quimby.



## Year 5 News

### National Poetry Day

National Poetry Day is an opportunity to read and enjoy all things poetry! This year's theme was 'play' and Year 5 enjoyed exploring what the word 'play' means to them. They then planned and drafted 'play' inspired poems of their own.



### Helping Hands Workshop

Loudmouth education came to Five Ways this term to present a short play, which acted out scenarios with follow up workshops. The children gave excellent advice for the characters, which gave guidance based on staying safe in our online and offline relationships, including work on child abuse and exploitation and domestic abuse. The children also identified their 'Helping Hands Network'.



**loudmouth**  
education & training through theatre

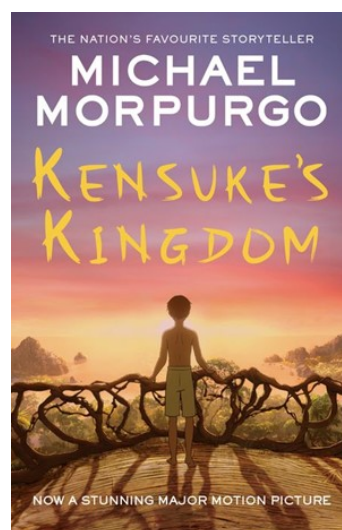
## Year 5 News

Year 5 also enjoyed watching the BBC Live Lesson on anti-bullying and completed advice on given bullying scenarios for our writing lesson in English.



### Marvellous Morpurgo!

This term in English, we have been studying the novel *Kensuke's Kingdom*, written by Michael Morpurgo. Year 5 have thoroughly enjoyed reading the book, which has inspired some wonderful writing, including non-chronological reports on orangutans and box jellyfish! We concluded the topic by watching the film version and discussed the similarities and differences compared to the book.



## Year 5 News

### Anti-Bullying Week

During anti-bullying week, a group of Year 12 drama students from Kingsmead came in to deliver a short performance with follow up group activities and discussions. It was lovely to see some past pupils returning to Five Ways!



### Creative Community!

One of our themes in PSHE this term is community. St John's Church and Reverend Ann invited pupils to contribute to their Advent community display. This gave our children a wonderful opportunity to share their creativity and faith with the wider community. Here are some of the designs below:



## Year 6 News



This term, our Year 6 children have enjoyed their role in raising money for the Royal British Legion - our Year 6 charity. Four of our Year 6 children (Cecelia N, Jack W, Rosie H-G and Grace P) attended a Remembrance Service at St Johns Church. The children were involved in laying a wreath on behalf of both Five Ways and Year 6. The children have also spent their art lessons this half-term preparing some beautiful artwork based on Remembrance Sunday, as well as writing some outstanding poetry reflecting on why Remembrance Day is so significant.

### 'Poppies'

#### 6HL Cecelia N

As red as a blood-stained shirt.  
As bright as the smiles on the soldiers faces when returning home.  
As important as the fallen soldier's hearts.  
As special as every kind-hearted soul lost.  
As significant as the worn-out gun used in the dirty war.  
As proud as a soldier finishing a long job that made history.  
As symbolic as the wooden cross found in churches.  
As respectful as old memories brought back.

## Year 6 News

### 6LL Elsie S

Fields of red respectful flowers,  
Poppies billowing in the breeze,  
Standing tall like mighty soldiers,  
Could not be disturbed by a sneeze.  
Standing tall like a mighty oak,  
Sitting there in silence,  
But not unnoticed by humanity,  
Unaware of previous violence.  
Soon their beauty shall start to fade,  
As their petals start to fall,  
But their significance should not be gone,  
As that's the most important part of all.

### 6LM William G

For those who fought we know you were there,  
With the new generation we'll always share.  
They wish they were lying down in their beds,  
They always hoped they wouldn't be dead.  
Back then they gathered in the trenches,  
Now we remember them on memorial benches.  
All the joy and peace from the sun,  
Everyone hoping the fighting was done.  
From in the trenches, blood and rain,  
Everyone hoping to be home again.  
They left their family and their home,  
They always wanted good free roam.  
So here we are, our heads held low,  
Knowing what happened here long ago.  
Now we know what happened all day and night,  
Holding our poppies really tight.

**The following children have achieved  
100% attendance during the Autumn  
Term. Congratulations!**

### **Reception**

Summer A, Roman B, Sophia C, Harry C, Reene F,  
Samuel G, Darcy M, Eden P, Graysen P,  
Reuben-Rex S, Ralphie B, Freya D, Niall F, Alfie H,  
Jaydn N, Eliza P, Jack S, Hudson S, Elliot T, Ella T,  
Austin B, Eden D, Evlyn E, Luna F, Joshua G, George  
H, Logan M-S, Lillie M, Edward P, Harper R.

### **Year 1**

Alex B, Billy C, Jenson D, Charlie H, Loken L,  
Anaishe S, Amelia W, Beau A, Malika A,  
Rueben C, Charlie E, Grace-Paisley P, Henry R,  
Charlie S, Harley-Rose S, Isabella A,  
Danny B, Isabella B, Everleigh K, Isla M, Imogen M,  
Patrick M, Finlay Se, Finlay S.

### **Year 2**

Jessica A, Isabella F, Maddison H, Aubrey H,  
Charlie H, Zoya H, Alice J, Lorian L, Eliza L,  
Jaxon W-C, Max W, Charlotte A, Eleanor B,  
William C, Roman E, Jessie-Anne J, Olivia M, Ava M,  
Harlee P, Fern T, Phoebe W, Edie C, Amelie C,  
Alexander D, Freddie F, Olivia F, Vinni H, Louie H,  
Haydn N, Zara P, Lottie W.

### **Year 3**

Zayn A, Oliver D, Leonard E, Georgia M,  
Toby M, Grace P, Olivia S, Isabelle S, Lily S,  
George A, Jack B, Ivy H, Olivia H, Lily-Jane J,  
Eleanor L, Amelia-Rose M, Ethan S, Aston Y,  
Peyton B, Dylan C, Angel E, Rory E-A, Jaymie H,  
Jacob I, Joshua R.

### **Year 4**

Jake B, Megan C, Eva M, Jake O, Evelyn R,  
Lily W, Ellie B, Quinn L, Arlo P, Caleb R, Jack S,  
Isla F, Daisy F, Joseph K, Annabelle L, Grayson M.

### **Year 5**

Anabelle G, Edward G, George N, Charlie S,  
Thea B, Thomas H, Scarlett L, Ewan L, Mollie L,  
William P, Frankie R, Joel S, Freddie S, Ila S,  
Gabriel T, Jack A, Ethan A, Charlotte B,  
Brody E, Roman K, Oswald N, Kobie R, Sofia S,  
Thomas W.

### **Year 6**

Isla A, Ava D-Y, Alex H, Jessica P, Tobias P,  
Jack S, Elsie S, William G, Harrison M-S,  
Ila-Rae O, Mila S, Lilly S, Cate W, Primrose B,  
Scarlett C, Daniel C, Dexter L, Oliver L, Liam M,  
Cecelia N, Willow P, Harry R, Noah R, Georgia R,  
Oscar S, Huw W.



Mrs Mander would like to say...

*Thank you to everyone for all their hard work this term. By working together we have achieved a lot.*

*On behalf of all the staff and Governors at Five Ways, I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Peaceful New Year.*

