

Newsletter



Mrs R. Mander - Headteacher

11th September 2026

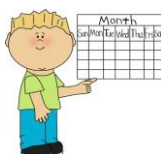
Welcome Back! As we embark on another exciting school year, I would like to offer a heartfelt welcome to all pupils, families and staff as we return after the summer holiday. We are especially pleased to welcome those children and colleagues who are joining Five Ways for the first time, and we look forward to them becoming an integral part of our school community. It has been wonderful to see the school full of energy once again, with children arriving each day looking exceptionally smart in their uniforms and eager to embrace the opportunities that a new term brings. I have thoroughly enjoyed chatting with many of our pupils and hearing about the memorable adventures, achievements and special moments they experienced during the summer break. Their enthusiasm and positivity have made for a fantastic start to the year.

Dates 2026 – 2027 A list of important dates for this next academic year was sent home last week. Please be aware that the INSET days still to take place are as follows:

Monday 4th January 2027

Friday 18th June 2027

Monday 21st June 2027



In addition, this is advanced notice that school is likely to be CLOSED for 1 day (6th May 2027) due to it being used as a Polling Station.

Forthcoming Dates:



Week beginning
14th September 2026 – Menu
Week 3.

In addition, please see the list of dates, sent home last week for this academic year.

16th September – National Fitness Day **(All children from Y1 – Y6 to wear their school PE kit and trainers for the whole day as additional fitness activities will be taking place on this day.)**

18th September – PTFA Autumn Fayre 3.30pm - 6.00pm All Welcome
23rd September – Flu Vaccinations - Reception to Year 6

25th September – Individual Photographs – Tempest Photographers

8th October – Young Minds 'Hello Yellow' / World Mental Health Day *(More details to follow.)*

9th October - Sibling Photographs – Tempest Photographers

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

We Are Here to Help! We have been delighted to see how quickly children have adapted to the routines and expectations of the new academic year, with the vast majority making a confident and successful start to term. We recognise that, from time to time, parents may wish to seek advice, share a concern or discuss an aspect of their child's school experience. Open communication between home and school is extremely important to us, and we encourage parents to contact their child's class teacher in the first instance, either by email, through the school office or via the Home-Link book for pupils in Years 1 to 6. Parents are also welcome to speak with their child's Phase Leader or arrange an appointment with a member of the Senior Leadership Team. Mrs Fuller (Deputy Headteacher), Mrs Hill (Assistant Headteacher / Headteacher Designate), Mrs Russell (Business Manager) and I remain committed to working in partnership with families and are always available to offer support whenever it is needed.

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

Admission to Secondary School for September 2027

Year 6 parents should have received an individual letter regarding the online application process for your child's Secondary School place. Please be aware that applications need to be made by **31st October 2026.**

'Above and Beyond' Recognition

Our 'Above and Beyond' celebrations will begin next week, with class teachers nominating children who have consistently demonstrated our school values and gone above and beyond our expectations of being kind and respectful, safe and ready to learn. I am very much looking forward to hosting my first celebration session next Friday, when I will have the pleasure of recognising the selected children and enjoying biscuits and juice with them in the Boardroom. We cannot wait to celebrate their achievements and the positive contribution they make to our school community.

Five Ways is a NUT-AWARE School

Five Ways Primary School operates a strict nut-aware policy to help protect pupils with severe nut allergies. We kindly ask all parents and carers to ensure that no nut-containing products are brought onto the school site. Thank you for your support in helping us keep all children safe.

Sporting Success I am pleased to report that Sofia M and Mila W, who are both in Year 3, performed in the 'Schools Out for Summer' show in front of a large audience with their performing arts school. Both girls did amazingly well and demonstrated huge confidence throughout their first junior musical theatre show. Well done girls; this is super news!



Funeral Arrangements for Mr Roy Painting



Following the letter shared with parents last week regarding the sad and unexpected passing of Mr Roy Painting, we would like to take this opportunity to gently remind members of our school community of the funeral arrangements for those who may wish to pay their respects. Many parents, pupils and former colleagues will remember Roy fondly for his warmth, kindness and friendly nature. He was often seen at the front vehicle gate each morning, offering a cheerful "Good morning" to children and families as they arrived at school. Roy was a much-valued member of the Five Ways family and is greatly missed by all who knew him. We continue to keep Roy's family and loved ones in our thoughts. The funeral will take place on: **Wednesday 16th September, 11:30am, Hammerwich Crematorium.**

Our thoughts remain with Roy's family and friends at this difficult time.

Sporting Success

I am pleased to report that Daisy B, who is in Year 2 in Miss Maddocks' class, also took part in the same show as Sofia and Mila (opposite). Daisy was an absolute star and performed with so much confidence singing, dancing and acting! She enjoyed every minute! Well done Daisy; this is amazing news too!



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Sporting Success

I am pleased to report that Erin B, who is in Year 5 Mrs Williams' class, recently represented Team England with her dance school at the Dance World Cup Finals! Erin performed in a group lyrical dance in a section of 29 other teams, competing against other countries. We are hugely proud that Erin and her team came 3rd, receiving a bronze medal for team England! Erin has practiced for months, some weeks for up to 5 times a week, and truly deserves her 3rd in the world title. Well done Erin; this is amazing news!



Staffordshire Childcare Survey Childcare and You 2026

Do you have a young child or are expecting a baby? If yes, Staffordshire County Council would like you to give them your views on childcare. Choosing childcare is a huge decision for families and everyone has different needs and expectations. Added to that the cost can be huge. To help with childcare costs there is a range of government help and support and available but it can be confusing to navigate. Scan the QR code to take part in the survey.



Inconsiderate Parking We continue to receive concerns regarding parking in the vicinity of the school during drop-off and collection times. While the vast majority of parents and carers park considerately, a small number of vehicles are still being parked inappropriately, including on corners, pavements, double yellow lines, restricted areas and across residents' driveways. We would like to remind all parents and carers that any vehicles observed parking illegally or creating a safety risk may be reported to the appropriate authorities. Your support in parking responsibly helps to ensure the safety of our pupils and maintains positive relationships with our neighbours and the wider local community. Thank you for your cooperation.

Safeguarding Review Due to a safeguarding review surrounding After School Club and any other clubs which may be taking place at the end of the school day, the decision has been made to improve our site security processes. This will involve the school gates being re-locked at 3:45pm, once most children have left the premises. After this time, parents will only be able to access the school grounds by being buzzed through via the intercom system on the pedestrian gate next to the main vehicle gates. Parents collecting from Choir or other clubs will only be allowed to access the premises 5 minutes prior to the end of the club, via the main pedestrian gate at the front of the school. Parents collecting from our After School Club, will be buzzed in on arrival. Thank you for your cooperation.

PTFA News! **Autumn Festival – Friday 18th September – 3.30pm to 6.00pm** - Following the cancellation of our Summer Fayre due to the exceptionally hot weather last term, we are delighted that many of the planned activities will now take place at our **Autumn Festival**. With just one week to go, excitement is building! Children will be able to enjoy many of our much-loved stalls and games, including the tombola, guess the number of sweets in a jar, guess the name of the teddy, teddy tombola, splat the rat, lucky dip, coconut shy, goalie shootout, archery, hook a duck and, of course, our ever-popular Crazy Cups. We look forward to welcoming families for what promises to be a fantastic community event.



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