



## Dates for the Diary

| March     |      |  |
|-----------|------|--|
| Wednesday | 11th | Year 5 Music Club After School<br>Year 6 Class 10 Sports Club After School   |
| Thursday  | 12th | Year 3 Class 3 swimming  |
| Friday    | 13th | Year 5 Class 7 Sports Club After School  |
| Monday    | 16th | Year 3 and Year 4 Musical Theatre Club After School<br>Year 4 Class 4 Sports Club After School<br>Year 6 Chess Club After School |
| Tuesday   | 17th | Year 3 Class 1 Sports Club After School  |
| Wednesday | 18th | Year 5 Music Club After School<br>Year 6 Class 10 Sports Club After School   |
| Thursday  | 19th | Year 3 Class 3 swimming  |
| Friday    | 20th | <b>Red Nose Day</b><br>Year 5 Class 7 Sports Club After School   |
| Monday    | 23rd | Year 3 and Year 4 Musical Theatre Club After School<br>Year 4 Class 4 Sports Club After School<br>Year 6 Chess Club After School |
| Tuesday   | 24th | <b>Year 4 Production - Pirates vs Mermaids</b><br>Year 3 Class 1 Sports Club After School  |
| Wednesday | 25th | <b>Year 4 Production - Pirates vs Mermaids</b><br>Year 5 Music Club After School<br>Year 6 Class 10 Sports Club After School     |
| Thursday  | 26th | Year 3 Class 3 swimming  |
| Friday    | 27th | <b>School closes for the Easter holidays</b><br>Year 5 Class 7 Sports Club After School  |



**Inset Days**  
19th June 2026  
20th July 2026

Term dates for the 2025 - 2026 academic year are on the school website at <https://tinyurl.com/2fw6drn8>

Unsure on a date? Check the school calendar at <https://tinyurl.com/5n7ynk66>

## Year 6 Trips to the National Memorial Arboretum

Children have had a wonderful day out when visiting the National Memorial Arboretum, where they participated in an engaging WW2 workshop. They explored what life was like for children during the war, both in the city and while being evacuated to the countryside. The hands-on activities sparked their curiosity and empathy, allowing them to connect with history in a meaningful way.

After the workshop, the children enjoyed a stroll around the arboretum, discovering various WW2 memorials that honour those who served. The day concluded with a memorial service, which was a lovely way to reflect on the significance of remembrance.

## Year 3 Pedestrian Safety Walks

Our Year 3 pupils recently took part in an important pedestrian safety walk to help them develop essential road safety skills. During the walk, the children learned:

- **Different types of crossings** – Understanding how to use pelican, zebra and other crossings safely
- **Driveway awareness** – Being alert when walking past driveways and knowing what to look out for, such as empty driveways or cars reversing out.
- **Safe pavement positioning** – Where the safest part of the pavement is to walk.
- **How to cross roads safely** – Practising the correct steps to take before and while crossing.
- **Staying visible** – Understanding why it is dangerous to cross between parked cars.

This practical, hands-on experience helps our pupils build the confidence and knowledge they need to stay safe when walking in our local area. We encourage you to reinforce these important lessons whenever you are out and about with your child.

## Year 6 Knife Crime Assembly with PCSO Littlehales

On Wednesday 25th February, Year Six children had a really important assembly with PCSO Tim Littlehales, who talked to them about knife crime. The session was full of useful information about staying safe and being aware of our surroundings. PCSO Littlehales shared some real-life stories and gave practical tips, highlighting how we can all work together as a community to prevent violence. We encourage families to keep these conversations going at home, building on what was discussed during the assembly.



YEAR 6

YEAR 3

YEAR 6

### Year 5 Street Teams Visit

Year 5 recently welcomed visitors from Walsall Street Teams, who delivered an informative session about staying safe online. The children learned about age ratings for games, including Roblox, and discussed why some games are not suitable for primary-aged pupils, such as Call of Duty and Grand Theft Auto. They explored how repeated exposure to violent content can lead to desensitisation over time, making violence seem less serious.

YEAR 5



The session also highlighted the importance of social media safety, explaining why age restrictions are in place and what to do if contacted by someone they do not know. Pupils were reminded never to share personal information online and to always speak to a trusted adult if something makes them feel uncomfortable. We would like to thank Walsall Street Teams for their valuable support in helping our pupils stay safe online.

### Canals and River Trust Water Safety Assemblies with Year 3 and Year 4

YEAR 3

Year 3 and Year 4 pupils recently took part in an important water safety assembly focused on staying safe near canals and waterways. During the session, children learned how to call for help if someone is in trouble near a canal, including the importance of providing emergency services with specific information such as bridge numbers, names or nearby landmarks to help them locate the incident quickly. It was strongly emphasised that children must never enter the water to help someone, as this is extremely dangerous. Instead, they learned about items that can help someone float whilst waiting for emergency services, such as ring aids (flotation devices found on some canals), an inflated ball, or a plastic bottle with the lid on. These items can be placed under a person's chin to help keep them afloat. The children also identified potential dangers and hazards that can occur near canals.



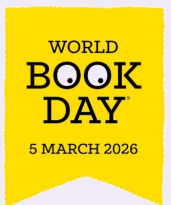
YEAR 4

This practical session has equipped our pupils with potentially life-saving knowledge, and we encourage you to talk to your child about what they learned and reinforce the important message to never enter the water themselves if someone is in trouble.

### World Book Day Quiz 4th March 2026

YEAR 5

On Wednesday, 4th March, Year 5 students were invited to Aldridge School to participate in an exciting World Book Day Quiz. Four children, who performed exceptionally well in a preliminary book quiz, were chosen to represent the school: Saarim, Wahib, Fatima and Ayaan. All four children were fantastic representatives of Park Hall Junior Academy and had a fun time at the event. The staff at Aldridge School said: *"The students represented your school in a fantastic way; they were polite, engaged, and an absolute delight to work with. We hope they enjoyed the event as much as we enjoyed hosting them."* Well done to our Year 5 students!



### Year 5 Workshop with PCSO Littlehales



Year 5 were delighted to welcome PCSO Littlehales, who spoke to the children about staying safe in the community. He shared practical advice on how to keep our homes safe from thieves, including simple steps families can take to protect their property. Pupils also learned about Sir Robert Peel and his policing principles, which highlight the importance of trust, fairness and working together to keep communities safe. The children were particularly interested in learning the phonetic alphabet and how it is used by police officers to communicate clearly.

YEAR 5

The session also explored the value of Neighbourhood Watch and how communities can work together to prevent crime. PCSO Littlehales discussed how to stay safe when using public transport, including being aware of surroundings and knowing who to approach for help. We would like to thank PCSO Littlehales for taking the time to share such important and informative safety advice with our pupils.

### SPARKS fire safety visit with Year 4



Firefighters from Walsall Fire Station visited Year 4 to help them learn fire safety, road and car safety and water safety. The children learnt how quickly a fire can spread and what they should do if this happens, how to do the drop and roll and how to say safe on the road and by water. At the end of the session, the children got to see the firefighters in action as they were called to a real incident on their radio and rushed out of school!

YEAR 4



### British Science Week - 9th to 13th March 2026

British Science Week is taking place between 9th and 13th March. The theme this year is 'Curiosity: what's your question?'. This year is all about encouraging people to embrace their passions and to find out the answers to their most burning STEM questions.

### Red Nose Day - Friday 20th March 2026

This year for Red Nose Day we are hanging up our school uniform for the day and wearing red, Red Nose Day merchandise or own clothes! Please bring donations to help raise money to support the charity which focuses on families that struggle with food and housing, keeping little ones safe and supporting families affected by conflict and climate change.

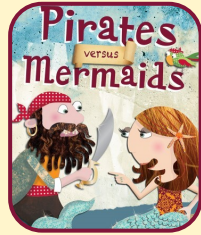




## Musical Theatre Club Performance Monday 23rd March

The Musical Theatre Club will be performing to their parents and carers at 4:20pm on Monday 23rd March to showcase what they have practised during their sessions.

The children are looking forward to showing you what they have learnt.



### Year 4 Production - Pirates vs Mermaids

Year 4 have been working hard during rehearsals for their production this year and the songs sound fantastic! On **Tuesday 24th March and Wednesday 25th March**, we are opening school to our Year 4 parents to watch the performances of 'Pirates vs mermaids'. Tickets are available on Scopay for reservation. Tickets are limited to 2 per family. Tickets will be coming home with children on **Friday 20th March 2026**. The children will be very excited to see their parents in the audience.



### Polite Reminder: Special Items

A reminder that children should not be bringing into school any special items from home such as toys, keyrings and jewellery. If non-school items are brought in by your child, they will be confiscated by staff and you will have to collect them from the school office at the end of the day



We know it is tempting to bring in sentimental items, however they are easily lost or damaged - **keep them safe, leave them at home.**



### Easter Competitions

This year's egg-hilarating Easter Competitions can be found below.

#### Lower school (Year 3 and 4) two egg-citing options:

1) Design a shoe-box sized scene based on either an egg-ceptional egg design or a Spring garden.

This design must include at least one egg which could be hard-boiled, blown or card/plastic egg representations. Your egg design could be based on your favourite book, film or TV programme or incorporate some egg-cellent egg puns. Some possible egg-samples are Egg Sheran, The Polar Eggspress or The Eggs Factor.

2) Design an Egg-box Diorama.

Create a scene by decorating an empty egg box. You could create an egg-citing underwater habitat or a jungle scene.

#### Upper School (Year 5 and 6) two egg-citing options:

1) Design a shoe-box sized scene based on either an egg-ceptional egg design or a Spring garden.

See above for further details

2) Design an Eggmobile to see who can carry an egg safely the furthest down 'The Egg-streme Ramp'.

This must be home-made and not include any motorized or shop bought vehicles or vehicle kits.

**All entries should be brought into school by 9am on Monday 23rd March 2026 and should be named and marked with a class number. If you create a scene, please think of a title to describe your creation.**

Have fun, we can't wait to see your egg-straordinary creations!



### Keeping Safe - Year 5 and Year 6

With the lighter nights and the Year 6 transition to secondary school on the horizon, we are aware there will be more children wanting to build their independence by walking home from school.

Parents, to ensure your child is ready for walking independently from school, make sure that they:

- ◆ Know how to safely walk home alone, following a safe route that has been practised with you.
- ◆ Understand what they should do to stay safe when walking home or to your agreed meeting point.
- ◆ Know about any dangers during their walk home e.g. busy roads, the canal or the lake and know how to stay safe.

We are reminding all of our children on how to stay safe in our community:

- ◆ NEVER enter a stranger's home or go anywhere with a stranger and do not eat anything given by a stranger.
- ◆ Stay on pavements and check carefully before crossing a road, using the green cross code rules!
- ◆ Always keep to well-lit areas. Wear bright clothing and carry a torch when walking in dark areas.
- ◆ Stay away from bodies of water - remember what you have learnt from your water safety talks in school and at Safeside.
- ◆ Stay safe online using the tips from Safer Internet Day. If you feel worried by something you see online, please share your worry with an adult.

Why not create a safety poster to display in school? Mrs Amos would like more to display.

## Missed Attendance - Missed Opportunity

### Attendance Matters



### Every Day Counts...

If your child is absent from school, please notify the school office as soon as possible that morning. The telephone system allows parents to leave a message, which can be left at anytime. You can also email the school office using [postbox@parkhall-jun.walsall.sch.uk](mailto:postbox@parkhall-jun.walsall.sch.uk)

or use the Report an Absence Google form on the school website, found [here](#) (on the school website in the Virtual Office section).

**Should a parent fail to notify us with a reason for their child's absence, this will be recorded as an unauthorised absence.**

Medical confirmation to support illness may be required. It is important that the office staff account for all pupils for safety reasons.

Please be aware that:

- Each day consists of two potential marks - the morning and the afternoon registration mark;
- Authorised absences, such as illness, will still cause your child's attendance percentage to decrease;
- Regulations state that if a child is more than thirty minutes late, for any reason, he/she is marked absent for the whole morning/afternoon, equating to half a day's absence.

Please note that Attendance information is routinely collected by the Education Welfare Office (EWO) and therefore failure to attend could result in a visit from the EWO and/or the issue of a fixed penalty notice by Walsall Council.



**Walsall Council**

**Less than 5 days off school**  
**Little to no risk of underachievement**  
**End of year attendance percentage will be**  
**97.5% - 100%**

**Between 5 and 9 days off school**  
**Risk of underachievement**  
**End of year attendance percentage will be**  
**95.3% - 97.4%**

**Between 10 and 14 days off school**  
**Serious risk of underachievement**  
**End of year attendance percentage will be**  
**92.7% - 94.8%**

**Between 15 and 18 days off school**  
**Serious risk of underachievement**  
**End of year attendance percentage will be**  
**90.6% - 92.1%**

**19 days off school**  
**Severe risk of underachievement**  
**End of year attendance percentage will be**  
**90.1%**

**20+ days off school**  
**Severe risk of underachievement**  
**End of year attendance percentage will be**  
**89.5% or lower**

## NHS Pharmacy First Service

Did you know that the NHS Pharmacy First Service enables children and adults to get convenient access to healthcare advice and treatment where appropriate, for seven common conditions without the potential delay of having to wait for a GP appointment? Accessing the service may mean that can help children feel better and back to school as quickly as possible, as well as supporting parents/carers to also get better if they are unwell with one of the conditions covered under the service.

There is no need to make an appointment; parents or carers can pop into their local Boots pharmacy with their child and ask for help under the service.

| Common condition                 | Patient eligibility  |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| Earache                          | 1 to 17 years        |
| Impetigo                         | 1 year and over      |
| Infected insect bites and stings | 1 year and over      |
| Sore throats                     | 5 years and over     |
| Sinusitis                        | 12 years and over    |
| Uncomplicated urinary tract      | Women 16 to 64 years |
| Shingles                         | 18 years and over    |

Support for the conditions listed in the table can be accessed under the service, free of charge (unless NHS prescription charges apply).



## Appointments during school hours

Attending a medical or dental appointment where a child requires emergency advice may be counted as authorised as long as we are notified in advance of the appointment. Please remember that an authorised absence will still affect your child's attendance percentage in school.

We continue to encourage parents and carers to make routine medical and dental appointments out of school hours, where possible. Where this is not possible, the pupil should be out of school for the minimum amount of time necessary.

**A reminder that parents are unable to park on the car park to collect children for appointments or to drop them off afterwards.**

### Easter Playscheme 2026

Treehouse will be opening up for Easter Playscheme 2026 in the 2nd week of the Easter holidays on **Tuesday 7th April, Wednesday 8th April and Thursday 9th April.**

Bookings are now open.

The charges for this year are:



|                  |        |
|------------------|--------|
| 9:30am - 3:30pm  | £28.90 |
| 8:00am - 12:15pm | £21.00 |
| 12:45pm - 5:15pm | £24.20 |
| 8:00am - 5:15pm  | £42.00 |



Places are booked on a first come, first served basis.

Please note, Playscheme is only open to children from Park Hall Infant Academy and Park Hall Junior Academy, Reception to Year 6 (limited numbers).

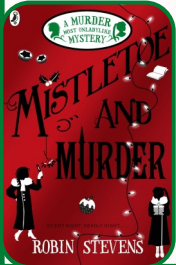
### Reminder - Collection After School and from After School Activities

A polite reminder that school finishes promptly at 3:30pm. Gates close at 3:40pm, at which point children are brought to the school office. **Any children who are not collected by 3:45pm will be taken to Treehouse and there will be a charge.**

In addition, all after school activities, such as Sports Club, finish promptly at 4:30pm.

**Children who are not collected on time will be booked into Treehouse and there will be a charge.**

### Mistletoe and Murder by Robin Stevens Reviewed by Jasleen S



Christmas is near, and Daisy Wells and Hazel Wong are visiting Cambridge for Christmas, but what they don't know is that something is awaiting their skills. This 'Christmas' has turned into Chrismurder. Do they have what it takes?

I think this was an excellent book. I loved all the suspense and drama, but what I loved the most was the suspenseful endings to each chapter. If you are looking for something to enjoy and gasp at, look no further than *Mistletoe and Murder*. With this book, when you start reading, you can't let go, so I really loved how it was a thriller. Read the rest of the Murder Most Unladylike series - I bet it has the same amount of suspense as this one (this book had a LOT of suspense). You can find them in Mrs Amos' library.

### Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone by J K Rowling Reviewed by Anum A

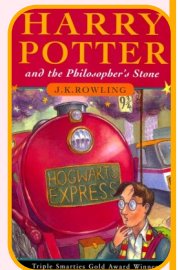
The main character is Harry Potter. His friends are Hermione and Ron. The bad guy is Voldemort and the enemy is a boy called Malfoy.

The story is about Harry finding out that he is no ordinary boy, but he is actually a famous wizard. He has been invited by Professor Dumbledore to start school at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. He is so glad to leave the house of his terrible aunt's family, who treat him badly.

Harry finds out his parents used to be magical too, but they were killed by an evil wizard. In Hogwarts School Harry makes lots of friends, but Hermione and Ron are his best friends. Malfoy is always mean to him because he is in Slytherin house, but Harry is in Gryffindor. Harry also makes the quidditch team for the first time for a first year.

I like this book because it is magical and interesting. Harry and his friends protect the magical philosopher's stone from being taken by Voldemort. He wants it to become immortal, but Harry manages to save it.

My favourite character is Hermione because she is clever and smart. I also like Crookshanks because he is cute and I love cats. I liked this book because it is fun to read all the magical adventures that Harry has with his friends.



### Inclusive Attendance

**Our whole school attendance target is 97%**

**Week Commencing Monday 23rd February 2026 - 98.1% Highest Attendance Class 2 and Class 5 - 100%**  
**Week Commencing Monday 2nd March 2026 - 97.5% Highest Attendance Class 5 and Class 12 - 100%**

**Well done Class 2, Class 5 and Class 12!**

| Class      | % Attendance w/c 23/02/26 | Class | % Attendance w/c 23/02/26 |
|------------|---------------------------|-------|---------------------------|
| 1          | 98.5                      | 7     | 91.4                      |
| <b>2</b> ★ | <b>100</b>                | 8     | 98.8                      |
| 3          | 99.7                      | 9     | 97.4                      |
| 4          | 99.4                      | 10    | 97.0                      |
| <b>5</b> ★ | <b>100</b>                | 11    | 98.6                      |
| 6          | 98.0                      | 12    | 98.8                      |

| Class      | % Attendance w/c 02/03/26 | Class       | % Attendance w/c 02/03/26 |
|------------|---------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|
| 1          | 97.4                      | 7           | 95.8                      |
| 2          | 97.1                      | 8           | 94.2                      |
| 3          | 97.1                      | 9           | 98.5                      |
| 4          | 97.9                      | 10          | 96.4                      |
| <b>5</b> ★ | <b>100</b>                | 11          | 98.9                      |
| 6          | 97.1                      | <b>12</b> ★ | <b>100</b>                |