

Newsletter



Mrs R. Mander - Headteacher

12th September 2025

Chair of Governors

You may already be aware that Mr Richard Burden stepped down as Chair of Governors at Five Ways at the end of the summer term 2025. I would now like to take this opportunity to warmly welcome our new Chair of Governors, Dr Vicky Lloyd. Dr Lloyd previously served as a parent Governor at Five Ways and brings a deep understanding of our school community to her new role. She is committed to building on the excellent work of Mr Burden and is enthusiastic about working closely with the Senior Leadership Team, staff, and fellow Governors to support the continued success of our school.

I would also like to inform you that we currently have a Parent Governor vacancy on our Governing Body at Five Ways. If you would be interested in becoming a Parent Governor and would like to have an impact upon school development, please collect an information pack from the office. Packs will be available for collection from 15th September. Applications for this position need to be received by 4.00pm on 26th September.

'Above and Beyond' Recognition

In line with our new Positive Behaviour and Relationships Policy, (viewable on our website), the following children have been recognised this week for demonstrating behaviours that go 'Above and Beyond' our school rules of being kind and respectful, being safe and being ready. Focusing on behaviour that is 'Above and Beyond' creates an immediate shift in expectations for the children. It gives them something more than bare minimum to achieve and as a school, we believe this behaviour deserves to be recognised. Therefore, each week, one child per class (if appropriate) from Year 1 to Year 6, who has gone 'Above and Beyond', will be selected by the class teacher, to have squash and biscuits with myself as Headteacher. This will take place each Friday as a special reward for their behaviour. The following children have been recognised this week for going 'Above and Beyond':

Year 1: Alexandra S, Alex B, Ella H.
Year 2: Charlotte A, Maggie C, Jaxon W.
Year 3: Amber H, Jaxon P, Luke E.
Year 4: Lily W, Maddison W, Evelyn B.
Year 5: Ruby P, Sophie G, Freyja W.
Year 6: Alex H, Esmae H, Ila O.

Forthcoming Dates:



Week beginning **15th September 2025 – Menu** **week 3.**

24th September – National Fitness Day – Year 1 to Year 6 pupils to wear PE kits to school.

25th September – Flu Vaccinations - Reception to Year 6

26th September – Individual Photographs – Tempest Photographers

5th October – PTFA Autumn Fayre 11.30am - 3.00pm *All Welcome*

7th October - PTFA AGM/Welcome Meeting – 7.15pm KS1 Staffroom – *All welcome.*

9th October – Young Minds 'Hello Yellow' / World Mental Health Day (*More details to follow.*)

10th October - Sibling Photographs – Tempest Photographers

24th October – School Closes Half Term (*Normal Times*)

3rd November – School Opens

3rd November - Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 Parents' Consultation Appointments 3.40pm – 6.00pm

6th November - Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 Parents' Consultation Appointments 3.40pm – 6.00pm

W/B 10th November - Anti-Bullying Week (*More details to follow*)

14th November - Children in Need Day (*More details to follow*)

Further dates will be added to the Newsletter as we progress through the year.

Five Ways Primary School

Langholm Drive

Heath Hayes, Cannock, WS12 2EZ

Web Site Address: www.fiveways-primary-school.org.uk

Tel No: 01543 278071

Email: office@fiveways.staffs.sch.uk

National Fitness Day



National Fitness Day 2025 will take place on **Wednesday 24th**

September. By the school taking part in this day, it enables us to raise awareness of the importance of physical activity amongst our pupils, and encourages them to lead healthier lifestyles. **Pupils from Year 1 to Year 6 are asked to come to school in their PE kits on 24th September, as they will be taking part in additional physical activities that will promote healthy lifestyles.** Nursery and Reception pupils will take part in additional activities as well however, they will not require their PE kit.

Childhood Flu Vaccination Programme

I am pleased to inform you that as in previous years, pupils from Reception to Year 6 are eligible to receive their free NHS Nasal Spray Flu Vaccination at school on **Thursday 25th September**. The School Age Immunisation Team will be using a paperless, e-consent form, which is quick and easy to use, and can be completed on any electronic device. Please click on this link:

<https://forms.mpft.nhs.uk/?session=6261&code=SS124070-25> to complete the e-consent form.

The code required for our school is **SS124070-25**. Parents are asked to complete the form by **10.00am on Tuesday 23rd September 2025 at the latest**. Please be aware that even if your child received the vaccine last year, it is recommended strongly that they have it again this year.

Parents are asked to complete and submit your child's consent form promptly, whether you wish your child to be immunised or not; please only submit one consent form per child. If you have any concerns or would like to discuss any matters further, please do not hesitate to contact a member of the NHS Immunisation Team on 0300 124 0366 (Monday to Friday 8.30am – 12.30pm).

For further information, please see the letter sent home this week. If you have any further questions or need more information, parents are asked to ring the NHS Team rather than contacting the school office, as the NHS Team are specialists within this area.



Important Reminder: Five Ways is a NUT-FREE School Please be reminded that **Five Ways Primary School is a strictly nut-free environment**. This policy is in place to protect several of our pupils who live with **severe nut allergies**, which can lead to **life-threatening reactions**, including anaphylaxis. To ensure the safety of all children, **NO nut-based products are permitted on school grounds**. This includes any food items that contain nuts or may contain traces of nuts. Allergic reactions can occur not only through eating but also through inhalation or skin contact, making vigilance essential. We kindly ask that you **check all food labels carefully** before packing your child's lunch or snacks. If a product states "**may contain nuts**" or "**produced in a facility that handles nuts,**" please **DO NOT** send it into school.

Examples of items that must be avoided include: chocolate spreads (e.g. Nutella), cereal bars, biscuits and cakes containing nuts, certain sauces and condiments.

If a member of staff identifies a pupil with a nut-containing item, it will be **politely removed**, and the reason will be explained to the child. This is not a disciplinary action but a necessary precaution to protect others. Please ensure that **NO nut products or items that may contain traces of nuts** are included in your child's lunchbox or brought into school as snacks (for Key Stage 2 pupils). Thank you for your continued support and cooperation in keeping our school community safe.

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Changes to the Law for taking Leave of Absence during Term Time This is an important reminder that the Department of Education made important changes to the law for families wanting to request leave of absence in term time. The changes made it clear that **Headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.**

The Local Authority and our school governors support this; therefore, children will only be given permission to take leave in term time if there are exceptional circumstances. ***Please be aware that Staffordshire County Council state that exceptional circumstances no longer include, family weddings or Special Educational Needs of pupils or family members.***

As a school, we are obliged to inform you that you may be subject to a Penalty Notice if your child's absence from school is unauthorised and not categorised as an absence related to exceptional circumstances. This is in line with Staffordshire County Councils' Code of Conduct and the "Working Together to Improve School Attendance" statutory guidance (effective 19th August 2024). The penalties for unauthorised leave of absence in term time will be:

For a **First** offence the Penalty Notice fine would be:

- £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days, rising to
- £160 per parent, per child if paid between 21-28 days.

For a **Second** offence within 3-years of the first penalty notice being issued, the penalty notice fine would be:

- £160 per parent, per child if paid between 28 days.

Following the second offence **every new offence within the 3-year period, will be prosecuted** under S444.1 of the Education Act 1996. I must advise you that if the prosecution takes place, the maximum fine is **£1,000 per parent, per child**. This reflects the seriousness of unauthorised absence from school.

My School Fund Initiative

I am pleased to announce that our school is now part of the 'My School Fund Initiative'. This will help to raise additional funds for our school.

Parents and carers can sign up to the scheme for free, and start earning cashback on things you buy in participating stores, including Sainsburys and Argos. Simply visit www.myschoolfund.org to register for free and help boost funding for our school!

Please see the flyer sent home today for more information.



PTFA News! The PTFA would like to welcome everyone back following the summer break and give a warm welcome to all of our new Nursery and Reception families. The PTFA are currently finalising this year's event calendar that will be sent home soon.

Autumn Festival – Sunday 5th October – 11.30am to 3.00pm - We are counting down the weeks until our flagship event! Only 3 weeks to go! Tickets can be pre-purchased on the dashboard from Monday 15th September www.pta-events.co.uk/fiveways and an express lane will be available at both gates for anyone who wishes to pre-pay. Entrance tickets are Adults £1, Seniors and Children 50p, Under 3 years Free. Any pre-paid summer fayre tickets will still be valid for the Autumn Festival. We will have all the well-loved stalls such as: tombola, guess the number of sweets in a jar, guess the name of the teddy, teddy tombola, lucky dip, goalie shootout and much more!

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