



## BASKERVILLE SCHOOL | PARENTS NEWSLETTER – 04<sup>th</sup> EDITION

FRIDAY | 07<sup>TH</sup> | NOVEMBER | 2025

# 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.



### Message from Headteacher- Mr. Lacey

#### Training Days in January

I need to update you regarding the training days in the new year. The 5th and 6th of January will now be training days, so pupils will return to school on Wednesday 7th January. The training days will be used to ensure all our staff are fully trained in Team Teach. This training is vitally important in a school with our children, as it focuses primarily on de-escalation techniques to prevent challenging situations from developing. Crucially, Team Teach keeps both staff and children safe, providing our team with the skills and confidence to support pupils effectively whilst maintaining a calm and secure learning environment for everyone.

#### Harborne Site Transformation Update

The transformation of the Harborne site continues at pace. It is unbelievable how quickly the old building was demolished and how little disruption it has caused at school. It is projected that the site will be fully cleared in the next two weeks, ready for the building work to begin. The other good news is that one of our 27 badger setts -- specifically the one that was going to hold up our building -- is now no longer active.

### Our Wonderful New Sports Hall

We are absolutely delighted to announce that our brand-new sports hall is now open! This fantastic facilities provide a safe, modern environment where pupils can develop their physical skills and enjoy a wide range of sporting activities. The hall features high-quality flooring designed specifically for sports activities, excellent lighting and ventilation, and professional equipment that will enhance opportunities for team sports, fitness, and individual skill development.

To ensure every student's safety in our new sports hall, pupils must wear dry and clean trainers or pumps for all PE lessons, brought in their PE bag. Wet and muddy trainers are not suitable for use in the hall. For health and safety reasons, all jewelry must be removed (earrings, necklaces, bracelets, watches, rings), hair must be tied up, and fringes clipped back with hair grips. As we don't currently have changing rooms, on PE lesson days students may come to school wearing their PE kits (but not trainers). If you wish, they can bring a flannel, towel, wet wipes, and deodorant for use after their lesson. If you have any questions about these guidelines, please contact the school.

### The Cake Agency – Marketing & Design Experience (Birmingham, 10th–28<sup>th</sup> November)

The Cake Agency is a creative marketing company offering an exciting chance to **shadow their design and marketing team**. Students will explore how brands are built, analyse marketing trends, and discover new design ideas.

Placements will take place on selected Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays (10th, 11th, 14th | 17th, 18th, 21st | 24th, 25th, 28th November) and finish with a presentation from staff sharing insights into the marketing industry.

Perfect for students interested in art, design, or business and marketing.

### Media Dog – Film & TV Equipment Hire (NEC Birmingham, Dates TBC)

Media Dog supply professional cameras, lighting, sound, and film equipment for big-name productions on Netflix, Apple TV, Amazon, ITV, and the BBC. Students will get a behind-the-scenes look at how TV and film productions are supported and learn about the technology that brings stories to life.

This is an excellent opportunity for any student interested in film, television, or media production.

## LOST MINUTES = LOST LEARNING



5 mins late   10 mins late   15 mins late   20 mins late   30 mins late

## 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
<b>95%</b>	9	2 weeks	50 lessons
<b>90%</b>	19	4 weeks	100 lessons
<b>85%</b>	29	6 weeks	150 lessons
<b>80%</b>	38	8 weeks	200 lessons

## Attendance

### Class Attendance percentages



**W/C 3/11/25**

Hedgehogs	95.7
Rabbits	93.3
<b>Squirrels</b>	<b>98.7</b>
Otters	97.5
Cats	81.6
Polecats	85.6
Bats	80.0
Deers	81.8
Foxes	78.0
Badgers	96.7
Kestrels	74.4
Merlins	89.0
Kites	84.4
Oaks	78.9
Bears	82.0
Willows	94.2
Maple	92.9
Elms	82.9
Sycamores	92.9

**Well Done to Squirrels Class  
for gaining the highest  
Attendance percentage 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

(see page 8 for answer)

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**READ**

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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



### **Kites Class – Flags of the World Project**

Kites have started their community engagement sessions at Allens Cross, taking part in an exciting *Flags of the World* woodwork project. Students are using their creativity and teamwork to design and build wooden flags, learning new practical skills along the way. It's been a fantastic start to their community work this term!

### **Badgers – Gardening at Allens Cross**

Badgers are also getting involved in the local community at Allens Cross, where they have started learning all about gardening. Students are exploring how to care for plants and create welcoming green spaces. Their enthusiasm and teamwork are already making a real difference!

### **Kestrels – Transport West Midlands Project**

Kestrels have launched a new community project in partnership with Transport for West Midlands. They have been researching local train stations and learning how to stay safe when travelling. This project helps students build independence, confidence, and travel awareness for life beyond school.

### **Merlins – Gardening at Martineau Gardens**

Merlins have begun their community engagement project at Martineau Gardens. Students are developing their gardening skills, learning about nature, and helping to care for this beautiful community space. It's been a great opportunity to get outdoors and contribute to the local environment.

### **Jewellery Quarter Work Experience**

Two students are looking forward to an exciting three-day work experience placement in the Jewellery Quarter. They will be working with *MasterPeace*, a jewellery and craft store and academy, where they'll put their creativity and practical skills to the test. We can't wait to hear how they get on!

### **Independent Work Experience Opportunities**

We have several exciting opportunities coming up for students who may wish to take part in **independent work experience placements**.

Please note that **transport is not provided**, so families would need to arrange travel.

If you would like your child to be considered for any of the placements below, please email me at [p.carbery@baskvill.bham.sch.uk](mailto:p.carbery@baskvill.bham.sch.uk) by **Monday 10th November**.



# Student of



# the Week

## **Sherwood**

Elms – Mark

Maples – Zachary

Oaks – Ibrahim

Sycamores – Xu

Willows – Micyas

Deers – Malakie

Squirrels - Azaan

Rabbits – Max

## **KS3**

Cats – Joseph

Hedgehogs – Arees

Polecats – Rylee

Otters – Jack K

## **KS4**

Bats – Jessica

Foxes – Leigh

Badgers – David

Kites – Dawud and Callum

Kestrels – Josh A. and Callum

Merlins – Mason

## **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**

**Allan Lacey**

**Arron Elderton**

**Ann-Marie Gilbert**

**Riddle-Me-This – Answer:**

**Read between the lines**



When notifying of an absence, please do so ideally before 8:30 am by using the designated communication method (student absent line or EduLink 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

Odd Socks Day – Monday 10th November 2025

Annual Beyond Baskerville Event – Wed. 12<sup>th</sup> November from 16:30 to 18:30 at Harborne Site.

Children in Need – Fri 14<sup>th</sup> November 2025



## Skills Builder Assemblies

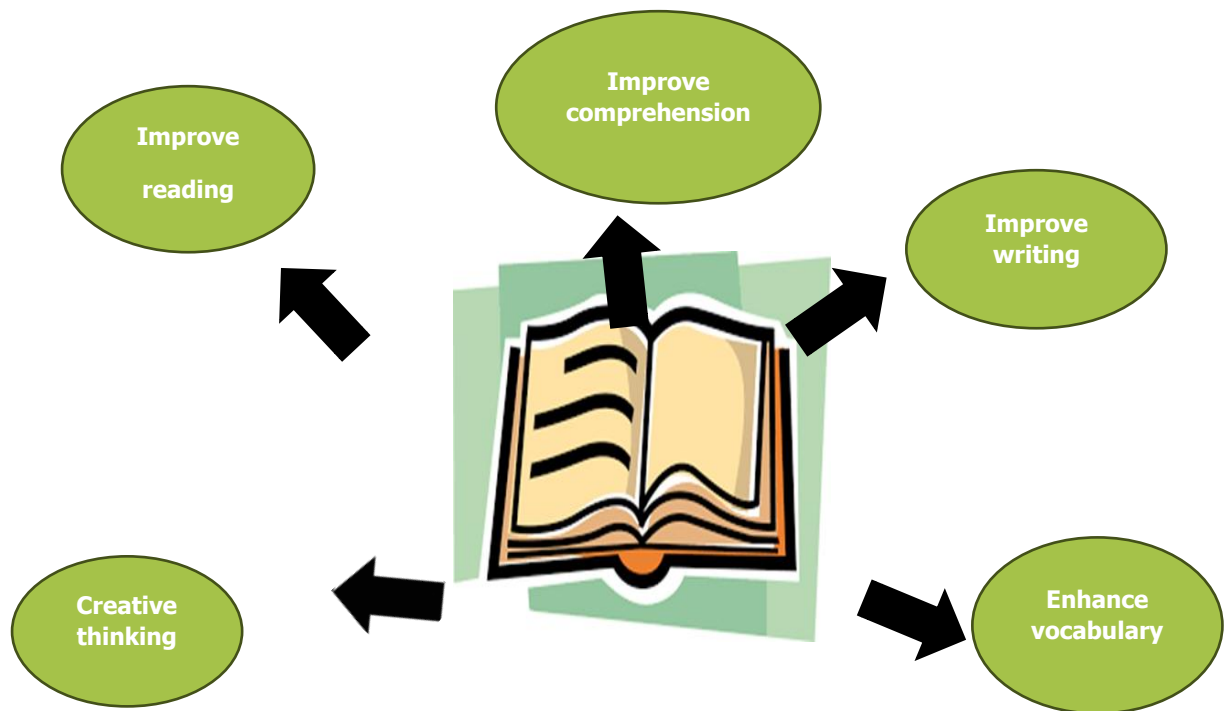
Students have enjoyed three fantastic Skills Builder assemblies so far this term, exploring all eight essential skills for life and work. After half term, we'll be focusing on two key skills each half term to help students develop them in tutor time, different subjects and activities across school.



# 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	13+	16	18
Facebook Twitter Instagram Snapchat TikTok Kik Ask.fm Houseparty Periscope Tumblr Reddit Pinterest	Whatsapp YouTube WeChat Whisper Yubo   (13+ means with parental consent)	LinkedIn  	Tinder Bumble  


### Baskerville School Lunch Menu Week Commencing—6th October 2025



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main Course 1	Creamy Chicken Slice	Beef Lasagne	Chicken Drumsticks	Roast Gammon	Cheese & Tomato Pizza
Main Course 2	Cheese & Onion Pasty	Vegetable Pasta	Quorn Fillet	Quorn Sausage	
Vegetarian					
Side	New Potatoes	Garlic Bread	Veggie Rice	Roast Potatoes Yorkshire Pudding	Chips
Vegetable	Sweetcorn	Broccoli		Mixed Veg	
Dessert	Cookies	Eclairs	Rice Krispie Cake	Sponge Cake	Choc-Ice

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



Always Available  
Bread crackers  
Fruit and Yogurt





### **Willows Class – Aquatics Learning**

Willows have started their aquatics learning and visited Linden Road Pool. Student's worked hard on gaining confidence to submerge their bodies and begin putting their head and faces in the water. We even began to work on floating and kicking our legs.



### **Sycamores Class visited Pets at Home**

Last half term, Sycamores went to Pets at Home to look at different types of animals. All students were really good at using their communication boards to identify the animals they could see and some were able to comment in sentences such as "I see brown rabbit". We even got to feed Guinea Pigs cabbage.



### **Bats Class – Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery**

Students from Bats went to Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery before half term to see the Ozzy Osbourne "Working Class Hero" exhibition as part of their work in The World Around Us lessons on local history. They travelled on the metro from school and ate out as part of the visit with all students enjoying a lovely day.



### **Hedgehogs Class went to Cadbury World**

It was part of The World Around Us topic, studying the local area. Students experienced how chocolate was made in the past, compared to modern technology and they also learnt about the history of the Cadbury brand.







## **Odd Socks Day – Monday 10th November 2025**

### **'Make the world better with a sweater'**

We're kicking off Anti-Bullying Week (10th–14th November 2025) in the most colourful way possible – with **Odd Socks Day** on Monday 10th November!

We're inviting all students to dig out their most mismatched socks and wear them proudly to school. It's a fun way to celebrate what makes each of us unique and to champion tolerance and acceptance of others.

The odder the better – polka dots with stripes? One long, one short? Go wild!

### **🏠 Beyond Baskerville – Date Confirmed!**

We're pleased to share that the *Beyond Baskerville* event will now take place on **Wednesday 12th November**, from **16:30 to 18:30** in the Delta Building, Harborne Main Site.

This event gives families the chance to meet local colleges, training providers, and day services to explore post-school options.

Confirmed attendees so far include:

- Solihull College
- South and City College Birmingham
- Glasshouse/Argent College
- Sense College
- Forward Day Services
- BMET
- Mencap
- QAC

Sign up link will be sent separately. We look forward to welcoming everyone and seeing our students and families plan their next steps *Beyond Baskerville*.

## **Children In Need 'Dress In Patterns' Day - Friday 14th November 2025**

Join in with BBC Children in Need and join a SPOTacular day!

We will be celebrating Children In Need this year by encouraging students to dress in Patterns on Friday 14th November.

Circle the 14th of November in your diary, and encourage students to embrace who they are, and come into school dressed in patterned clothing.

We will be providing all students with fun activities throughout the day to "Challenge Yourself to 25!".

To mark 2025, we are challenging the students to do 25 of anything; 25 star jumps, 25 cupcakes baked, a 25-minute football tournament...whatever they like!

If you wish to donate the link to the Child In Need's donation page is:

<https://donate.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/>

**We will not expect student to bring donations into school.**

## **Open Theatre – Inclusive Theatre Support (The Rep, Birmingham, week commencing 19th January 2026)**

Students will support the Open Theatre team during an immersive, non-verbal theatre show created for young people with learning disabilities. Over three days, students will help audiences engage with performances and experience how theatre can be made inclusive and accessible for everyone. This placement is ideal for those interested in the arts, theatre, or working with people with additional needs.





