

# NEWSLETTER



## Friday 24th March

I hope you are as proud of your children as we are about the progress they have made so far this academic year. 'Parents' Evening' was a huge success - I would like to thank our wonderful junior leadership team, who did a fantastic job organizing books and guiding parents. I would also like to express my thanks to the PTA, who once again dedicated time and energy to provide refreshments and biscuits. We welcome feedback on how we can further improve such events, so please feel free to email the info box should you have any suggestions.

Mothers' Day was also a lovely celebration. It was wonderful for KS1 children to share their thoughts and sing their Mothers' Day song. Thank you for joining us and we hope you enjoyed their efforts and the flowers :)

This week we had another visitor to EYFS, 'Petal' our guest lamb, stole the limelight and children had a wonderful time feeding her and learning about how we care for farm animals. Thank you Miss Morgan for making the experience so memorable :) Nursery children were also superb on Oral Health Day this week. They all brought their toothbrushes and toothpaste so they could learn and practise how to brush their teeth correctly and improve their oral hygiene. What superstars! We still have a few places left for afternoon sessions in Nursery. We also have 15 and 30 hour spaces available for the September intake. Please collect your forms from the school office.

This week we have noticed quite a few children bringing cough sweets into school. It appears that some children are under the impression that cough sweets are okay to eat during break time, when in fact they pose a safeguarding risk. Children running around with cough sweets in their mouth could very easily choke. Can I therefore ask parents to refrain from giving children cough sweets moving forward, we can however provide medicine if you complete the permission slip available at the school office.

On the 31st March, Hurst Hill are hosting our very own mini market fund raiser for charities nominated by the school councillors across Hales Valley Trust. All pupils across school will have their very own time slot to visit the mini market stalls for goodies and games. If you would like your children to visit the stalls, then we recommend no more than a £2 per child. Further details will follow soon.

I would like to wish you all a super weekend.

Mrs Johnson  
Head of School



## Attendance

**Attendance at school is mandatory. Whole school attendance should be at least 96%. The 100% winner this week is Olivia in year 4. The winning class is Mrs Garbett's class.**

The Department of Education has made it clear that schools must be stricter when dealing with families whose children are persistently absent or late for school. A child's absence from school can only be authorised in exceptional circumstances, for example, if they are too poorly to attend or if they have a medical appointment that cannot be made outside school hours. If your child is persistently absent or regularly late for school, whatever the circumstances, a referral may be made to Dudley Education Investigation Service, and this could result in a fine.

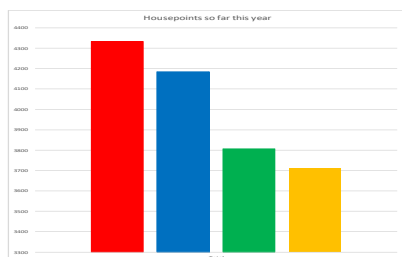
If you are having difficulty getting your child to school, or to school on time, please contact the school office so we can offer some support. Please note that school will not authorise holidays during the school term and that our policy is to refer such absences of 5 school days or more to Dudley Education Investigation Service who may issue a fine. If your child is too ill to come to school then you should **contact the school office before 9.30am**, either by telephoning 01384 818845 (option 1) or using the absence reporting feature on ParentMail. Do not use our social media pages to report absences. Please remember that school can administer medication in certain circumstances



# HONESTY-POSITIVE ATTITUDE-RESPECT-RESILIENCE-CARING

## HONESTY

We use house-points at Hurst Hill to reward pupils for following our school rules and values.



This week our house point totals are:  
Ruby – 236  
Diamond – 110  
Emerald – 203  
Sapphire – 147

Well done to this week's winners – Rubies

## RESILIENCE

Our skill builders award winners this week are

Pablo-Junior, Leo H, Clara, George, Mia, Caleb, Crystal and Millie

## CARING

Safeguarding is at the heart of everything we do at Hurst Hill

We care deeply about the well being and safety of all our children both in school and out. However we all have a responsibility for the welfare of our children.

If something concerns you about the welfare of a child within school then please contact the class teacher in the first instance who will refer to the Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) within school. These are: Mrs Johnson, Mrs Potts, Mrs Weaver and Mrs Morgan. Alternatively, you can always pop in and chat to DSL directly

If you have concerns, which are not school based, then you can call the children's services referral and advice service on 0300 555 0050 during office hours (9am - 5pm). (option 4) Out of office hours, then please contact the Emergency Duty Team on 0300 555 8574.

If you have immediate concerns about the safety of a child, then please call 999 and state that there is a child at risk of immediate harm.

Alternatively you can call ChildLine on **0800 1111** or email them by visiting [www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)

## POSITIVE ATTITUDE

We have been trying really hard with our **reading on MyOn**.

**Below is the word count for each class for the week**

Year 2–	30,089
Year 3–	49,254
Year 4–	26,984
Year 5–	21,603
Year 6JG–	4,342
Year 6MJ–	6,428

Thank you for supporting the book fair. We earned over £200 worth of free books!

## DIARY DATES

**Tuesday 28th March**– Year 2 Great Fire of London visit & Reception INSPIRE session

**Wednesday 29th March**– Year 5 Egyptian visit

**Friday 31st March**– Charity Mini Market & Year 1 Wild Zoo visit. Break up for Easter Holidays at 3pm

We reopen for Summer Term on **Monday 17th April**

**Activities at Upper Ettingshall Methodist Church**  
Upper Ettingshall Road, Coseley WV14 9QU

Wednesday 19th April 2023 at 7.00pm  
“The History & Art of Town Crying-allegedly”  
Presented by Adrian Holmes (him who rings that bell)  
Town Crier for Lichfield & former Town Crier for Sandwell

Admission £4.00 to include refreshments

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Coffee morning and Bring and Buy  
for Christian Aid  
Saturday 22nd April 10.30 to 12.00

## Word of the week

### Pivotal

Definition: of greatest possible importance

**"The report was missing a pivotal piece of information."**

## RESPECT

**Star Pupils of the week** show of our school values of honesty, positive attitude, resilience, respect and caring.

**Nursery**– George for positive attitude at rhyme time

**Reception**– Cameron for resilience in phonics

**Year 1**– Leighton for resilience in maths

**Year 2**– Avril for resilience in writing

**Year 3**– Connor for resilience in reading and writing

**Year 4**– Max for caring towards others

**Year 5**– Arjun for positive attitude to learning

**Year 6MJ**– Evie for caring for others

**Year 6JG**– Taylor for caring and being friends with everyone

After Easter, there will be a change to the school menu. The new menu can be found on the website.

### Healthy Eating

<https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes/#recipes>

Please see the above link regarding hints and tips for healthy lunchboxes.  
At Hurst Hill we advise the following:

- ◆ A healthy sandwich or tub of pasta
- ◆ At least one portion of fruit / vegetables
- ◆ Yogurt
- ◆ Water or 100% fruit juice
- ◆ One cereal type bar or club style biscuit OR a cupcake /sponge finger cake.

**We do not recommend crisps unless they are baked—not fried.**

I fully appreciate it can take some time for children to adjust to the healthy school lunchbox incentive, but I am overwhelmed by the positive response so far. I hope the above helps to clarify some of the questions we have received.

### Healthy recipe of the week.

#### Spicy chicken and salad wrap recipe

Wraps are a popular alternative to sandwiches. Complete your child's lunchbox with some homemade popcorn and fresh fruit.

Prep: 10 mins  
Serves 1

[+ Nutritional information](#)



#### Ingredients

- 1 tablespoon low-fat Greek style yoghurt
- ¼ teaspoon of curry powder, to taste
- large pinch of chilli powder, to taste
- 85g cooked chicken breast, chopped into small pieces
- 1 large wholemeal wrap
- small wedge of lettuce, to give 2 tablespoons when shredded
- 3 slices of cucumber, chopped
- 1 slice of pepper, chopped

#### Complete your lunchbox with:

- peach and strawberry slices
- homemade popcorn (flavoured with cinnamon, for example)
- 150ml fruit juice drink (with no added sugar)

#### Method

1. Mix the yoghurt and spices to taste and add the chicken.

This is a great way to use leftover roast chicken.

2. Spread the chicken mixture on the wrap, then sprinkle on the lettuce, cucumber and pepper.

Try other salad vegetables – grated carrot and chopped celery work well, too.

3. Fold opposite edges of the wrap, to keep the filling in, then roll up and cut in half.