



BASKERVILLE SCHOOL | PARENTS NEWSLETTER – 09TH EDITION

FRIDAY | 01ST | MAY | 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

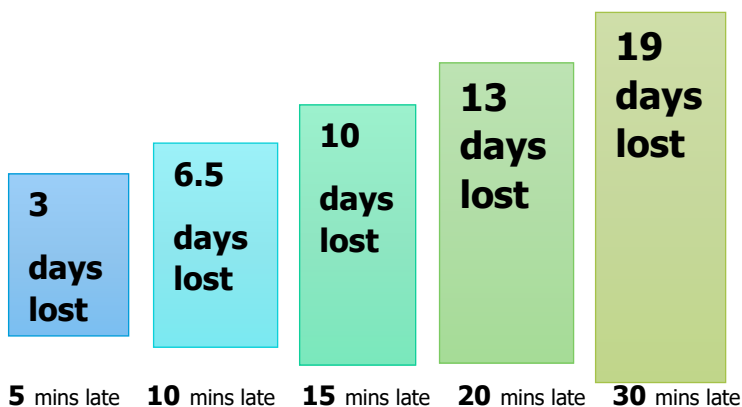
It has been a very positive and productive few weeks at Baskerville, with valuable opportunities to listen to and work alongside both our families and our pupils.

I have recently met with a number of parents and carers, and I would like to thank everyone who took the time to share their views and experiences. Your input is incredibly important and helps us continue to shape the school in the best interests of our young people. In particular, parents were able to support and inform our revised lockdown procedures, ensuring they are clear, effective, and centred around pupil safety and wellbeing.

I have also met with our School Council, who spoke confidently and thoughtfully about their experiences in school. They told me that they feel there is always someone

they can talk to if they are worried, which is something we are very proud of. They also shared some excellent ideas for further improving school life, including a desire for more clubs and an enhanced rewards system. We will now begin working with staff to develop these areas further. Looking ahead, I would like to draw your attention to an important online meeting taking place on **21st May at 11am**. This session will be led by Birmingham City Council and will outline a range of support available to families. This includes guidance and access to services related to housing, mental health, and wider family support. I would strongly encourage families to attend if they are able, as it promises to be a valuable and informative session. This will be a team's meeting and the link will be shared nearer the date.

LOST MINUTES = LOST LEARNING



Attendance

Class Attendance percentages



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

W/C 27/04/26

Hedgehogs	86.7
Rabbits	97.8
Squirrels	95.0
Otters	95.0
Cats	97.5
Polecats	75.6
Bats	88.2
Deers	87.0
Foxes	84.0
Badgers	98.3
Kestrels	76.3
Merlins	95.0
Kites	86.4
Oaks	91.1
Bears	
Willows	95.0
Elms	100
Maple	92.5
Sycamores	93.3

Well Done to Elms Class 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

historyhistoryhistory

(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



Rabbits Visit to Martineau Gardens

Rabbits class have had some fantastic initial visit to Martineau Gardens, taking part in outdoor activities and learning how to care for the environment. The session provided a calm and engaging space for students to build confidence, develop teamwork skills and enjoy learning outside the classroom. They will be continuing these for the rest of the year.

Visit to Johnsons Hotel Linen

Some of our college students visited Johnsons Hotel Linen to see behind the scenes of how large volumes of linen are processed across Birmingham. It was a fascinating visit that highlighted the range of roles available and the importance of teamwork and communication in the workplace.

Brainbow Workshops

Students from Merlin's were visited by Jade from Brainbow to take part in some practise interviews. Jade was impressed by their confidence and communication skills. Later in the day Bats took part in engaging workshops delivered by Brainbow, focusing on confidence, communication and preparation for the workplace. Including the sock challenge where each group had to pitch and sell socks to the class!



Pathways and College Experiences

We have continued to develop our focus on pathways, with a range of valuable experiences for students across different phases. This has included South & City college link days, trips to Queen Alexandra College, a visit to Sense College, and a fantastic week of taster sessions at Heart of Birmingham Vocational College's Redditch campus. These opportunities are helping students explore their next steps and build confidence in new environments. This week six of our talented artists visited Pinc College to explore creative pathways and alternative college options. The visit gave students valuable insight into a different learning environment, supported internships and the opportunity to experience creative subjects in a supportive setting.

Browns Birmingham Work Experience

A highlight this half term was an incredible placement at Browns Birmingham, supported by Ductu. Students met the manager, head chef and head bartender, gaining a real insight into the hospitality industry. They also enjoyed creating their own mocktails and dessert plates, making the experience both engaging and memorable.

Creative Work Experience and Partnerships

Work experience opportunities have continued to grow, including one student working alongside an artist in Digbeth and three students taking part in creative sessions with Leaf Creative, developing skills in areas such as dance and drumming, while supporting people with dementia and their careers in the community.

Otters Class

In Science this week Otters learnt about our Solar system. They produced mobiles to show all the planets in the right order from the sun.



Included Careers Fair

To round off the half term, the majority of our Key Stage 5 students attended the Included Careers Fair. This was a fantastic opportunity for students to engage directly with a wide range of colleges, training providers and inclusive employers in one space.

Students showed great confidence in approaching exhibitors, asking questions and finding out more about potential next steps. For many, it was a valuable chance to explore different pathways, gain a clearer understanding of opportunities available to them, and begin to make informed decisions about their futures.

Kestrels Train Trip

Kestrels class enjoyed a successful train journey as part of their community learning programme. The trip supported independence, travel training and confidence when using public transport, helping students to develop important life skills in a real-world setting.



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 – Musa

Maples – Elijah (for improvement in following class routines helping him to stay regulated)

Oaks – Ibraheem (Excellent work in My Problem solving working on money)

Sycamores – Xu

Willows – Feysal (for signing)

Deers – Shafayat (for overcoming a tough start of the

Squirrels – Azaan (following direction during PE/joining in with phonics)

Rabbits – Stanley

KS3

Cats – Oscar (excellent engagement in all lessons)

Hedgehogs – Kai

Polecats – Rylee (demonstrating excellent leadership skills and supporting other students in PE)

Otters – William (funny and clever acrostic poem)

KS4

Bats –

Foxes – Rehan

Badgers – Alfie

Kites – Samuel (for contributing his ideas to lessons)

Kestrels – Serilda

Merlins – Shafayat (for overcoming a difficult week)

"The Top is reached by striving"

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.

week and have calmer time in school)



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

Sam Bowater

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

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

Parents Evening – 24 June 2026

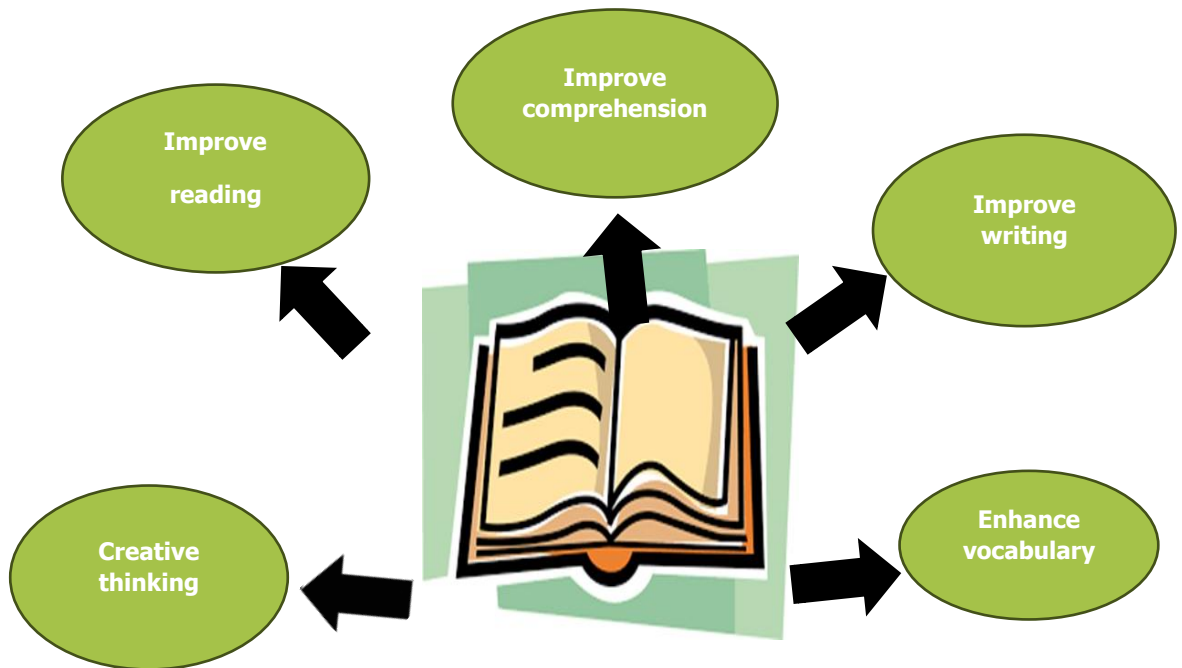
Riddle-Me-This – Answer:

History repeats itself

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

The infographic features a dark blue background with white text. At the top right is an illustration of a girl with her arms outstretched. At the bottom right is a white sign with a red letter 'A' on a pole. At the bottom left is an illustration of a hand holding a smartphone.

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/>



Contact:
0121 427 3191



Email address:
enquiries@baskvill.bham.sch.uk
