Dear Parents and Carers,

We are officially half way through the school year! How time flies when you are having fun!

There has been so much learning, growth and fun going on with your wonderful children. We now need to recharge our batteries ready for the next half term.

I do need to mention the car parking problem. It is essential that our children are safe, so it is important that cars are parked safely and legally outside our school. The bottom line is that, if you are a responsible driver, you will not park in a dangerous manner near our school. Pretty simple really!

I would like to share some exciting news with you all - Mrs Edgengele, 1A Class Teacher, will be leaving us in a few weeks’ time to give safe delivery to twins! Congratulations from us all.

I wish you all a safe and happy half term break.

Ms Lorraine Knowles

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**Dates for your diary**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri 21st Feb</td>
<td>Last day of half-term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 2nd Mar</td>
<td>Teacher Training Day—school is closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 3rd Mar</td>
<td>Children return to school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 5th Mar</td>
<td>World Book Day—information to follow</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 13th Mar</td>
<td>Sports Relief—information to follow</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 24th Mar</td>
<td>Year 4A Trip</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 25th Mar</td>
<td>Year 4AL Trip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 25th Mar</td>
<td>1AL Trip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 26th Mar</td>
<td>1A Trip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 31st Mar</td>
<td>Year 5 Trip</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 31st Mar</td>
<td>Year 5 Residential Trip Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 1st Apr</td>
<td>3A Trip</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 2nd Apr</td>
<td>3AL Trip</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 9th Apr</td>
<td>Performance Assembly—Parents welcome</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 9th Apr</td>
<td>Last day of term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 27th Apr</td>
<td>Children return to school</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 4th—Thu 7th May</td>
<td>Year 5 Residential Trip</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 8th May</td>
<td>Bank Holiday—School is closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 15th May</td>
<td>Class Photographs (Reception &amp; Year 6)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 22nd May</td>
<td>Last day of half-term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 2nd Jun</td>
<td>Year 5 Trip</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 16th Jun—Fri 19th</td>
<td>Year 6 Residential Trip</td>
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**Attendance Reward**

All children who attended school everyday from the 13th January until the end of term went into a prize draw for the chance to win a ticket to attend the movie club.

Well done to our winners! Reception & KS1—Tyler, Adewale, Nayla, Baylon, Maison & Aarush.


We thank everyone for their continued hard work and determination to be in school everyday!

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**Uniform Reminder**

All children **must** wear the school logo black t-shirt for their PE lessons. If your child does not have one they are available to purchase on the Schoolgateway. School logo sports hoodies (which are not compulsory) **must** only be worn for PE or after-school clubs.
Free Nursery Places for 3-year olds at Willenhall Community Primary School

We are taking applications for September — Don’t delay, apply today!

What can we offer your child?

♦ Children are taught by qualified nursery nurses and teachers.
♦ Children in nursery learn through play and are well prepared for starting school.
♦ **Free Childcare** — All children are entitled to **15-hours free childcare per week** (from the start of the term after their 3rd birthday). Some children are entitled to an additional 15-hours free childcare. Go to www.childcarechoices.gov.uk to find out if your child is eligible for 30-hours childcare.
♦ We have sessions in the morning (8:45-11:45am), afternoon (12:30-3:30pm) and all day (8:45am—3:30pm)

**Pick up an application form from the school office or download one from the school website where you will find further information about the Nursery provision at Willenhall.**

**Health and Wellbeing**

Here are a few pointers to keep your child safe and well:

♦ We have had a number of cases of **Ringworm** in school this term, this is highly infectious and spreads easily. Once children have started treatment they can come back to school. You can get treatment and advice from the chemist.

♦ **Head lice** are a nuisance and can easily find their way into any child’s hair. Remember to check your child’s hair on a weekly basis using a comb to help with early detection.

**Coronavirus Advice**

You should not be unduly worried about the possibility of your children catching the Coronavirus. There is no reason why your children should not continue to attend school as normal. We recognise that some families or children may be planning to travel to China during the forthcoming half-term period. If so, please refer to the latest travel advice via https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus.

You can help too. Germs can live on some surfaces for hours. To protect yourself and others:

- **Always carry tissues** with you and use them to catch your cough or sneeze.
- Bin the tissue, and to kill the germs, **wash your hands with soap and water**, or use a sanitiser gel.

If you have arrived back from China, Hong Kong, Japan, Macau, Malaysia, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Taiwan and Thailand, within 14 days, follow the specific advice for returning travellers. This is the best way to **slow the spread of almost any germs**, including Coronavirus.

**ROAD SAFETY**

A number of parents are still parking dangerously and inconsiderately outside the school and are endangering our children. **Child safety must be everyone’s priority.** We have recently had a few near misses with children nearly being hit by vehicles.

If you do need to drive your children to school, please park a little further from the school and walk your children the rest of the way.

- **Cross Safely** at the crossing with the Lollipop Lady.
- **Be Alert**—many of our pupils walk alone.
- **Keep to the 20 mph speed limit** outside school

**Look out for our new pupils who will be appearing outside school soon.**
Choir
The choir are planning to perform a mini-musical at school towards the end of term for the school and for parents. We will be sending an invitation to parents home shortly after the half term break.

Gardening Club Thank You!
A big thank you to those who have brought in donations for the Gardening Club and an extra special thank you to Mr Smith who has donated a wide range of resources and seeds to really kick-start our growing. We look forward to sharing our growing journey with you in the coming weeks!

Charity Donation from Braiswick Photography
Back in November many parents and carers placed an order with Braiswick Photography to purchase photographs of their children.
For every order that was placed, Braiswick have very kindly donated 50p to Cancer Research UK.
Thanks to all of the parents who placed an order, a total of £5.00 has been raised on behalf of the school for this amazing charity.

New Menu Available
The catering team have created an exciting new menu!
The new menus start on Tuesday 3rd March and will be available on the school website shortly.
Here are some things you can expect to see; jumbo fish finger wrap, Moroccan chicken, sausage casserole, doughnut balls with mandarins & lemon drizzle sponge!

Schoolgateway—Cashless & Paperless
We hope that parents are finding the Schoolgateway a convenient way to make payments and communicate with the school.
We now have 88% of children who have a parent using the Schoolgateway, which is fantastic.
If you haven’t managed to get your account set up yet please contact the school office—we will be happy to help you.
62% of parents are using the Schoolgateway app—if you haven’t tried it yet—why not give it a go...

Don’t forget - we are trying to reduce the amount of paper and printing that we use. Letters are being sent electronically via email, we have parent email addresses for 96% of parents, so this should be working fairly well. If you are not receiving letters please contact the school office and we will help to resolve this.

Important Things to Remember
Messages: If you have downloaded the Schoolgateway app, any messages that the school sends to you will be sent via the app. Make sure that you stay logged into the app and turn on the notifications for Schoolgateway (in your settings menu) so that you don’t miss any messages.

Payments: You can help the school to save money by using the Bank Transfer payment option. This has the added benefit that once you’ve set this up you won’t need to enter your card details every time you make a payment. Don’t forget that the money will not leave your account until about 4 days later—so you will need to make sure that you still have funds in your account at that point.

Please keep your child’s details up to date
Fortunately, accidents and emergencies don’t happen very often but when they do the school needs to be able to contact parents immediately.
If your child falls ill during the school day we need to be able to contact you.
We also like to keep parents informed about school visits and events taking place in school.
It is essential that we have up to date contact details for parents and children at all times.
If you move house or change your phone or email details, you must notify the school immediately.
You can notify the school of changes anytime and anywhere through the SIMs Parent App. We have sent all parents a letter with details and an email invitation to register. If you haven’t registered yet please do this as soon as possible and check that your child’s details are up to date.
The school office will be happy to help if you are having problems accessing the app.

If you are unable to access the app please request a paper data-checking sheet from the school office.