



## NEWSLETTER –MAY 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

We have come to the end of a very busy and successful half term. All the children have been enjoying their learning and challenging themselves to do their very best in lessons. The Year 2 and Year 6 children have completed their statutory assessments and tried their very best and after half term the Year 1 phonic screening will begin during the first week back to school. Following this, the Year 4 children will complete their statutory times table assessments from Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June through to 24<sup>th</sup> June.

The children had a wonderful time at the arboretum. The younger children took part in a May Day parade, Swifts did Country Dancing and Falcons shared information about the history of Arley.

The Plant Sale took place on the most beautiful day and the sum of £620.95 was raised for the children. Thank you so much for your support with donations of plants and cakes to make this event such a huge success. The Kidderminster Foreign Parish Council has given us a grant of £200 which we have spent on carefully chosen books for our Reading Shed. The books are all about nature and all have outdoor themes to engage the children. We are now sourcing the shed itself and hope to have everything installed very soon. Daisy and Tess had their own stall, raising money for Ukraine with their engaging poems. They raised a magnificent total of £106, which has now been donated to the Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal.



The basketball post has been a great investment by the Friends of Upper Arley and the children thoroughly enjoy the opportunity to shoot hoops in their playtime!

We had the most magnificent day on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May. All the children from Upper Arley C of E Primary School and St George's C of E School came together for their Platinum Jubilee celebrations. The children were so excited about their train ride with the Severn Valley Railway. Later at school, the children enjoyed Jubilee activities, a picnic on the field and a visit to the ice cream van. Each child has been given a Jubilee gift of a commemorative coin as a special memento. Thank you to The Black Pear Trust for this.

There is some exciting news in relation to staffing for September. After I was appointed as the substantive headteacher at Upper Arley C of E Primary School, an advertisement was placed for a shared Deputy Headteacher across the two schools. We appointed not one but two Deputy Headteachers! The expectation is that the two Deputy Headteachers will have teaching commitments at St George's but also support Leadership at St George's C of E School and Upper Arley C of E Primary School.

As the only two church schools in the Trust to date, and being in close proximity, Upper Arley and St George's have plans to continue to work collaboratively. This collaboration will be at all levels and the children, and all the staff team will be involved. We are very much looking forward to this opportunity. The two successful candidates have written some information to share with you and to introduce themselves, later on in the newsletter.

Please continue to support your child with their reading as this is so important to their learning. The value for next half term is **respect** and the visible consistency will be **celebrating success**.

I wish you all a restful break and hope that the weather is kind to us all.

*Louise Low*

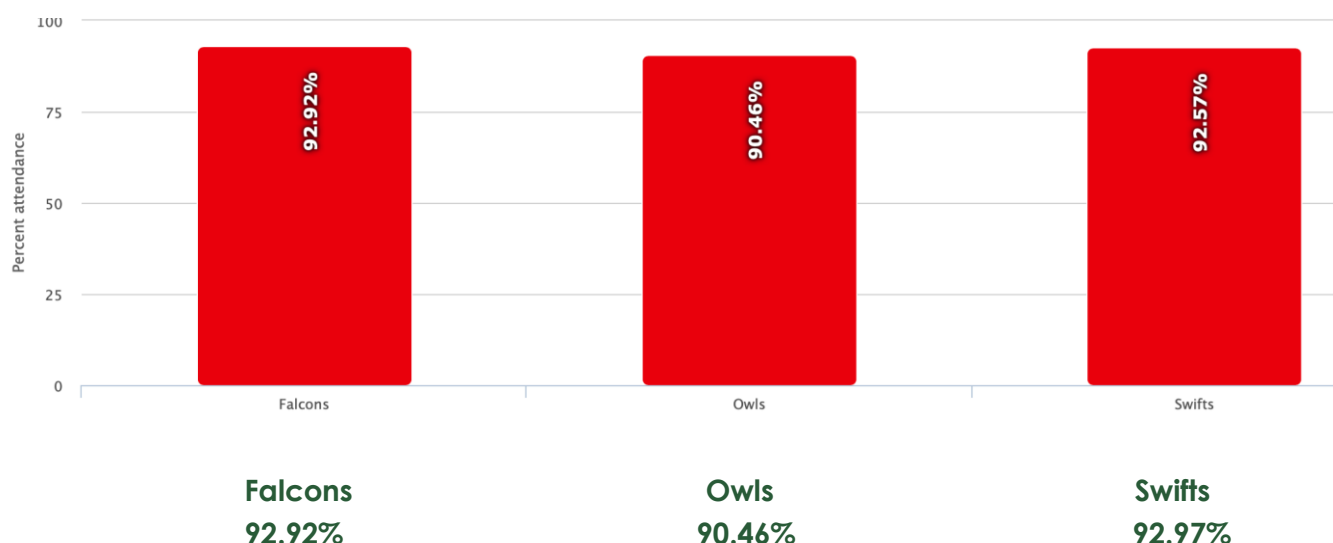
Mrs Louise Low  
Head of School

**The Taw Valley locomotive  
with its purple makeover  
for the Platinum Jubilee**





## Attendance for the School Year



**The target this year is to ensure all children have at least 96% attendance.  
Attendance for the academic year so far is 92%**

Thank you to all Parents and Carers for ensuring that their child/ren attend school and are punctual for the start of the school day. **Good attendance has a positive impact on your child's well-being and educational outcomes.** We do know that from time-to-time children are too poorly to come to school. If this is the case, please **ring the school office by 9.15am** on 01299 861260 or email, if you prefer to [office@upperarleycofeschool.org](mailto:office@upperarleycofeschool.org). It is important that you inform school if your child is unwell.

If your child has a medical appointment, please bring in the relevant letters to the office and if possible, try and arrange for these to be outside of the school day.

## Safeguarding is Everyone's Responsibility

If you feel a child is at risk of immediate harm and needs immediate protection phone the police and the Family Front Door on **01905 822666**.

### Nursery places

We do have Nursery places available. If you know of anyone who is looking for Nursery provision for three-year-olds, why not tell them about our beautiful setting? Contact the office to organise a look around.



## Sporting Achievements

It was a first trip out of school for a lot of our 10 (Reception, Year 1 and 2) children, but you would never have guessed it! The excitement they showed was not extinguished by the long journey to Droitwich either. In total 12 schools took part in football skills, using Disney as a theme. It was great to see them showing super concentration and determination throughout the morning, in coping with all the different stations set up. Behaviour and listening were exemplary and bodes well for further Sports trips out in the near future. Let's hope we've uncovered a few stars of tomorrow. Any parent wanting to get their child involved in Football please contact me and I'll endeavour to signpost you to a suitable team.

Mr Derrer

## Arley Arboretum



## Cadbury's World

On the 20<sup>th</sup> of May, Falcons class visited Cadbury's World, and received an educational talk on our history topic of the Maya! We have had an amazing day and learned all about the Maya's relation to chocolate and how they used it, as well as learning about Cadbury's itself! Thank you to all the children for a wonderful day, their behaviour was outstanding. We can't wait for the next trip!







## Jubilee Celebrations







## Egyptian Day

Egyptian day was a huge success! All of the costumes were amazing, and the children really immersed themselves in the occasion. We started the day by researching canopic pots. These were used to put internal organs in during the mummification process. Swifts had the opportunity to design and make their own canopic pot, with an animal-like head as the lid of the pots, these were to represent the Ancient Egyptian Gods. Then later in the day, we went through the disgusting process of mummifying a tomato, by pulling the insides out and cleaning the tomato. They then had to fill the tomato with salt to dehydrate the tomato and prevent it from rotting. We have kept hold of the tomatoes and we will check them when we are back from half term.



## Congratulations!

Congratulations to Miss Hussell who got married at Easter and is now Mrs Carrette. Mrs Carrette has now taken on the role of Academic Mentor at Upper Arley.

## Goodbye

We say goodbye to one of our teaching assistants, Miss Lloyd, who has been a fantastic support to the children in Falcons. Miss Lloyd ran all of the Booster maths classes and set up the Gardening club with Mrs Carrette. She has especially enjoyed the outdoor learning and sporting events. We wish her all the best as she moves on into a post where she will be working with much younger children.



## Shared Deputy Role

Tom Harris and Matt Modley have been appointed to the new role of shared Deputy Headteacher at St George's C of E School and Upper Arley C of E Primary School.



I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity to join St George's CofE and Upper Arley CofE Schools in September and look forward to working with all of the pupils, staff and families. As an experienced primary educator, having worked across the age range, I aspire to add to the fantastic ethos already present at these wonderful schools. Sport is a passion of mine and I play rugby and cricket for local teams – I truly believe extracurricular opportunities should be encouraged and I hope to find out about the hobbies and interests of our community. Have a wonderful summer term; I am excited to meet you all in the autumn term.

Hello, I am Mr Modley, and I am very excited to be starting my new role as Deputy Headteacher at both St George's and Upper Arley. After teaching for over 10 years and taking on a variety of leadership roles- at St George's CE School and St Nicholas Middle School- I cannot wait to start my new journey as I help to guide your children through theirs. Life is busy but I always love to spend time with my family: my fiancé, Clare, and my nine-month-old son, Kit. Together with the family, I enjoy taking walks in the countryside (especially Kinver Edge) and taking Kit swimming. One of my favourite hobbies is playing darts; an activity that I love to watch too. I also collect darts memorabilia such as pin badges, shirts and players darts. When I am not playing darts, I love to watch Kidderminster Harriers and Tottenham Hotspur play football. I am also a keen cricket fan and love to watch all forms of it as well as keep an eye out for what's happening in the NFL. As you can tell I love sport, but I also love the theatre where I try to go to London to watch a show at least three times a year- my favourite so far is 'Come from Away'. If I am not on the dartboard or in the theatre, you can find me with a drill and a screwdriver doing some DIY (badly!) or watching a good Netflix series. When you see me, please say "Hi" and you can get to know me more.



## Upcoming Dates and Events

**Forest School:** Swifts – Tuesday mornings

Owls – Tuesday afternoons

Falcons – Wednesday afternoons

**Gardening Club:** After school on Wednesdays

**Swimming:** Owls (Years 1 and 2)- Friday afternoons

**Multi-Sports** - will continue to run as normal on Tuesdays and Wednesdays

**Thinktank visit (Swifts)** – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July

**Houses of Parliament visit (Year 6)** – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July

**Seaside visit (Owls)** – to be confirmed

**Sports day** – Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July

**Year 6 Camp Out** – Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July

**Leavers' Assembly** – Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July



## New Reception Dates

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June Parents' Information Session 7.30pm  
Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June Forest School Gruffalo 2.15 - 3.00pm  
Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June Come for Lunch 11am  
Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June Teddy Bears Picnic 9 - 10am  
Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July Independent visit 2 – 3pm  
Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July transition morning 9.30 - 11am

## Forest Friends - Families with 0–3-year-olds

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June, Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June, Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June,  
Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> June, Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> July, Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July and Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July



## COMPETITION TIME

### Foodie Friday!

For Foodie Friday this month, we would like to challenge you to improve a meal! Have a look in your recipe books and find one that you think you could improve – it may be that you don't like the ingredients in it, or it could be that you can make it more flavoursome! Once you have adapted your meal, take some photos to share with us. You could even share the newly improved recipe for others to give it a go! The STEM ambassadors will judge all entries and the winner will be announced in next month's Foodie Friday bulletin. Have fun cooking, we look forward to hearing all about your newly improved recipes!

Send entries to: [office@upperarleycofeschool.org](mailto:office@upperarleycofeschool.org)  
Closing date: Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June

## Explore The Jubilee Website



[https://jubilee.dk.com/?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery](https://jubilee.dk.com/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)

Dorling Kindersley have created a fabulous website where you will find free audio recordings of 'Queen Elizabeth: a Platinum Jubilee Celebration'; a commemorative book written in collaboration with royal experts and historians. There are also links to other Jubilee resources and videos.





## Get Ready For *Epic* Half Term Adventures

Open Everyday May Half Term 9am till 5pm

Book Online To Not Miss Out

# HABBERLEY TRAIL

KIPPERMINSTER DYI SRF

Great Food

Great Games

Great Views







## TERM DATES

### SUMMER TERM 2022

**Staff INSET:** Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May

**Half term:** Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June

**Term ends:** Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July

### School Term Dates September 2022 to July 2023

<b>HOLIDAY</b>	<b>SCHOOL CLOSURES ON</b>	<b>SCHOOL TED DAYS</b>	<b>SCHOOL RE-OPENS ON</b>
<b>AUTUMN TERM 2022</b>	N/A	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> September	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> September
<b>AUTUMN HALF TERM</b>	Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> October	Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> October
<b>CHRISTMAS</b>	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2023	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2023
<b>SPRING HALF TERM</b>	Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> February	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> February	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> February
<b>EASTER</b>	Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> March	Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> April
<b>MAY DAY</b>	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> May		Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May
<b>SUMMER HALF TERM</b>	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May		Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> June
<b>END OF SUMMER TERM</b>	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> July Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> July	N/A