

Newsletter 23.10.25

Dear Families,

Well that really has been a busy half term! The children have come on in leaps and bounds and we are extremely proud of the progress that they are making. I hope that you are too. This half term we have been particularly focussed on developing the ways in which we question the children - moving away from a 'hands up approach' to ensure that all the children are thinking hard all of the time. This is really paying off and the children are becoming , much more confident to share what they know. We have also been focussing on presentation and the pride that the children are taking in their work is evident to see.

Alongside all of this fantastic curriculum work we have had a visit from the Foodbank to help us to understand the importance of their work as our harvest festival, Y1 grandparents afternoon, trips out in for years 3 and 4, swimming, Mellow Yellow, Parents Evenings, Open Classrooms and much more.

I know that next half term will be just as busy, if not busier. We will do our best to communicate all events (including those linked to the 'c' word) in as much time as possible so you are able to plan as we move into the busiest time of year.

Have a wonderful half term break and we look forward to seeing you in November

Mrs Gordon

Stars of The Week

We are super proud of our stars over the last 4 weeks:

Reception

Alex A, Jasper, Mehreen, Musa, Scarlett B, Bertie, Bonnie, Cali

Year 1

Joey, Elsie R, Hugo S, Millie B, Freya P, Luey, Emma O, James R

Year 2

Thomas A, Isabelle G, Reuben D, Tommy V, Luke, Eli B, Anelise, Loki, Nathan

Year 3

Jackson J, Esme, Billy M, Louie C, Krishna, Joseph G, Jessica G, Hattie

Year 4

Phoebe A, Charlie S, Alice H, Ivy J, Rose B, Melanie L

Year 5

Orla M, Logan G, Salahuddin, Sienna, Delilah D, Ruby B, Edward J, Milo Dixon

Year 6

Brooke, Tobey O, Evie H, Stan J, Violet T, Louie R, Violet W, All of 6ECT

Opal

Evlynne 2JR, Milo 5KG, Lillie 3LC, Tia 6EC/CT, Amber 6EC/CT

WAC

Luke 2ET, Jessica 6CB, Oscar 5KG, Arabella RHH

Attendance



Thank you for your continued support in ensuring the children are in school, on time, every day.

Our whole school attendance so far this year is 95.5%, which is just above the national average.

We are in competition with both Feckenham and Astwood Bank Primaries who are just ahead of us (by 0.3% so we are closing the gap) help us to get ahead of them before the Christmas break!

Congratulations to the attendance cup winners over the last few weeks:

🏆 Gold: 2ET, RHH, 4KH, 4KE

🥈 Silver: RHH, 2ET, 1FT, 4KH

🥉 Bronze: 5KG, 3MM, 6CB, 3MM, 6ECT

The Autumn 1 half term winners are:

1st: 4KH with 97.1%

2nd: RHH with 96.9%

3rd: 3LC with 96.8%

Well done to these classes, keep up the great work - let's see whether they can be beaten next half term...!

Diary Dates

Here are the next few weeks dates for you to be aware of:

Monday 27th – Friday 31st October – Half term

Monday 3rd November - Autumn Term 2 Starts – Poppies will be on sale this week

Monday 3rd November – Start of mandatory hot dinner ordering by parents/carers (See email dated 8th October for full details)

Wednesday 5th November – Bonfire Night special lunch menu (pre-order via ParentPay as usual)

Monday 10th November - Odd sock day

w/c 10th November - Anti Bullying week including World Kindness Day **Thursday 13th November**

Tuesday 11th November - Y1-6 visit to church for Remembrance

Wednesday 12th November – Reception/Nursery - Nursery Rhyme Day

Tuesday 25th November – Primary Winter Olympics

Further dates and Christmas Activity dates will be sent the first week back.

Admissions Policy 2027

There are no proposed changes to the oversubscription criteria other than the addition of linked sibling entitlement to those pupils still attending WAPS, but we are consulting because we have changed the format, increasing the level of detail and clarity linked to the Admissions Code 2021.

If you have any comments relating to this policy please contact office@waps.shiresmat.org.uk or send comments to Webheath Primary Academy School postal address.

The consultation runs from Oct 20th 2025 to Dec 5th 2025

Redditch Foodbank - Harvest Festival



Harvest appeal



Help support your food bank this Harvest

In the three weeks leading up to Harvest, the food bank will provide over 190 food parcels for local individuals and families facing hardship.

Donate food



Donate an item or two from our shopping list, ensuring we can provide food for people facing hardship in your community.

Donate money



Help to cover the costs of storing and distributing food, as well as developing sustainable projects.

Shopping list

Tinned veg/fruit _____

Pasta Sauce _____

Fruit juice (long-life) _____

Tinned pudding _____

Jam _____

Tinned Meat (Chilli, _____

Curry, Meatballs, _____

Stewing Steak, Minced _____

Beef) _____

Packet Rice (250g) _____

01527 69161

redditch.foodbank.org.uk

Registered Charity in England & Wales (1157916)







On 30th September we held our annual Harvest Festival. As usual our school community overwhelmed us with their generosity, and we were able to send 3 carloads of, much needed supplies, to Redditch foodbank. The children listened to an inspiring talk from Robin who told them about his work here in Redditch and abroad for those in need. Thank you to everyone who made a donation.

Please could I just say a massive thank you to you, the school, children and parents who have donated this harvest to Redditch Foodbank. This food is already making a difference to people right here in Redditch, especially the cakes!

Dear Mrs Mayne

Robin reported to me how much he enjoyed the opportunity to speak to the students and explain about our service. He remarked how polite all the students were and what a credit they are to Webheath First School.

If ever there is any more ways we can work together to bring community and school together I would love to work with you again.

Please pass on our thanks to everyone and let them know how much we appreciate their generosity.

Regards,

Emma Marshall

Interim Project Manager

THANK YOU

for supporting Redditch foodbank

Your donation really makes a BIG difference to local people in crisis.

Worcestershire School Games Panathlon



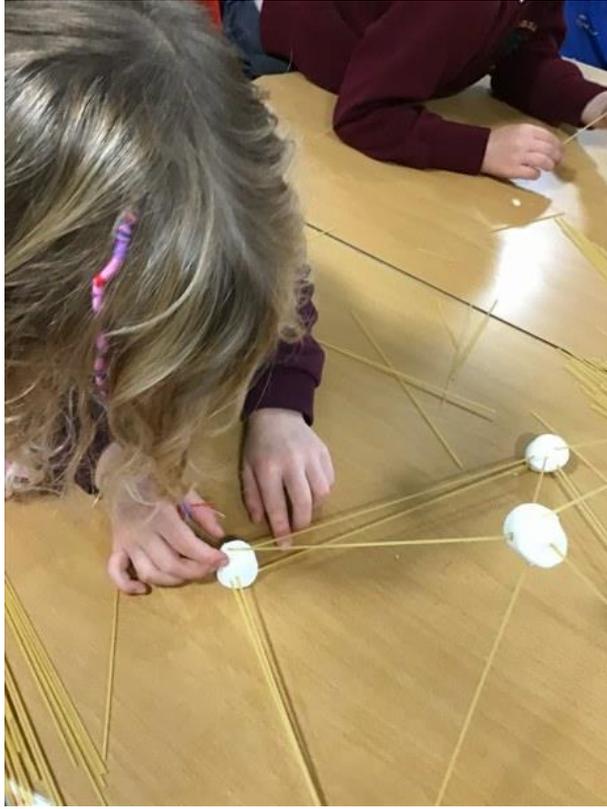
On Tuesday 14th October a group of children represented Webheath in the School Games SEND Bowling event. There were 22 schools in attendance and Webheath came 2nd. Special mention to Tobey who also made it to the '100 club' by scoring 102!

Year 1 Ogden Trust Science Day

When I collected the children from their Science day, the excitement and enthusiasm was clear to be heard, they couldn't stop chatting the whole way back about what they had been up to. From mice shooting into the air, building structures and spinning parrots, lots of fun was had and a clear buzz about Science was felt. Well done for being excellent role models on your visit.

Miss Pettit





Reception - People Who Help Us

Reception have been learning about the people who help us in our local community. We had a fabulous visit from Sargeant Mayne, who talked to us about what the police do and how they keep us all safe. The children even got to try on different parts of his uniform! We then had a visit from Midwife Ruth, who talked to us about how she looks after babies and their mummies. She showed us some pictures of a baby inside their mummy's tummy!



EYFS Phonics Workshop



A big thank you to all the parents, carers and grandparents who attended our Reception Phonics Workshop! It was a wonderful chance to explore how we teach phonics and support

early reading. The highlight of the session was seeing the children proudly share their learning with their special grown-ups. We hope you found the workshop informative and inspiring as we continue working together to nurture a love of reading.

Hello Yellow World Mental Health Day



**I'm wearing
yellow to show
young people
they're not alone**

#HelloYellow

M&S | YOUNGMINDS



It was wonderful to see the whole school community adorned in yellow in recognition of World Mental Health Day. We took time to think about how we can look after our own mental health and support others with small acts of kindness. The children took time creating friendship bracelets , bookmarks and messages to celebrate kindness and positive mental health. It has been a delight to see these activities continuing well into the following weeks as part of our OPAL lunchtime offer.

School Council

We are delighted to introduce our school councillors for this year!

These pupils have been chosen by their classmates to represent student voices across the school. They'll be working together to share ideas, help make positive changes, and ensure everyone feels proud to be part of our school community. We can't wait to see the great things they'll achieve this year!



Year 6 football



On the 30th September, some of our talented Year 6 boys took to the pitch to play in a local school district tournament. Playing 2 matches against Woodfield Academy and St Bedes, they were united as a team throughout. Drawing in the first match and just missing out on a win against St Bedes in the second, we await to hear if we have got through to the finals having

scored the same goal difference as Woodfield. Watching them as a team, we felt proud of our lads and we all left feeling positive of there being future wins to be had.

Y1 Grandparents Day

We had a fantastic turnout for Grandparents Day, and the atmosphere was truly heart warming. It was lovely to see so many family members join us in supporting the children as they explored and learned about the past. Thank you to everyone who made the day so special, and we loved seeing your artefacts!







Year 3 trip

Year 3 enjoyed a marvellous trip to Bishop's wood centre to learn all about the Stone age!

We created fire, threw spears and drew cave art!





Year 4 trip

Reminders



NEW ordering policy - Hot Dinners - Starting Monday 3rd November

Please remember to order your child's hot dinners via **ParentPay**, as outlined in the email sent on **8th October**. This applies to **all children in school**, from **Nursery up to and including Year 6**.

Teachers and office staff will not be placing hot dinner orders, so please ensure you order your child's meal **the evening before**. If a meal has not been ordered, please provide your child with a **packed lunch**.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Late arrivals

We kindly ask that all children arrive at school **on time each morning**. When children arrive late, they miss vital **morning exercises and essential learning activities** that set them up for a successful day.

Late arrivals can also be **disruptive** for the class, teachers, and support staff, as they often need to pause lessons to collect children. In addition, the school office becomes very busy during this time, which can delay other important tasks.

The **playground opens early**, and we encourage families to **arrive in good time for drop-off** to help avoid traffic or transport-related delays.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us ensure every child has a calm and positive start to their school day.

Bringing Essential Items in the Morning

We kindly ask parents and carers to ensure that children arrive at school each morning with everything they need for the day — including **jumpers/cardigans, coats, drinks, and lunchboxes**. When items are dropped off late, it can cause disruptions both in the office and in classrooms, as support staff may need to leave lessons to collect and deliver forgotten belongings. Your help in making sure children come fully prepared each morning is greatly appreciated and helps the school day run smoothly for everyone. Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Lunchbox Reminder

We would like to remind all parents and carers to ensure that lunchboxes contain appropriate food items for your child only. Recently, a pupil in Year 6 was seen sharing part of their lunch with another child who has specific dietary needs. While we know this was done with kindness, sharing food can pose serious health risks for children with allergies or dietary restrictions.

Please remind your child not to share their food with others and to eat only what has been provided for them. Thank you for your understanding and support in keeping all our pupils safe.

Odd Socks Day, Anti Bullying Week and World Kindness Day



We're excited to share that we will be taking part in **Odd Socks Day** on Monday 10th November as part of **Anti-Bullying Week**. Everyone is invited to wear odd socks to celebrate what makes us all unique. It's a fun and simple way to kick off important conversations about kindness, respect, and inclusion.

This year's anti-bullying theme is '**Power of Good**', and throughout the week, the children will be engaging in activities and discussions that promote empathy, understanding, and standing up for one another.

We'll also be marking **World Kindness Day** on **Thursday 13th November**, encouraging everyone in our school community to carry out small acts of kindness—because even the smallest gesture can make a big difference.

We'd love you to open conversations at home about how we can all work together to create a community of kindness.

Special remembrance service

On 11th November the children will be taking part in our annual Service of Remembrance.

Like last year, pupils in Years 1-6 will be walking to Webheath Churchyard, where there are two plaques bearing the names of the fallen from this area. We will hold a 2 minutes silence there, before returning to school.

Children in Nursery and Reception will be holding their own, age appropriate, reflection at school.

The service last year was enjoyed by pupils and staff alike. I hope it will be an equally meaningful experience for the children this year as it will include the opportunity to see an instillation of poppies, made by the local community.

Children who are members of uniformed organisations such as Scouts, Brownies, Cadets, Boys Brigade etc. are welcome to exchange their school uniform for their organisation's uniform for the day. All other children will need to wear their usual Webheath school uniform (PE kit as usual if it is a PE day for your child).

As the service is outside, it is essential that children come to school in a warm, waterproof coat. However, if the weather is too extreme, we will have to hold the service in school.

If you have any members of your own family or friends, that you remember at this time of year, you are welcome to write their names on a piece of paper and send them into school. We will add them to our Jar of Remembrance.

Friends Association



The Friends of Webheath have very kindly bought some outdoor equipment for the Early Years outdoor area. We have some new storage boxes, an easel and an amazing waterwall! The children have thoroughly enjoyed using them. The staff and children of Nursery and Reception, would all like to say a very big thank you to the Friends!



Stop Schools Cuts



What does this mean for Webheath Academy Primary School

Government cuts mean 67% of schools in Worcestershire have less funding in real terms than in 2010!

Our School budget will be cut in Academic year 2025/2026!

£60,586 has been cut from Webheath's budget since academic year 2010/2011, that's £151 per pupil lost!

What is the impact on our children?

- **Less individualised attention for every child**
- **Steep cuts to arts, sports and music programmes**
- **Not enough support for children with special education needs and disabilities**
- **School buildings falling into disrepair**

Thursday Forest School Club

The children have thoroughly enjoyed exploring the forest, working together to build shelters using teamwork and problem-solving skills. They have been demonstrating curiosity and have enjoyed locating different types of sticks for fire building, deepening their understanding of nature and outdoor safety.





Clubs and Community Links

We've had a busy first half term developing new clubs for the children. Redditch United, Worcestershire County Cricket, and Kick are all running exciting clubs full of fun activities. We are also lucky to have George from Sporting Club Inkberrow leading free-flow sports activities at lunchtimes, and supporting WAC after school

Year 6 have been lucky enough to receive badminton sessions from Badminton Centre this half term, and Year 5 will be receiving cricket sessions from WCC after the October break. We are so lucky to have secured these funded sessions from our local community clubs. If any parents or carers have links to other community clubs who may like to become involved in school life, please do contact the office or speak to Mrs Heffernan.

Thank you for supporting all of our clubs; watch this space as we look forward to the offer developing as the year goes on.

Redditch United are running a holiday camp next week at their stadium and they are giving any children that attend partner schools 25% off. Use the code - XXY371 at checkout and you will get 25% off.

[class for kids RUFC](#)

Date for your diary: There will be a 'Webheath takeover' at Redditch United for their match on **20th December**. The club have generously offered free tickets to our children and a family member. We will be sending out more details next half term, including the opportunity for 11 of our children to have an extra special mascot experience at the club on this date.

Newspaper Plea

After half term, Year 1 will be working on a fun art project and we're in need of **newspapers** to use for our creative activities. If you have any spare newspapers at home, we'd be very grateful for your donations! Please ensure that the newspapers are **appropriate for children**, as the children will be handling and reading parts of them. Donations can be brought in after the half term break. Thank you so much for your support and generosity — we can't wait to get creative!