



BASKERVILLE SCHOOL | PARENTS NEWSLETTER – 08TH EDITION

FRIDAY | 06TH | MARCH | 2026

WELCOME

Welcome to the latest edition of our fortnightly newsletter. We are excited to share some of our most recent achievements and updates with you.



A Message from Head Teacher – Gary Edmunds

Thank you to all parents and carers who completed our recent survey. Your feedback is invaluable and helps shape our priorities as we continue to move Baskerville forward.

I am pleased to share that the majority of parents told us they would recommend the school and that their child feels safe here. Safeguarding and wellbeing remain at the heart of everything we do. Our current attendance rate for the academic year stands at 84.7%, and I am pleased to report that last week this rose to 88.4%.

This improvement is encouraging, and we want to keep that momentum going — because being in school consistently makes a real difference to pupils' progress, confidence and wellbeing.

You also shared thoughtful and honest feedback about behaviour. A small proportion of parents indicated that their child has experienced bullying at some point; however, the clear message was that when concerns are raised, staff deal with them appropriately. I am personally leading our PASS (Pastoral, Attendance, Safeguarding and Support) team to ensure that attendance, safeguarding and pupil wellbeing remain tightly coordinated and responsive.

Alongside this, Kay Morgan-Green, our Deputy Headteacher, is leading the continued development of our curriculum. Her focus is on ensuring learning is ambitious, carefully sequenced and tailored to the needs of every pupil, particularly as we continue to stabilise following everyone coming back together at Harborne.

Head Teachers remarks cont.

I am also keen to strengthen our links with parents and carers and will shortly be exploring opportunities to meet — either through an online session or an after-school meeting — so we can share developments and hear your views directly. Thank you for your continued partnership and support. Together, we will continue to build a safe, inclusive and ambitious school for all our children.

Attendance

Class Attendance percentages



LOST MINUTES = LOST LEARNING



W/C 02/03/26

Hedgehogs	71.4
Rabbits	97.5
Squirrels	100
Otters	100
Cats	89.0
Polecats	78.9
Bats	89.8
Deers	91.0
Foxes	85.6
Badgers	96.6
Kestrels	74.4
Merlins	89.0
Kites	83.7
Oaks	88.0
Bears	
Willows	93.3
Maple	91.2
Elms	100
Sycamores	100

How does your child compare?

Attendance during one school year	Equals this number of days absent	Which is approximately these many weeks absent	Which means this number of lessons missed
95%	9	2 weeks	50 lessons
90%	19	4 weeks	100 lessons
85%	29	6 weeks	150 lessons
80%	38	8 weeks	200 lessons

Well Done to Squirrels, Otters, Elms and Sycamores Classes for 100% attendance this week.

Start of the School Day

Please note that children must be in school by 8:55 am.

We understand that mornings can be hectic, but it's crucial to recognise the impact lateness can have on your children's education. When students arrive late, they miss out on essential information shared at the start of the day. This can leave them feeling anxious or embarrassed and it disrupts learning of other students who are ready to begin.

The consequences of frequent lateness can be significant. Did you know that arriving just 5 minutes late each day adds up to over 3 days of lost learning time in a year? Moreover, if a student is late after registration has closed, they may receive an unauthorised mark for the session.

We value every minute of learning time at Baskerville, and we're committed to ensuring all our students have the best possible start to their day. Let us work together to ensure our children arrive on time, ready to learn and make the most of the opportunities we provide.

By prioritising punctuality, we can create a positive learning environment for all our students and set them up for success.

Thank you for your support.

Holidays in Term Time

It is **really important** that your child attends school as much as possible, as missing school can significantly impact their learning and social development. We understand that family holidays are valuable, but we kindly ask that you consider the timing of these trips.

Currently, we have sadly referred families to the Local Authority regarding attendance issues, and I must inform you that a few families have received fines due to absences. We genuinely want to support you in ensuring your child's education remains a priority.

Please note there are **13 holiday weeks** in the year, and we politely request that you plan family holidays during these designated weeks. When children are not in school, they miss out not only on their education but also on the invaluable time spent with their friends.

In summary, we encourage you to work with us to ensure your child's consistent attendance.

Thank you for your continued support.



37-39 Gate Lane, Sutton Coldfield, B73 5TR
Offering a variety of fun and inclusive leisure activities for children with disabilities, including those on the autism spectrum, and their families. This includes After School Clubs, Term Time Clubs, Out of School Clubs and School Holiday Clubs.

[0121 824 0508](tel:01218240508)



Allens Cross Community Association, 24 Tinkers Farm Road, Northfield, Birmingham B31 1RH, United Kingdom Forest School is for neurodivergent children to explore and learn in nature. Through hands-on activities, they build confidence, creativity, problem-solving skills, and learn to manage risks.

[0121 4783310](tel:01214783310)

Riddle-Me-This

MILL1ON

(see page 8 for answer)



What we do: -

Support the mental health and wellbeing for autistic children and young people aged 8 to 16 years, by providing 1:1 support and/or a small group basis. Spending time in nature and using our animals we aim to support mental Health, improve confidence and self-esteem and provide short respite to parent /carers. (Parents / Guardians, Local Authorities, Health Care Commissioners and other Professionals can make referrals).

We also provide a resource for schools and other groups including children's parties. Please get in touch via email if you are interested in booking our space.

Quote of the Day

"Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn"

Benjamin Franklin



Preparing for Post-16: College Transition Days at Longbridge

This term, our Year 11 students from Bats and Foxes, alongside Year 12 and 13 students from Kestrels, have been taking important steps towards their next chapter. Students visited our college provision at South & City College Birmingham Longbridge, where they took part in lessons within the Base, explored the wider college environment and spent time getting to know the local area.

For our Year 11 students, these transition days are a vital part of preparing for post-16 education. Becoming familiar with the campus, staff and routines helps build confidence and reduce anxiety ahead of September.

For our Kestrels students, the visit offered valuable time in the community — practising independence, travel awareness and real-world navigation skills. The days were extremely positive, and it was fantastic to see students engaging so well with the college environment. Further transition opportunities will be planned later in the year to continue building confidence and readiness for the future.

Real-World Learning at the West Midlands Combined Authority

Six students from our College Base and Year 14 Kestrels recently visited the West Midlands Combined Authority for a truly inspiring day of real-world learning.

Students met a range of staff and learned about the important work WMCA does across transport, housing, skills and regional development. They even caught a glimpse of the Mayor during the visit — a memorable moment!

A highlight of the day was running a lunchtime pop-up shop, where students sold Easter and Valentine's decorations, including handmade coasters. This gave them the opportunity to practise:

- Handling money
- Speaking confidently with professionals
- Customer service skills
- Teamwork in a live setting

We were incredibly proud of how professionally and confidently they represented the school.

One member of WMCA staff shared:

"Staff and students were all so amazing and a pleasure to host. I especially loved seeing their confidence grow over the day."

Experiences like this allow our young people to develop genuine employability skills in meaningful environments — and to see new possibilities for their futures.

Building Confidence Through Sport:

Birmingham Boxing Community Project

This week we were delighted to welcome Keith Tucker and his son from the **Birmingham Boxing Community Project** for an energetic and inspiring boxing session.

The Birmingham Boxing Community Project supports young people across Birmingham through structured boxing training, mentoring and positive community engagement. Their work goes far beyond physical fitness — promoting discipline, resilience, respect and self-belief.

From the very start, students were fully engaged. With expert coaching and encouragement, every student took part and experienced success.

Throughout the session, they developed:

- Focus and listening skills
- Coordination and technique
- Determination and perseverance
- Confidence in physical activity

The atmosphere was incredibly positive, with students encouraging one another and celebrating their progress.

Keith reflected afterwards:

“Seeing the students getting active with smiles on their faces was amazing.”

He later described the session as “awe inspiring.”

We are extremely grateful for such a motivating and inclusive experience. Opportunities like this play a vital role in supporting student wellbeing, building character and developing confidence beyond the classroom.

We look forward to strengthening this partnership and welcoming the team back in the future.

Learning Skills for Life with

St John’s Ambulance

Our Key Stage 4 and 5 students recently took part in an engaging first aid awareness session delivered by **St John Ambulance**.

During the one-hour session, students learned essential first aid basics and, importantly, had the opportunity to practise them. They worked through practical activities including:

- Placing someone in the recovery position
- Learning how to stop bleeding safely
- Understanding the basics of CPR
- Knowing when and how to call for help

The hands-on nature of the session allowed students to build both knowledge and confidence. Knowing how to respond in an emergency is a vital life skill, and we are proud that our students are developing the awareness and capability to act responsibly in real-life situations.

A huge thank you to St John’s Ambulance for supporting our students in gaining these important skills.



Is my child too ill for school?

High Temperature

If your child has a high temperature, keep them off school until it goes away.

Coughs and Colds

It's fine to send your child to school with a minor cough or common cold. But if they have a high temperature, keep them off school until it goes. Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues and to wash their hands regularly.

Chickenpox

If your child has chickenpox, keep them off school until the spots have crusted over. This is usually about 5 days after the spots first appeared.

Ringworm

If your child has ringworm, see your pharmacist unless it's on their scalp, in which case you should see a GP.

Feeling anxious or worried

- It's normal for children to feel a little anxious sometimes. They may get a tummy ache or headache or have problems eating or sleeping.
- Avoiding school can make a child's anxiety about going to school worse. It's good to talk about any worries they may have such as bullying, friendship problems, schoolwork or sensory problems. You can also work with the school to find ways to help them.
- If your child is still struggling and it's affecting their everyday life, it might be good to talk to your GP or school nurse.

Sore Throat

You can still send your child to school if they have a sore throat. But if they have a high temperature, they should stay at home until it goes away.

A sore throat and a high temperature can be symptoms of tonsillitis.

Vomiting and Diarrhoea

Children with vomiting or diarrhoea should stay at home until they have not been sick or had diarrhoea for at least 2 days (48hrs).

Threadworm

You don't need to keep your child off school if they have threadworms. Speak to your pharmacist, who can recommend a treatment.

Headlice and nits

There's no need to keep your child off school if they have head lice and nits. You can treat head lice and nits without seeing a GP.

Ear Infection

If your child has an ear infection and a high temperature or severe earache, keep them off school until they're feeling better or their high temperature goes away.

Measles

If your child has measles, they'll need to see a GP. Call the GP surgery before you go in, as measles can spread to others. Keep your child off school for at least 4 days from when the rash first appeared. They should also avoid close contact with babies and anyone who is pregnant or has a weakened immune system.





Sherwood

Elms – Hafsa

Maples – Jaydon

Oaks – Sacch (for good signing in Makaton)

Sycamores – Jack

Willows – Nicholas

Deers – Ibrahim (for using kind hands)

Squirrels – Oliver (for good work in maths)

Rabbits – Oscar

KS3

Cats – Nathan

Hedgehogs – Arees

Polecats – Donovan

Otters – Ethan

KS4

Bats – Jessica

Foxes – Rehan

Badgers – David

Kites – Erin, Ethan (great work in literacy recognising prefixes on root words); Ciaran (recognising coins and doing so independently)

Kestrels – Suleman, Samirul (for showing resilience during fasting)

Merlins – Ife

Student of the Week:

Each week a student is acknowledged for their achievements, efforts or positive qualities. Award can also be for good behaviour or for demonstrating any of our core values.

Well done to all the students nominated for Student of the Week.

“The Top is reached by striving”

Online Safety Tips

What parents/carers need to know about keeping children safe online.

- Use parental controls
- Limit screen time
- Choose age-appropriate content
- Foster open communication about online activities
- Ask who their online friends are

Safeguarding

Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility. Please reach out to any member of the Safeguarding Team here at Baskerville if you have any concerns.

David Wilkes

Kay Morgan-Green

Gary Edmunds

Arron Alderton

Ann-Marie Gilbert

Lucy Case

Areanna Daley

Vanya Baylis

Sam Bowater

Riddle-Me-This – Answer:

One in a million



When notifying of an absence, please do so ideally before 8:30 am by using the designated communication method (student absent line or Reach More Parents email). You will need to provide your child's full name, their class and the reason for the absence. Failure to do so can result in a safe and well call or home visit.

Important Dates

Term ends: Friday 27 March 2026

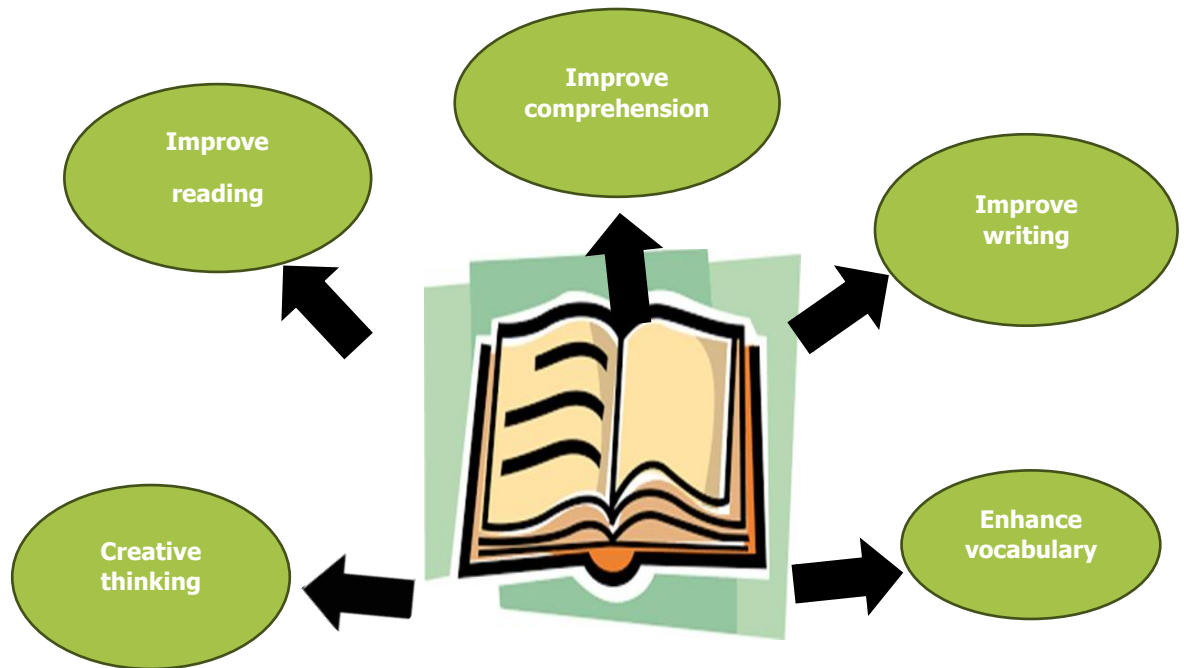
Term starts: Monday 13 April 2026

Half-term: Monday 25 May 2026 to Friday 29 May 2026

Reading for Pleasure

20 is plenty!

Children who read for 20 minutes a day....



At Baskerville, we firmly believe that reading is a fundamental skill that not only supports academic success but also fosters a love for learning and exploration. By encouraging your child to read as much as possible, both at home and in school, you are helping to nurture their imagination, expand their vocabulary and develop their critical thinking skills.

We are always excited to see the photos, so please send in pictures of your child reading in various surrounding (eg. living room, backyard, park, in the car etc.). This helps us to understand the ways in which reading is being incorporated into your family's daily life.

Please continue to encourage your child to read as much as possible. We are confident that with your support, they will develop a lifelong love for reading that will serve them well throughout their educational journey and beyond.

Age Restrictions for Social Media

It is very important that your child understands and uses social media appropriately. Whilst there are positives to having social media platforms there are also cases in which they can be harmful if children are not supervised regularly. Please take the time to check your child's use of social media.

What are the age restrictions on social media?

13
Facebook
Twitter
Instagram
Snapchat
TikTok
Kik
Ask.fm
Houseparty
Periscope
Tumblr
Reddit
Pinterest

13+
Whatsapp
YouTube
WeChat
Whisper
Yubo

16
LinkedIn

18
Tinder
Bumble

(13+ means with parental consent)

A

Make Change Birmingham

inclusive sports hub:

Community inclusive Sport

All welcome



Mondays
3.30pm to 4.30pm
Starting Monday 2nd February.

Dates : Feb. 16th, 23rd,
March 2nd,9th,16th,23rd

Contact:

makechangebwcb@gmail.com
07855391871

Oddingley Hall

18 Oddingley Rd, West Heath, Birmingham B31 3BS



Baskerville School Lunch Menu

Week Commencing—9th March 2026



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main Course 1	Battered Fish	Cottage Pie	Chicken Drumsticks	Creamy Tomato Pasta	Pork Sausage
Main Course 2	Vegan Nuggets	Quorn Cottage Pie	Vegetable Fingers		Halal Sausage Quorn Sausage
Vegetarian					
Side	Potato Gratin		Rice	Garlic Bread	Chips
Vegetable	Peas	Broccoli	Mixed Veg	Sweetcorn	Beans
Dessert	Blueberry Muffins	Sponge Cake	Fruit Jelly	Eclairs	Ice-Cream

Sandwiches & Baguettes are available every day - Please check with the Kitchen and order by 10am



Always Available
Bread crackers
Fruit and Yogurt



Do you have any ideas/suggestions on how we can improve this newsletter??? Let all ideas contend.
Contact us at: a.daley@baskvill.bham.sch.uk.



Website:
<https://www.baskerville.school/>



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