‘This is Me’
- Inclusivity

NEWSLETTER

October 2026

The first half-term seems to have flown by, and we hope you enjoy a restful break. As always, next half-term has many things planned so please make sure that you check our website, Facebook page and Parenthub messages regularly.



Attendance Winners

Our attendance cup winners for October were:

Week ending	Key Stage 1	Key Stage 2
2nd October	Miss Cartwright	Mr Scullion
9th October	Miss Cartwright	Miss Cotterill
16th October	Miss Pearson	Mr Scullion

Attendance Update

Although our overall school attendance remains positive, we have noticed a slight drop as the term has progressed. Regular attendance is vital to ensure children make the most of every learning opportunity, build friendships and achieve their full potential. We kindly remind families to avoid booking holidays during term time and encourage all children to attend school every day, arriving on time and ready to learn. If you are experiencing any difficulties that are affecting your child’s attendance, please contact the school. We are always here to listen, offer support and work together to help every child achieve the best possible attendance.

This is me - Inclusivity



Our school theme, **‘This Is Me – Inclusivity’**, celebrates the unique qualities, interests and talents that make each of us special. We have already celebrated Bright for Sight Day in partnership with the Beacon Centre for the Blind, worn yellow for Hello Yellow Day to support pupils’ mental health, and worn red for Show Racism the Red Card Day. This half term holiday, we would love children and families to celebrate what makes them *them*! Please take a photo of your child, either individually or with a group of friends, enjoying something they love, whether it’s a sport, hobby, craft, activity or day out. We can’t wait to see the wonderful things that make our school community so unique! Please send your photos to thisisme@straits.dudley.sch.uk.



The Black Country Food Bank and the Beacon Centre wish us to pass on their heartfelt ‘thanks’ for supporting them. We raised a fantastic amount as part of our ‘Bright for Sight’ day and your generosity towards the Black Country Food Bank was, as always, amazing.

Reception and Year 1 ‘Open the Door’

This half-term, we welcomed families into school for the first two sessions of our ‘Open the Door’ events.





These sessions provided a wonderful opportunity for parents to learn alongside their children, explore a range of fun and engaging phonics activities, and discover practical ideas to support their child’s learning at home. It was lovely to see everyone enjoying these activities together!

Year 3 Kingswood



On Thursday 15th October, Year 3 enjoyed an exciting visit to Kingswood, where they stepped back in time to experience life in the Stone Age.

The children took part in a range of hands-on activities, including building dens, cooking bread over an open fire, gathering food, moving heavy rocks using logs and exploring how Stone Age weapons were used. It was a fantastic day full of fun, teamwork and memorable learning experiences.

Year 5 World War Two Day

To celebrate the end of their *Battle of Britain* History topic, Year 5 enjoyed an exciting day immersed in the world of World War II. The children had the opportunity to put their creativity and problem-solving skills to the test by building Anderson Shelters and researched what life was like during wartime by taking part in a range of activities. It was a fantastic hands-on experience that brought their learning to life!



Reception Puppet Show



On Tuesday 20th October, our Reception children enjoyed a special visit from a marionette puppeteer, who brought the traditional tale of *The Three Little Pigs* to life!

The performance was an exciting and engaging way for the children to experience this much-loved story through the magic of puppetry. It was a wonderful opportunity to spark their imaginations and bring storytelling to life in a fun and memorable way.

Upcoming Events

October

Friday 23rd	**School Closed (teacher training day)**
Monday 26th – Friday 30th	**Half-term**

November

Monday 2nd	Back to school
Friday 6th	Year 2 Selly Manor trip
Tuesday 10th	'Open the Door' Year 3 @ 9.00am
Tuesday 10th	Year 1 Lego trip (new event)
Friday 13th	Children in Need Day
Monday 16th	Anti-bullying week
Tuesday 17th	Flu vaccination 'catch up'
Friday 20th	Reception Diwali Day

December

Thursday 3rd	Year 4 Sir Teachalot Roman day
Friday 4th	Year 1 Polar Express Day
Tuesday 8th	Year 5 Harry Potter Studios trip
Wednesday 9th	Year 2 Christmas Play @ 2.00pm and 6.00pm
Thursday 10th	Year 2 Christmas Play @ 2.00pm
Friday 11th	Year 3 Christmas Journey @ Himley Church
Tuesday 15th	Reception play to parents @ 9.30am
Wednesday 16th	Reception play to parents @ 9.30am
Wednesday 16th	Christmas jumper and Christmas dinner
Wednesday 16th	Christmas Discos (after school)
Thursday 17th	Christmas Party (own clothes)
Thursday 17th	School finishes @ 2.00pm
Friday 18th	School Closed (teacher training day)

Key Information for November

Anti-bullying Week

Anti-Bullying Week 2026 takes place from Monday 16th November to Friday 20th November 2026 with the theme **"Break the Silence."**

The week will kick off with another Odd Socks Day on Monday 16th November – children are invited to wear odd socks to celebrate what makes us all unique.

Resources and support can be found at: https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week-2026/parent-and-carer-pack

Children in Need



BBC Children in Need 2026 takes place on Friday, 13th November 2026 and will have the theme '*Feel Good Friday*'. Our anti-bullying ambassadors are busy planning the day and further information will follow after half term.