



NEWSLETTER – JULY 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of another joyful and successful school year, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the many highlights of this term and share some important updates with you.

🏆 Sports Day Success

Our Sports Day was a brilliant celebration of energy, teamwork, and determination. The children gave their all in every event, and it was heartwarming to see so many families cheering them on. Thank you for helping make the day so special!

🌲 Forest School Adventures

Forest School continues to be a firm favourite, with children exploring nature, building dens, and learning new skills in the great outdoors. These sessions have helped nurture confidence, curiosity, and a love for learning beyond the classroom.

🍦 Ice Cream Treats

A huge thank you to the PTFA of the School for organising a surprise visit from the ice cream van! The children were thrilled, and it was a lovely way to celebrate the end of term together.

🎒 Year 6 – Off to New Adventures

We are incredibly proud of our Year 6 pupils, who achieved **excellent SATs results** this year. Their hard work and resilience have truly paid off, and we wish them all the very best as they move on to secondary school. They leave with our warmest wishes and fond memories.

👋 Farewell & Welcome

We say a heartfelt goodbye to **Mrs Ahmed-Khan**, who is moving on to new opportunities. Her dedication and care have made a lasting impact, and she will be greatly missed next year by children, staff, and families alike. At the same time, we are delighted to welcome **Miss Langman** to our team. She brings great enthusiasm and fresh ideas, and we're excited for the year ahead with her on board.

📖 Summer Reading Reminder

As we head into the holidays, we encourage all families to keep reading together. Visiting your local library is a great way to discover new books, and many libraries are running the **Summer Reading Challenge** – a fun and free way to keep children engaged with reading over the break. Let's keep those imaginations growing!

🙏 Thank You

To our incredible staff – thank you for your tireless commitment and care. To our wonderful pupils – thank you for your energy, kindness, and curiosity. And to you, our parents and carers – thank you for your ongoing support and partnership. Together, we've made this year a truly special one.

Wishing you all a relaxing and joyful summer break. We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday 3rd September for another exciting chapter.

Kind regards

Louise Low

Mrs Louise Low
Headteacher

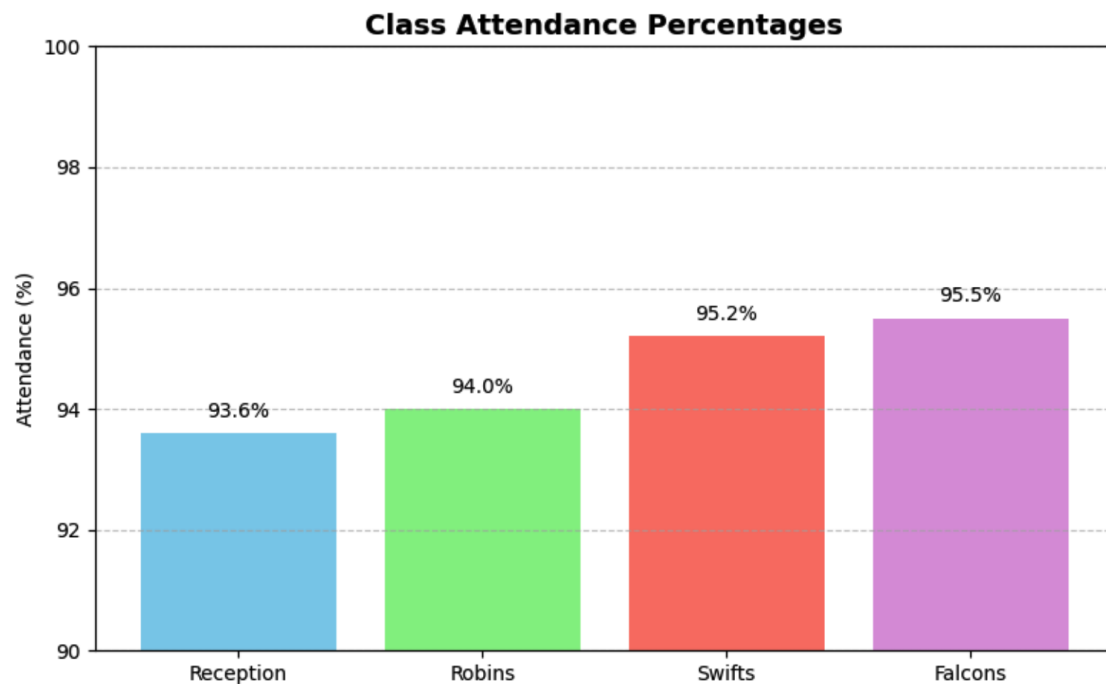
**100% Attendance Winners:
Evie, Roseann and Poppy V**



Early morning visitors to school



Attendance for the School Year



**The target this year is to ensure all children have at least 96% attendance.
Actual attendance for the academic year is 94.7%.**

Thank you to all Parents and Carers for ensuring that their child/children 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 9.00am** on 01299 861260 or email, if you prefer to 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**.

Our school vision:

Through our vision of ONE COMMUNITY, LEARNING AND GROWING TOGETHER SHARING GOD'S LOVE, we recognise everyone as a child of God. Through this learning, we encourage all to grow in their learning, so that everyone can achieve and flourish in all they do.

**"I can do all this through Christ because he gives me strength".
Philippians 4:13**



Happy Hares

Wow! What a fantastic year we've had together in nursery! Your amazing children have been busy exploring, discovering, creating, and growing in so many wonderful ways. Let's take a look back at our journey through the seasons and all the exciting things we've learned...

All About Me

We started our year getting to know each other! We learned about our names, families, and the things that make us special. We talked about our feelings, shared our favourite things, and made new friends. What a brilliant start!

Discovering Autumn

When the leaves started to fall, we wrapped up warm and explored the changes outside. We crunched through leaves, spotted conkers and acorns, and talked about how animals get ready for winter. We painted autumn trees and even made leaf collages!

What's in My World?

We looked at the world around us – our homes, our school, and our community. We learned about people who help us, the different places we go, and how we can take care of our environment. We even had fun role-playing in our mini dentist!

Finding Out About Spring

Springtime brought lots of new life! We planted seeds and watched them grow, spotted flowers blooming and birds building nests. We talked about baby animals, sunshine, and rain. Our nursery was full of excitement and wonder!

What Might Be at the Bottom of the Garden?

We went on bug hunts and looked under logs and stones to see who might be hiding! We found wiggly worms, busy ants, and fluttery butterflies. We also made our own mini worlds in trays.

What is Special About Summer?

As the weather got warmer, we talked about holidays, sunshine, and water play! We made ice lollies, played with sand, and talked about keeping safe in the sun. We've had such fun splashing, laughing, and enjoying the summer vibes together! Thank you to all our wonderful families for your support this year. Watching your children grow in confidence, curiosity, and kindness has been an absolute joy. We can't wait to see what adventures next year brings! Wishing you all a sunny and safe summer break!





Owls

Maths

Owls have been using different strategies to find number bonds to 10 we have been helping the farmer to group sheep as well as share the food fairly between the flock. We enjoyed using a range of resources to create more challenging patterns too.

T4W

Owls have enjoyed using Makaton to sign the days of the week for Jasper as he waited for the beanstalk to grow and decided to grow our own plants so we could help Jasper care for his beanstalk.



RE

We learned that stories are important to believers and can share important messages such as being brave and trusting in God. We found out that stories from different faiths can share the same message.

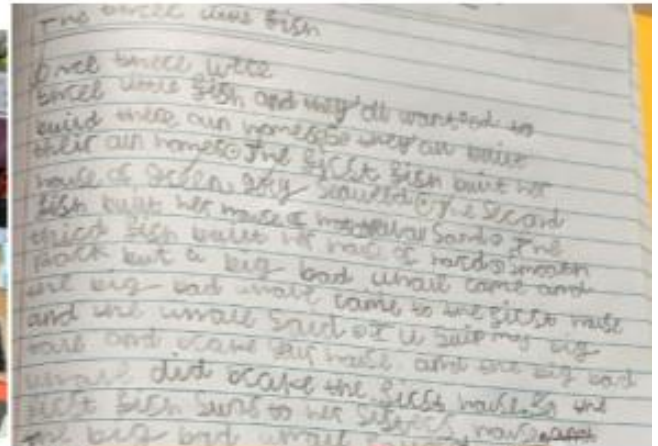
Topic

We have been very busy learning how musical instruments can create different sounds to help tell a story and exploring our environment. We created posters to show our thoughts about how we can keep it clean and safe for everyone including tiny minibeasts. Our caterpillars grew and changed into beautiful butterflies!





Robins



This half term has been a particularly busy and exciting one for Robins class! The children have been hard at work in Design and Technology, where they've been designing and building their very own vehicles, learning all about how things move and fit together.

In Science, they've been exploring the fascinating world of living things, discovering the differences between carnivores, herbivores, and omnivores. The class has also been thinking deeply about how to care for our planet, learning ways to keep our environment safe and tidy. As part of their learning about responsibility and compassion, they've looked at the important work of two charities—WWF and the RSPCA—thinking about how they help animals and protect nature. It's been a term full of creativity, curiosity, and care!



Swifts

Swifts have had an exciting final term filled with lots of fun memories and learning! The children have worked as hard as ever, and I am so proud of how they have progressed.



In art, we've been exploring the wonderful world of Henry Matisse. The children loved learning about his colourful and bold artwork. They created their own "cut-out" masterpieces, just like Matisse!

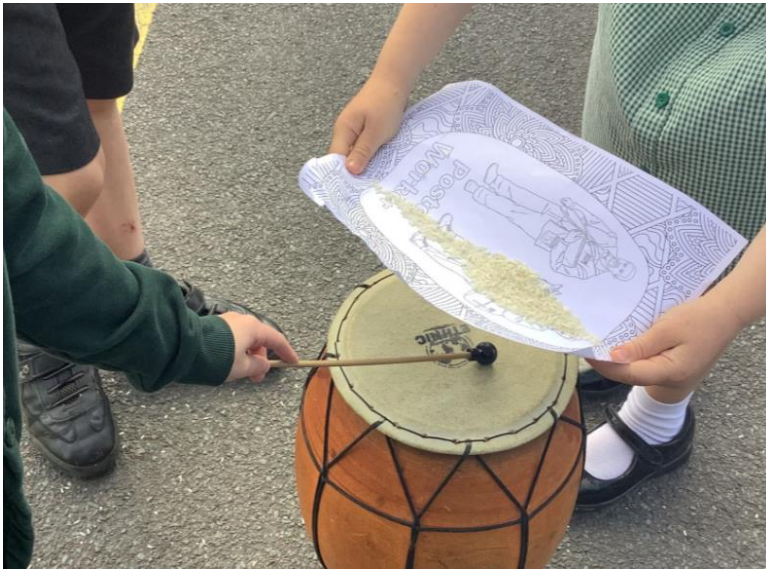
In science, we've been investigating sound. We did some fun experiments to see how sound travels such as making a singing fork and using a drum to see how sound vibrations move rice on paper.

During Cool Earth Week, we talked about droughts and their impact on the environment and people. The children learned why droughts happen and how they affect water supplies. We discussed ways to save water and help those in need. The children came up with some fantastic ideas on how we can all do our part to conserve water.



We have also begun to explore jazz in music, learning about how it has developed over the years and listening to lots of different kinds of jazz rhythms, instruments and songs. The children loved listening to the new genre!

Thank you for your continued support this year, it has been a wonderful year, and the children have been a pleasure to teach. Have a wonderful summer holiday!





Falcons

Half-Term Highlights

We've had a **busy and exciting half term** in Falcons, packed with creativity, collaboration, and hands-on learning across the curriculum. Here's a look at what we've been up to:

Geography – Cool Earth Week

During **Cool Earth Week**, we explored the importance of **sustainability** and **renewable energy sources**. As a class, we worked together to design and build a **3D sustainable city** using recycled materials. It was a fantastic opportunity to think creatively and practically about how we can care for our planet. We were so proud to showcase our city to parents and carers!



Art – Inspired by Giacometti

In Art, we studied the work of **Alberto Giacometti**, focusing on how he captured emotion and movement in his sculptures. Using **mod roc**, we created our own sculptures of the moon.



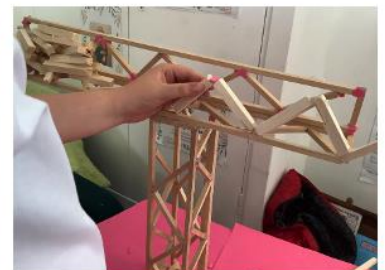
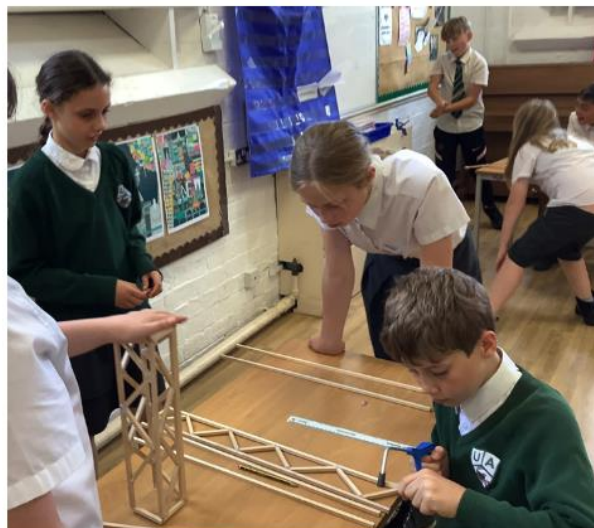


Music – Musical Theatre Magic

This term in Music, we delved into the world of **musical theatre**. We watched a variety of performances to understand the elements of storytelling through song and movement. Then, in groups, we planned and performed our own mini musicals. The creativity and confidence on display were truly inspiring!

STEM – Engineering with Cranes

Our STEM focus was on **cranes, structures, gears, and pulleys**. Working in teams, we designed, built, and evaluated our own crane models. This hands-on project helped us understand the mechanics behind real-world engineering and encouraged teamwork and problem-solving.



Special Shout-Out!

A **huge congratulations** to **Jacob and Poppy** for reaching the **finals of the STEM Challenge at Kidderminster College!** They represented our school with pride and demonstrated fantastic teamwork and innovation. **Well done, Jacob and Poppy – we're so proud of you!**





Sports Events



The late Easter only gave us a few extra weeks to practise for our usual visit for the **Tri Golf Comp**. This year it took place at Kidderminster Golf Club and was attended by 12 schools. The grass was very long and not conducive to putting, but the children carried on regardless. After 12 stations of putting and chipping activities we were pleasantly surprised to see that our team had come 4th and just missed out by 12 points on attending the County Finals. This was all the more marvellous as we had three Year 2's, and 5 Year 3's attending a Year 3 and 4 competition.



It was another month before we went to our next event at **Stourport Cycling Track**. A morning of cycling and Nature based activities was attended by our Year 3 and 4's. Some of the children took on the various obstacles dotted along the track, which included ramps and other tricky manoeuvres.





One of the biggest events of our year is the **Wyre Forest Games** at Stourport Athletics track. After missing last year, we made sure we had a full half term to practise our chosen events. A lot of the schools took the full complement of 28 children, but our minibus of 14 certainly excelled by coming 2nd in the Girls comp and 5th overall, out of 10 schools. A special mention must go to Evie for winning the girls 800m, by a massive margin, and just missing out (by 1 second) on a new games record. Lizzie mirrored Evie by winning the 600m in similar fashion. The girls 4 x50m team (Evie, Lizzie, Poppy S and Tess) won their event, helped by

the copious amounts of changeover practice they had done in the weeks leading up to the event.

After attending the County Games a few years ago for Boccia, we were again travelling to Bromsgrove School to represent Wyre Forest in the **Year 5/6 Dodgeball**, having won the Area comp earlier in the year. There were 12 schools from all over Worcestershire attending and we were placed in a strong pool of 6. We got off to a slow start, by drawing our first two games, but managed to win our next four, thereby winning the group and going forward to the semis. In a tense and frenetic game, we were 1-1 and going into the last minute of the last set. Unfortunately, we lost that 4 to 3. All was not lost and like they have done all year they drew on their unlimited supply of determination, resilience, belief and teamwork to win 2-1 and gained 3rd place and a bronze medal to take home. We were the third best school in the whole of Worcestershire!

The weather was kind to us on **Sports Day**, and all the children were simply wonderful in their respective running/throwing and jumping events. For the the first time in five years the trophy went to Malvern, fantastically led by Charlie P.



Year 1 had a very productive and fun time at the **Crystal Leisure Centre** this term and showed so much improvement in water confidence over the six-week slot. In finishing I must congratulate and thank our outgoing Year 6's for such a successful year, all round in all events entered. I'm sure a few of our leavers will go on to bigger things on the sporting front.

STOP PRESS! Great news - Upper Arley earns the GOLD sports mark once again!



UPPER ARLEY C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL WINS GOLD AGAIN!



We are delighted to announce that we, UPPER ARLEY C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL, have achieved the School Games GOLD Mark Award for the 2024/25 academic year.

The School Games Mark is a Government-led award scheme launched in 2012, facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community, and we are delighted to have been recognised for our success.

Our sporting achievements this year include: Cross Country, Dodgeball, Football, Indoor Athletics, Multi Sports, Netball, Ten Pin Bowling, Swimming, Rugby and Sports Day.

With a total of young people competing in local inter-school competitions this year, we are extremely proud of our pupils for their dedication to all aspects of school sport, including those young volunteers, leaders and officials who made our competitions possible.

As part of our application, we were asked to fulfil criteria in the areas of participation, competition, workforce and clubs, and we are pleased that the hard work of everyone at our school has been rewarded this year.

A special thanks to:

Mr Derrer

Our Sports Crew

Our Sports Ambassadors

All of the children at Upper Arley for participating so enthusiastically.

We look forward to applying once again in 2026!





Swimming Opportunities in Dudley

Intensive swimming lessons this July

At Duncan Edwards Leisure Centre

The course, which is suitable for non or weak swimmers will take place in the learner pool.

Dates: Monday 21 July to Friday 25 July

Times: 12.15pm to 12.45pm, 12.45pm to 1.15pm, 1.15pm to 1.45pm and 1.45pm to 2.15pm

Cost: £40 per course. Options+ Leisure Discount is available.

Suitable for 4 years and over.

For more information and to provisionally book a place, please email:

- Heather McKenzie by email: Heather.McKenzie@dudley.gov.uk
- Danielle Gubats by email: Danielle.Gubats@dudley.gov.uk

Please note that payment must be made at the centre once your booking has been confirmed. Your space can not be guaranteed without payment.

At Crystal Leisure Centre

The course, which is suitable for non or weak swimmers, will take place in the 25m pool.

Dates: Monday 28 July to Friday 1 August

Times: 12.15pm to 12.45pm, 12.45pm to 1.15pm, 1.15pm to 1.45pm and 1.45pm to 2.15pm

Cost: £40 per course. Options+ Leisure Discount is available.

Suitable for 4 years and over.

For more information and to provisionally book a place, please email:

- Heather McKenzie by email: Heather.McKenzie@dudley.gov.uk
- Danielle Gubats by email: Danielle.Gubats@dudley.gov.uk

Regards,

Danielle Gubats

Swimming Co-ordinator

Culture, Leisure & Bereavement Services - Dudley Leisure Centre Staff

Regeneration & Enterprise

Dudley Council

Duncan Edwards Leisure Centre, Constitution Hill, Dudley, West Midlands, DY2 8PA

01384 812852

www.dudley.gov.uk





😄 **SPLAT THE TEACHER – What a Blast!**

This one was definitely a crowd-pleaser! The *Splat the Teacher* event had everyone lining up for a chance to soak their favourite (or bravest!) teachers, and wow—you did not hold back! From flying sponges to epic splash shots, it was hilarious and messy in the best way.

💧 Huge shoutout to all the teachers who stood their ground and took it like champs. You made it fun, and we can't thank you enough!

And thanks to everyone who joined in, we raised a brilliant **£70**.



💖 **Thank You!**

A **big thank you** to all the **parents, carers, and children of Upper Arley** for your amazing support with all the **fabulous fundraising** Year 6 have done this term — from running shops, selling ice lollies and cakes, to the ever-popular **Splat the Teacher!**

Year 6 truly appreciate it and will be using the funds raised towards their **exciting end-of-year experiences** – including a special final meal together as a class at **The Harbour**. Thank you for helping make these memories possible!



💡 Year 6's Final Memories – Safari Park Fun!

What a way to celebrate the end of Year 6! Our trip to the Safari Park was packed with adventure, laughs, and a few surprises along the way.

🦋 We braved the bat cave (yes, real flying bats!), fed colourful Lorikeets nectar right from our hands, and explored the scaly side of nature in the reptile house. Some of us even stepped out of our comfort zones and took on the rides—special shoutout to Miss Jones and Mr Derrer, who got roped in too and screamed louder than we did!

😊 Ice creams, sunshine, and non-stop smiles—it was the perfect way to make memories we'll never forget. Year 6, you absolutely rocked it.



🌲 Camping with Carnforth – A Day to Remember!

What a brilliant time we had camping out with our Carnforth friends! The sun was shining, the vibes were perfect, and we squeezed every drop of fun out of the day.

🌿 A trip to Arley Arboretum kicked things off — exploring the park, wandering the nature trail, and, of course, cooling off with an ice cream or two. Then it was off to The Harbour for a delicious meal, where the laughter and stories really started flowing.

🔥 But the best part? Back at camp, we danced like no one was watching, sang our hearts out, toasted gooey smores around the fire, and sipped hot chocolate under the stars. Some of you managed to keep the party going till 2am... PE the next morning wasn't so much fun for some of you.





Just a few snapshots of the day and night....





Forest Friends



Forest Friends

Where little explorers thrive
For ages 0 to 5 years



Families come along and join us for fun in our forest school. Activities including Leaf rubbing, Den making, Story times, Nature patterns, Mud mixing, Treasure hunt and Obstacle.



Free Sessions Includes Refreshments for children and adults



Our next free Session dates are to be confirmed in September 2025

Please book with the school office

☎ 01299 861260

✉ office@upperarleycofeschool.org



Session times -
10am to 11am



At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

STAYING SAFE AROUND WATER

Enjoying time in, on, and around water plays a vital role in a young person's overall development, offering a healthy and exhilarating way to have fun. This guide outlines essential safety advice, based on the Royal Life Saving Society UK's Water Safety Code, to help ensure children can enjoy swimming and similar activities safely and responsibly.

1 STICK TO LIFEGUARDED AREAS

It's never advisable to enter unsupervised bodies of water, especially alone. Instead, it's considered best practice to accompany children to places with lifeguards, as they will be trained to respond swiftly in emergencies and provide first aid when needed.

2 LEARN SIGNS AND FLAGS

When going to a new environment, it's important to research the local area and make children aware of safety signage before entering the water. If visiting the seaside, make sure children are always supervised by an adult and that they know what different beach flags mean, so they're knowledgeable of where and when they can enter the sea.

3 STOP AND THINK

Young people should be cautious before entering water, as it's difficult to know what hazards could be underneath. Use the Water Safety Code and encourage children to ask themselves questions such as, "Is the water too deep or too shallow? Are there currents, tides, or underwater objects?" Make sure children know never to enter water from a height, as what lurks below could cause serious injuries.

4 CONSIDER WATER TEMPERATURE

Even on hot days, water can be deceptively cold. Tragedies strike when young people experience cold water shock. Never let children enter water quickly; instead, ensure that they enter slowly and carefully to allow their bodies to adjust to the temperature or exit easily if needed.

5 INFLATABLE SAFETY

Although inflatables may seem like a fun idea when visiting locations like the beach, they can float further out from shore and into more dangerous water. It's advisable only to use inflatables in spaces like appropriately managed swimming pools, where they're used in more controlled and supervised environments.

6 SUPERVISION IS KEY

For young children, and particularly those under the age of five, it's important for them to be supervised at home, outside and at the pool at all times. It's essential for parents and educators to understand that young children can drown quickly and silently; therefore, anyone supervising them must maintain constant watch in case they get into difficulty.

7 DON'T GO TOO FAR

When swimming, especially in open water, it's best to teach children to stay within a safe depth. Share advice with them such as only entering water up to a standing depth, and in the case of visiting the beach, swim parallel to shorelines. This will allow a child to stay in control and get out of the water easily.

8 KEEP POOLS AND TUBS DRAINED

For parents of young children, a simple way to protect them at home is to keep outdoor spaces and bathrooms tidy after playtime. This includes removing water from paddling pools after use and turning them over, returning lids to hot tubs and taking toys out of baths, as all water can be fully drained from the tub.

9 FLOAT AND CALL 999

If a child gets into difficulty in the water, they should try to float on their back, stay calm, and call for help. If a young person sees someone else in trouble, they should dial 999 or 112 immediately, then shout to reassure their friend, encouraging them to float on their back, and letting them know that help is on the way. Children should never enter the water to attempt a rescue or retrieve belongings.

10 TEACH WATER SAFETY

Beyond swimming lessons, children should be educated in school on water safety. Use RLSS UK's accredited programme, 'Water Smart Schools', which offers free lesson plans and resources on how to be safe on, near and around water by following the Water Safety Code.

Meet Our Expert

The Royal Life Saving Society UK (RLSS UK) is a national water safety charity that gives children the chance to enjoy a lifetime of fun in the water, safely. Water safety education provided in schools is vital and, in some instances, could be a child's only opportunity to learn about the water.



The National College

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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 16.07.2025



Internet Safety

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about YOUTUBE KIDS

AGE RESTRICTION
4+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

As its name suggests, YouTube Kids is a child-friendly version of Google's online video-sharing platform. Its colourful user interface is designed with young people in mind, and it offers a curated, family-friendly experience with features like age-based content settings and parental controls.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT BYPASSING FILTERS

YouTube Kids is less likely to show inappropriate material than YouTube, but there have been reports of the app showing age-inappropriate content to young viewers. One investigation found that YouTube Kids had shown videos that promote skin bleaching, weight loss, drug culture and firearms to children as young as two, as inappropriate content had bypassed the platform's algorithms and human moderators.

18
CENSORED

BE WARY OF ADVERTISING

Like Google's regular YouTube app, YouTube Kids features pervasive advertising before a video plays. While these adverts are designed to be family friendly and are subject to a strict review process, it's worth noting that YouTube Kids collects information around children's viewing to inform targeted content and advertisements.

BUY NOW!

DESIGNED TO BE ADDICTIVE

YouTube Kids is designed to be addictive. The platform's design features, such as the constant stream of new videos and the reward system of points or virtual stickers, can be very engaging and make it difficult for children to switch off. Research has shown that spending too much time using digital services such as YouTube can lead to screen addiction, affecting children's daily routines, studies, and even their social lives.

SETTINGS CAN BE CIRCUMVENTED

YouTube Kids offers built-in parental controls, enabling you to set screen time limits and curate the content children are able to view; however, children are often more tech-savvy than we think. They can easily bypass or tweak these settings if they have access to the associated Google account password, thereby exposing themselves to age-inappropriate and potentially dangerous content.



AI-GENERATED MISINFORMATION

There is also a risk of children accessing videos that contain disinformation and misinformation. A BBC investigation found that some YouTube channels are using artificial intelligence (AI) technology to create misleading 'scientific' videos that are recommended to children as educational content. These videos included conspiracy theories and ideas that lack scientific backing.



DATA COLLECTION RISK

While there are limits on the data that YouTube can collect on children under 13, children can still inadvertently give away sensitive information when using YouTube Kids. The platform collects data on children's viewing habits, content searches and location, which YouTube and third-party advertisers can use.



Advice for Parents & Educators

PARENTAL CONTROLS

YouTube Kids offers several settings that allow you to manage what content children can view. For example, you can choose what level of content you want them to access, such as 'Preschool' or 'Younger'. You can also turn off the search function, so that only those videos approved by the YouTube Kids team themselves will appear on a child's recommendations list.



SET TIME LIMITS

The built-in parental controls let you keep a tab on how long children spend watching videos. You can set a timer that limits screen time and disables the YouTube Kids app once a specified length of time has been reached. It's also worth speaking to children about the dangers of spending too much time on YouTube, to ensure they remain focused on other, more important activities.



CHECK WATCH HISTORY

YouTube Kids has made it easy for you to keep an eye on what the children in your care have been watching on the app. By clicking on the 'Recommended' icon at the top right of the home screen, you can see which videos they've been viewing, and how much of each. If a child watches YouTube Kids while signed into a Google account, you can check their history through Google's 'My Activity' page.



WATCH TOGETHER

It's important that you try to make YouTube Kids a fun and positive experience for children. One way to do this is by introducing watching sessions, where you all gather around and share the most enjoyable videos that you have recently watched. This can be a great way of giving you both new things to talk about and of keeping an eye on what they're watching.



Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced journalist with more than 10 years of experience covering the technology industry. Previously a senior cybersecurity reporter at TechCrunch, Carly is now a freelance journalist, editor, and copywriter. Her bylines include Forbes, TechRadar, Tes, The INQUIRER, The Metro, Uswitch, and WIRED.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/youtube-kids-2025>



THE
READING
AGENCY

Summer Reading Challenge

Discover the joy of reading this summer!

Get ready for a summer full of stories, imagination, and outdoor adventures with this year's magical theme: Story Garden

Launching across Worcestershire's libraries on Saturday 5 July, the challenge is FREE for children aged 4–11 and offers a brilliant way to keep your minds active and engaged over the summer holidays. You can enjoy reading, take part in creative activities, and explore the wonderful connection between nature and storytelling.

Why join?

- It's FREE! Available at all Worcestershire's libraries
- Inspires a lifelong love of reading
- Boosts confidence, creativity, and imagination
- Fun for the whole family. Visit your local library together
- 95% of you said they read more after joining!
- You choose your own books to read over the summer, collect rewards for each milestone you reach, and receive a certificate or medal when you complete the challenge.



Scan the QR or visit:
worcestershire.gov.uk/read-and-discover/summer-reading-challenge
to get started from 5 July 2025.



worcestershire.gov.uk/Libraries

Supported using public funding from
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

 **worcestershire**
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Wyre Forest School Sport Partnership Summer Term Wellbeing Newsletter



Welcome to our summer term Health & Wellbeing Newsletter – our final one for the academic year 2024-25! The information, tips and links you will find within this newsletter are to support the whole family (adults and children) to improve their overall wellbeing through opportunities that are linked to the '5 Ways to Wellbeing'. With this in mind, we would like to wish schools and families across the Wyre Forest a safe, active and much deserved summer break.



Connect with other people.

Local carnivals: Support your local community at your local carnival. Go and show your support to the local charities and businesses at this free to attend event and enjoy mixing with others through various entertainment including: sports, music, dog shows and funfairs to name a few!

- **Bromsgrove Carnival:** Saturday 12th July at Sanders Park
- **Stourport Carnival:** Saturday 6th September at Riverside Meadows, Stourport-on-Severn

Reach out to someone in need: Whether it be an elderly neighbour, family member or sibling. Can you help someone in need, complete a daily task such as gardening, making them a cup of tea or just having a chat!

Family Fun and Support Worcestershire: Take a look at the 'What's on for families' website for loads of activities, events and sessions for families with children aged 0-16 years to take part in over the summer in Worcestershire. There are some great opportunities (lots that are free!) to connect with other families and get active. To find out more visit the website via www.familyfunandsupport.com/



Family Fun & Support Worcestershire



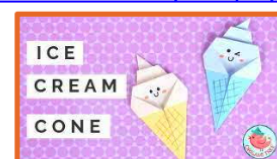
Learn new skills.

It's time to learn a new skill this summer!

Summer reading challenge: The Summer Reading Challenge 2025 is the UK's biggest free reading for pleasure programme for children. Taking place annually, the Challenge encourages children aged 4 to 11 to keep reading during the summer holidays. It launches in England on Saturday 5th July, where the theme is 'Story Garden – Adventures in Nature and the Great Outdoors'. Find out more here – www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/

Give Origami a try: Spend some time learning to make origami! There are lots of origami models that are easy and fun to fold. Here are some simple step-by-step instructions that anyone can have fun making – www.origami.guide/instructions/easy-origami/ Why not try these origami ice cream cones for a summer twist? - <https://youtu.be/ybmXJVe2QpA>

DIY Lava Lamp: Science experiments are so much fun, children of all ages will LOVE this DIY lava lamp science experiment! With just a few simple steps, you'll have your very own bubbling lava lamp that doubles up as a fun science experiment! Follow the link below to get started: www.messylittlemonster.com/2021/06/diy-lava-lamp-science-experiment.html





Be physically active.

With the warmer days and brighter evenings, the summer holidays are the perfect time to head outdoors and get closer to nature. From hunting for bugs and planting seeds to whittling wood and building secret dens, there are so many things for families to do.

Wyre Forest Leisure Centre Summer Holiday Camp: Looking for an exciting way to keep the kids entertained this summer? Try this Holiday Camp! The camp starts on Monday 21st July and runs for 6 weeks. There will be lots to keep the little ones entertained, such as: swimming, climbing wall, gymnastics, trampolining, arts & crafts, bouncy castle & soft play, martial arts and games. For more information, click here: www.placesleisure.org/centres/wyre-forest-leisure-centre/centre-activities/family-kids/

Worcestershire Wildlife Trust's Family Nature Day: The Worcestershire Wildlife Trust's upcoming Family Nature Day at Lower Smite Farm, is on Wednesday 13th August, from 10am – 2pm. The event includes activities like pond dipping, wild crafts and a nature trail. Visitors are encouraged to bring their own picnics - www.worcswildlifetrust.co.uk/events/2025-08-13-family-nature-day

Churchfield's Maize Maze is back for the 7th year! You can either visit the maize maze on its own or make a day of it with a combination ticket to visit Churchfields Fun Farm too. At the finish line feel free to dig away in the giant sand pit too! Check-In with a member of the team on arrival for your Maize Maze booklet and take a photo of the map. Churchfield's famous ice cream, food and drinks will be available in The Old Barn Cafe. Picnics are allowed in designated picnic areas only. www.churchfields.farm/events/maize-maze/

Tenbury Country Show: Nestled in meadows adjacent to the Victorian spa town of Tenbury Wells, Tenbury Countryside Show attracts 1000s of visitors every year. Their one-day show is amongst the UK's biggest, but still retains its rural charm and is deeply rooted in local Agricultural and Horticultural history. A fantastic day out for visitors, competitors and exhibitors alike, Tenbury Show is home of the Hereford Cattle Society and the National Association of Ryeland Sheep, showcasing some of the country's finest Heritage breeds. From birds of prey, ferrets, horses, livestock, pigs and rabbits...it's a real A-Z for animal lovers (No zebra's I'm afraid!) - www.tenburyshow.co.uk/

Love Your Parks Week: is taking place between Friday 25th July – 3rd August. Organised by Keep Britain Tidy, this highlights the vital role green spaces play in boosting the health and wellbeing of residents and communities. To find out more visit www.keeptobritaintidy.org/get-involved/support-our-campaigns/love-parks

Free Park Yoga in Worcestershire:

[Springfield Park Kidderminster](#), DY10 2PS 9.30am – 10.30am every Sunday morning from 4th May to 14th September.

[Brickfields Worcester City](#), 9.30am – 10.30am every Sunday morning from 4th May to 14th September.

Parks in Worcestershire

Worcestershire County Council manage a wonderful variety of sites and facilities for informal recreation, biodiversity and landscape. To find out more information about each of the sites and the facilities they have visit [Country parks, picnic places and nature reserves | Worcestershire County Council](#)





Give to others.

Friend/Family Gratitude: Grab some slips of paper and write something nice about a friend and then give it to them. Could you make similar 'compliment slips' for everyone in your family or your class? Wednesday 30th July is **International Friendship Day** – what better day to give this a try!

Charity Donation: Find some old toys, have a sort out of your wardrobe or find other items that could be donated to a charity. How could your donation help others?

Make a friendship bracelet: Friendship bracelets are a classic summer craft that you'll want to make all year long. Watch the tutorial below to learn how to make them! www.youtube.com/watch?v=h0NJgrwqpxg

Community litter pick: Do your bit for your local community and make a difference by becoming a #LitterHero! www.keepbritaintidy.org/get-involved/volunteer/litter-heroes

Get cooking: Make some summer beach themed cupcakes - <https://lifefamilyfun.com/beach-themed-cupcakes/> and gift them to someone special.



Pay attention to the present moment (mindfulness).

Mindfulness colouring: Have a go at these 'Let's Doodle About Summer' colouring pages - <https://jmp.sh/DxZMaAEU>

Gratefulness: Make a list of all of the things that you are grateful for. Could you show these on the petals of a flower drawing or the coloured stripes of a rainbow painting?

Time Capsule: Make a time capsule that includes information about your life today. Which people are most important to you? What are you most grateful for? What are your favourite things? What goals do you have for the future? Keep this somewhere safe and open it in the future. Don't forget where you put it!

Summer Yoga: Enhance your physical and mental wellbeing through some summer related yoga activities on www.kidsyogastories.com/summer-yoga/ Can you complete their summer yoga flow which is:

- triangle pose
- plank pose and
- boat pose.



5 Ways to Wellbeing



We welcome any feedback on this newsletter and would love to see any photos/videos of families taking part in any of the Wellbeing activities. Please Tweet or email us:



@WyreForestSSP



amays@shs.saet.co.uk



@WyreForestSchoolSportPartnership



SCARECROW TRAIL IN KINVER

Saturday
6th September
9.30am to 5pm

TRAIL MAPS AVAILABLE FROM
POTTERS CROSS POST OFFICE
COUNTRY KATE
OLD HOUSE SWEET SHOP
CLOCK SHELTER
(ON SATURDAY)

Come and join us for a
lovely day out at Kinver
Scarecrow trail

TRAIL MAPS £1.00



Dates for your Diary

Back to School – Wednesday 3rd September
Please bring PE kits in at the start of the week



Upper Arley
C of E Primary School

ONE COMMUNITY, LEARNING TOGETHER

School Term Dates September 2025 to July 2026

<u>HOLIDAY</u>	<u>LAST DAY OF HALF TERM/TERM</u>	<u>SCHOOL TED DAYS</u>	<u>SCHOOL RE-OPENS ON</u>
AUTUMN TERM		Monday 1 st September Tuesday 2 nd September	Wednesday 3 rd September
	Thursday 25 th September	Friday 26 th September	Monday 29 th September
AUTUMN HALF TERM	Friday 24 th October	Monday 3 rd November	Tuesday 4 th November
CHRISTMAS	Friday 19 th December		Monday 5 th January 2026
SPRING HALF TERM	Thursday 12 th February	Friday 13 th February	Monday 23 rd February
EASTER	Friday 27 th March		Monday 13 th April
SUMMER HALF TERM	Thursday 21 st May	Friday 22 nd May	Monday 1 st June
END OF SUMMER TERM	Friday 17 th July	Monday 20 th July	

**ONE COMMUNITY, LEARNING AND GROWING TOGETHER,
SHARING GOD'S LOVE**

