

Friday 23rd October 2026

Right of the Month: 31 – the right to
leisure, play and culture
School Value: Trust

Dear Parents and Carers,

As the final week of this half term, we have ended the week with lots of fun. Thank you for supporting our fundraiser today for the charity **Fereday's First Response** and our bleed kit.

The children all looked amazing and ready for dancing at their **Halloween discos**. Thank you to **Woodthorpe Friends** for organising this event and to our staff volunteers. DJ Charlie did a fantastic job of keeping everyone dancing!

Thank you for coming along to see all our children's **Black History Month** arts projects which were displayed on Tuesday in our Relic Traveller exhibition.

Our **parent/teacher consultation meetings** will take place on the 10th and 11th November. We will be using Arbor to set up your meetings with your child's teacher. These should go live on Monday 2nd November at 8.00am and close on Monday 9th November at 12pm. For Reception, please book with Mrs Ifill in order to meet with Mrs Pickering as well. Meetings with school's SENDCo, Ms Carrington, will be arranged separately and details for booking will be sent out when we return. Thank you.

We hope you have a lovely half term break and look forward to welcoming you back on Tuesday 3rd November.

Ms McGrath

Pupils of the Week

Rec: Delilah – Always working hard and being a good role model to others in class.

Y1: Penelope – For always being a polite, respectful member of Year 1.

Y2: Irea – For always making the right choices and working really hard in English.

Y3: Noa – For always making good choices and showing kindness and care towards her peers.

Y4: Bethany – For independent work and always working hard towards targets.

Y6: Zephyr – For wonderful focus and effort, especially with extended writing and history.

Ms Carrington: Darcie – For her positive attitude and perseverance in maths.

House Points Weekly Leaderboard

Dawberry – 521

Highbury – 489

Brandwood – 482

Jasmin – 428

Congratulations **Dawberry** House!
And to our overall half term winning House Team **Brandwood** (Your House Celebration Event will take place after half term)

Attendance & Punctuality

WC: 12/10/26

Year Group	Present marks (%)	No of Lates
Reception	96.9	3
Year 1	97.6	2
Year 2	98.8	2
Year 3	98.1	3
Year 4	93.8	6
Year 5	98.7	3
Year 6	93.7	4
Average % / Total Lates	96.8	23

Notices & Updates

Flu Vaccinations

We have been given dates for the Flu Vaccinations for Reception – Y6 children to take place on: **Tuesday 10th November 2026**. A catch-up session will also take place on Tuesday 12th January 2027. Please look out for further information/Consent form, which will be communicated to you via VaccinationUK.

School Photos

Your child should have brought home a QR card on Wednesday 21st October, after having their photos taken. All details for ordering are on the cards. Images will go live within 48 hours of photos being taken (excluding weekends).

If you misplace the QR card, please call Aperture Portraits office on 0121 439 3211 Monday - Friday 9 - 4 pm and confirm your child's name & school. The access code will then be shared directly with school and passed on to you.

Orders placed in the first 2 weeks of images going live have the option of free delivery back to school and any orders placed thereafter will incur a postage charge as orders will be delivered to home addresses.

Poppy Appeal

After half term, we will be selling Poppies at breaktime for a donation of 20p, or above, and other merchandise will be for sale for £1 per item. These will be on sale until Wednesday 11th November.

First Day Absence Calls

Reminder: Please let us know on your child's first day of absence, the reason for their absence via either telephone (including voicemail) on **0121 464 5203**/enquiry email:

enquiry@woodthorpe.drbignitemat.org or by sending us an Arbor **In-App message**. If your child's absence is due to illness, please specify their illness/symptoms. Many thanks.

Free creative Saturday programme for children aged 5–13

Registration is now open for BOA Super Saturday School 2027, a free eight-week creative programme for children aged 5–13, run by Birmingham Ormiston Academy. Sessions will take place on Saturdays from 23 January to 13 March 2027, from 10am to 1pm, with workshops including dance, drama, art, singing and DJ skills. Free places with priority registration are available for children eligible for Free School Meals, Pupil Premium or Universal Credit. [Register for BOA Super Saturday School 2027](#)

Advice Fair - Friday 30th October

Al Carns DSO OBE MC MP has organised for local organisations to provide advice and signposting for residents in Birmingham Selly Oak during half-term on from 11am-1pm, Friday 30 October at Dame Elizabeth Hall, Bournville.

Organisations attending include Act on Energy, Bournville Village Trust, Department for Work and Pensions (signposting advice only), Birmingham City Council, Bring it on Brum, Severn Trent, Barnardo's, Birmingham SENDIASS, NHS Birmingham Community Healthcare, Birmingham Carers Hub, and Citizens Advice.

Secondary School Applications

The application portal for Secondary Schools is open, and you are urged to apply as soon as you can but before 11.59pm on 31st October 2026. If you are late in applying your application will not be considered until after the places have been offered out on 1st March 2027 when there is no guarantee you will be given the school of your choice.

All the information on the application process for Secondary Transfer is available on the Council's website www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions

Parents can also call 0121 303 1888 if they wish to speak to a member of the team or alternatively email

admissions@birmingham.gov.uk

It is important applications are submitted on time and no later than 11.59 pm on 31 October 2026. Families will be notified of the school place offered to their child on 1 March 2027.

School Fund Contributions

School fund contributions would be most welcome, via Arbor £10 per term.

All donations go towards enhancing our pupils' learning environment, e.g. books for library, costumes for productions etc. Thank you in advance.

Outdoor Play and Learning

We would gratefully receive any of the following donations:

- Small cars track & road mat
- Duplo/large Lego
- Dinosaurs
- Dolls
- Soft toys
- Large pieces of material
- Picnic blankets/large mats

Pupil Places

Woodthorpe currently has pupil places available in most year groups (except in Years 5 and 6). If you know anyone who has recently moved into the area and/or looking for a school place, please do let them know.

School Meals

Please see Spring/Summer Menu 1 – attached (Menu 2 & 3 also attached). We will be having our current menus for a week or so, whilst we await our new Autumn/Winter menus.

Half Term Safety Message from Education

In previous years, we have seen more young people travelling into Birmingham city centre on the last day before the half term break. Most enjoy themselves

without any problems, but large groups can sometimes lead to anti-social behaviour and safeguarding concerns, as well as putting extra pressure on public spaces and transport.

West Midlands Police, British Transport Police, Birmingham City Council and other partners will be working together to help

keep young people and others safe. As a precaution, there will be an increased and visible police presence in the city centre, including neighbourhood officers and specialist resources.

Please remind young people to:

- make safe and sensible plans for the start of half term
- consider meeting friends closer to home rather than travelling into the city centre
- avoid travelling in large groups
- look after themselves and their friends
- make sure a parent or carer knows where they are, who they are with and how they are getting home
- be respectful of other people, businesses, transport staff and public spaces
- follow advice from police, transport staff and other officials.

Talk to your children about their plans, including where they are going, who they will be with and how they will get home safely.



Diary for the Week

Monday 2nd November – Staff Training day – School closed to pupils

Tuesday 3rd – Children return

9.30 am New Reception 2027 Open Event

No Choir

No Drama Club

Wednesday 4th – 8.30 – 8.45 am Wake
Up Shake Up Dance – All welcome

9.30 am New Reception 2027 Open Event

9.30 am Reception eye tests

Guitar lessons

Thursday 5th – 8.30 – 8.45 am The Daily
Mile – all welcome

9.00-11.00am - Speech and language
coffee morning/drop in
ALL parents/carers welcome
Keyboard lessons

Friday 6th – Brass lessons

Staff Training Days for 2026-27:

- 4th January
- 12th February
- 6th May

Parent/Teacher meetings:

- 10th and 11th November
- 2nd and 3rd March 2027



Woodthorpe Junior and Infant School

Health and Wellbeing Newsletter



Friday 23rd October 2026

Clubs and Activities



Position	Year Group	Distance Travelled
Joint 1 st	Year 3	8.30
Joint 1 st	Year 5	8.30
3 rd	Year 1	6.49
4 th	Reception	3.93
5 th	Year 4	2.57
6 th	Year 2	1.81
7 th	Year 6	0.45
		31.9 miles

We just about managed to avoid the showers once again this week! The weather has been kind and enabled 39 children to get involved this week. Well done once again to Year 3 and 5 for being the most active – travelling 8.30 miles! It was brilliant to see children from Reception too! Please note that the Daily Mile and Wake Up, Shake Up dance take place from 08:30 – 08:45 on a Monday, Wednesday and Thursday.

After-School Sports Clubs

After-school sports clubs will commence from the second week back (w/c Monday 9th November) and run for a 5-week block. Look out for further details when school re-opens on Tuesday 3rd November. Thank you to all our families who have supported the clubs this half term.

Red Ridge Residential – October 2026

This is your last chance to access the photos from the week – check the link below for the Year 6 blog site.

[Red Ridge 2026 – 6KS – Year 6 Blogging Site](#)

Living Streets' Travel Tracker

We relaunched our Travel Tracker recently! This is where children get to log how they travelled to school each day – active

journeys are then rewarded with badges at the end of each month! The badges for October will be distributed to the children after the half term break.



Year 3/4 Multi-Sports Festival

On Tuesday this week some of our Year 3/4 children ventured over to Moseley Secondary School to take part in a multi-sports festival. The children had the opportunity to explore a wide range of activities and represented the school brilliantly!

Team: William H, Max B, Jago D, George D, Rory L, Rupert L.

Year 3/4 Boys Football Competition

On Thursday this week our Year 3/4 Boys Football Team travelled across to Christ Church Secondary School to play in a competition organised by Mr McDermott, School Games Organiser, at Bishop Challoner. Even though the team didn't win a game, they showed superb resilience throughout the afternoon and never gave up. For many, this was the first time that they had represented the school in a sporting event.

Team: Jude S, Freddie I, Teddy R, Jasper W, Charlie W, Rafferty M, Zachary D, Tae B, Arthur S.





Woodthorpe Junior and Infant School Health and Wellbeing Newsletter



Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL)

Our OPAL play programme continues to go from strength to strength! It has been wonderful seeing the engagement from the children over the last few weeks. Many thanks to those families who have kindly donated resources so far.



Woodthorpe in the Community

Well done to Isla W (Y5) who recently performed a dance show with Cashmore School in front of 700 people and received a silver medal. Amazing achievement!

Martha (Y5) is looking forward to her Alice in Wonderland performance with Class Act Theatrics in the coming weeks. Best of luck!

Pupil Voice

"We played games against six other schools, even though we didn't win our games, we still showed a lot of determination!" Teddy R (Y4)

"It was great to wear the school football kit and play against the other schools." Charlie W (Y4)

"We played lots of different sports at Moseley School, we had great fun!" Jago (Y4)

Dates for your diary

Monday 2nd November – Teacher Day

Wednesday 4th November - Wake-up Shake-up Dance

Thursday 5th November – The Daily Mile

Mental Health and Wellbeing Update



*See attached for enlarged version

Calm Harm App - Calm Harm is a free app designed to help young people aged over 13 manage or resist the urge to self-harm.

Developed by Clinical Psychologist Dr Nihara Krause MBE in collaboration with young people, the app uses principles from Dialectical Behaviour Therapy (DBT). It offers activities and techniques including breathing exercises and helps users build a 'safety net' of helpful thoughts, behaviours and supportive people. It also signposts users to further help.



Woodthorpe Junior and Infant School Health and Wellbeing Newsletter

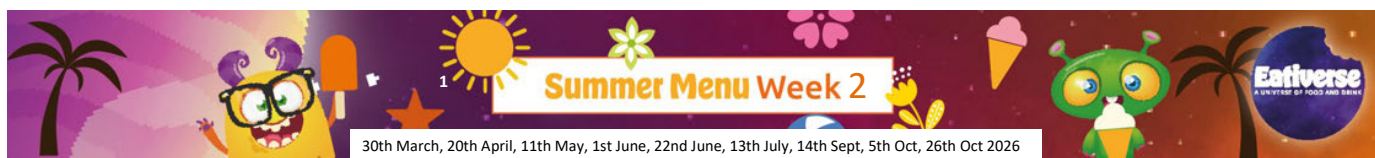


The app is private and anonymous and can be used as an additional source of support for young people experiencing urges to self-harm. It is not a substitute for assessment or individualised treatment by a health or mental health professional.

[Find out more about the Calm Harm app](#)

Bring It On Brum! Winter holiday activities returning soon

Bring It On Brum! will be returning for the winter holidays, offering a range of activities for children and young people across Birmingham. Full programme details will be shared with schools nearer the time, with bookings opening on 30 November.



Summer Menu Week 2

30th March, 20th April, 11th May, 1st June, 22nd June, 13th July, 14th Sept, 5th Oct, 26th Oct 2026

WEEK TWO	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Main - Option 1	Chicken & Pasta with Tomatoes and Herbs	Chicken Goujons	Roast Chicken in Gravy	Sweet & Sour Chicken	Tuna Pasta Bake
Vegetables	Sweetcorn	Baked Beans	Vegetable Medley	Cauliflower	Peas
Sides	Baked Potato Wedges	Diced Potatoes	Golden Roast Potatoes	White Rice	Oven Chips
Main - Option 2	Lentil & Vegetable Flaky Topped Pie	Vegetarian Tikka Masala	Penne Pasta in Tomato and Basil Sauce	Bean Chilli	Vegetarian Cottage Pie
Vegetables	Sweetcorn	Broccoli	Vegetable Medley	Green Beans	Peas
Sides	Baked Potato Wedges	Wholegrain Rice	Penne Pasta	White Rice	Oven Chips
Jacket Potatoes	Filled Jacket Potato	Filled Jacket Potato	Filled Jacket Potato	Filled Jacket Potato	Filled Jacket Potato
Dessert	Summer Fruit Sponge	Bakewell Tart	Pineapple Sponge	Apple Crumble	Hot Chocolate Brownie




Summer Menu Week 1

13th April, 4th May, 25th May, 15th June, 6th July, 7th Sept, 28th Sept, 19th Oct 2026

WEEK ONE	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Main - Option 1	Fajita Chicken	Beef Lasagne	Roast Beef in Gravy	Chicken Curry	Fish Goujons
Vegetables	Vegetable Medley	Carrots	Mixed Vegetables	Mixed Vegetables	Peas
Sides	White Rice	Baked Potato Wedges	Golden Roast Potatoes	Wholegrain Rice	Oven Chips
Main - Option 2	Macaroni Cheese	Chickpea Curry	Cheese & Onion Pie	Lentil Bolognaise	Vegetable Lasagne
Vegetables	Sweetcorn	Cauliflower	Mixed Vegetables	Mixed Vegetables	Peas
Sides	Diced Potatoes	Wholegrain Rice	Golden Roast Potatoes	Penne Pasta	Oven Chips
Jacket Potatoes	Filled Jacket Potato	Filled Jacket Potato	Filled Jacket Potato	Filled Jacket Potato	Filled Jacket Potato
Dessert	Apple Crumble	Chocolate Sponge	Lemon & Orange Sponge	Chocolate Chip Sponge	Somerset Apple Cake



Summer Menu Week 3					
WEEK THREE	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Main - Option 1	Cheesy Garlic Chicken	Smoked Paprika & Tomato Chicken	Sliced Roast Chicken in Gravy	Beef Bolognaise	Breaded Cod
Vegetables	Carrots	Mixed Vegetables	Mixed Vegetables	Sweetcorn	Peas
Sides	Diced Potatoes	Baked Potato Wedges	Golden Roast Potatoes	Penne Pasta	Oven Chips
Main - Option 2	Cauliflower, Spinach & Lentil Curry	Tomato & Chickpea Gratin	Cauliflower & Broccoli Pasta	Vegetable Quiche	Potato, Cheese & Leek Bake
Sides	Green Beans	Cauliflower	Mixed Vegetables	Carrots	Baked Beans
Carbohydrate	Wholegrain Rice	Baked Potato Wedges	Penne Pasta	Baked Potato Wedges	Oven Chips
Jacket Potatoes	Filled Jacket Potato	Filled Jacket Potato	Filled Jacket Potato	Filled Jacket Potato	Filled Jacket Potato
Dessert	Lemon Flavour Sponge	Apricot Crumble	Jam Sponge	Somerset Apple Cake	Chocolate Sponge

WHAT'S ON OCT HALF TERM

Activities at Dawberry Corner Community Garden



Accessible Toilet.



Find us next to 72 Dawberry Rd, B14 6RY

MON 26 OCT - SUN 1 NOV

MON & TUES



GARDEN OPEN FOR PLAY,
HOT CHOC & BOOK SWAP
MONDAY 2-4PM
TUESDAY 10AM-12PM
FREE ENTRY JUST TURN UP

WED MORNING



FAMILY CRAFTS, BOOK
SWAP & PLAY
10AM-12PM
FREE ENTRY JUST TURN UP

WED EVENING



OUTDOOR GLOW IN DARK SILENT
DISCO, 6.30-8PM £2 PER TICKET
BOOKING ESSENTIAL.
www.ticketsource.com/our-scene/

THURS EVENING



OUTDOOR CINEMA SCREENING
FILM STARTS 6.30PM £2 PER TICKET
BOOKING ESSENTIAL.
www.ticketsource.com/our-scene/

FRIDAY EVENING



SEND-FRIENDLY
FAMILY AUTUMN
TWILIGHT PARTY,
4.30-6.30PM
FREE ENTRY JUST TURN UP

SUN EVENING



COMMUNITY FIRE PIT PARTY
& CAMPSTOVE COOK UP,
5-7PM
FREE ENTRY JUST TURN UP





AL CARNS MP ADVICE FAIR

Drop in for help, advice and information on the cost-of-living and any other issues you may be having.



Friday 30th October



11am – 1pm



**Dame Elizabeth Hall, Firkbank
Close, Bournville, B30 1UA**

I will be joined by...



Department
for Work &
Pensions

*Signposting advice only



07594 530309

www.alcarns.co.uk

al.carns.mp@parliament.uk



FOUNDATION

OCTOBER HALF TERM 2026 SOCCER SCHOOLS



Aston

Harborne

Bromsgrove

Dates: Mon 26th - Fri 30th Oct

Times: 9:30 - 15:30

Ages: 5 - 12



BIRMINGHAM MOSELEY
MINIS & JUNIORS

GIRLS. YOUR TEAM IS WAITING.



SAME
GAME
MORE
GIRLS



BUILD
CONFIDENCE



MAKE
FRIENDS



LOVE
RUGBY

**4 FREE
TASTER SESSIONS**

Reception to Year 11
No experience needed



SCAN TO JOIN

ONE CLUB. ONE FAMILY. **ONE COMMUNITY**

BIRMINGHAM MOSELEY
MINIS & JUNIORS

JOIN THE RED & BLACK



BUILD
CONFIDENCE



MAKE
FRIENDS



PLAY
RUGBY

**4 FREE
TASTER SESSIONS**

Reception to Year 11



SCAN TO JOIN

ONE CLUB. ONE FAMILY. **ONE COMMUNITY**

BIRMINGHAM MOSELEY
MINIS & JUNIORS

GIRLS. COME & FIND YOUR TEAM.

RUGBY OPEN SESSION

No experience needed. No pressure. Just come and give it a go!



STARTING SUNDAY 18 OCTOBER
(then every Sunday)



12:30PM - 2:00PM



**SMALL ASTRO,
BEHIND THE CLUBHOUSE**



SCHOOL YEARS 6 - 9

SCAN TO JOIN



ONE CLUB. ONE FAMILY. ONE COMMUNITY



**SAME
GAME
MORE
GIRLS**

Optimistic October 2026



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together



MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY



5 Be a realistic optimist! See life as it is, but focus on what's good



6 Remind yourself that things can change for the better



7 Look for the good in people around you today

1 Write down three things you can look forward to this month

2 Find something to be optimistic about (even if it's a difficult time)

3 Take a small step towards a goal that really matters to you

4 Start your day with the most important thing on your to-do list

8 Make some progress on a project or task you have been avoiding

9 Share an important goal with someone you trust

10 Take time to reflect on what you have accomplished recently

11 Avoid blaming yourself or others. Find a helpful way forward

12 Look out for positive news and reasons to be cheerful today

13 Ask for help to overcome an obstacle you are facing

14 Do something constructive to improve a difficult situation

15 Thank yourself for achieving the things you often take for granted

16 Put down your to-do list and do something fun or uplifting

17 Take a small step towards a positive change you want to see in society

18 Set hopeful but realistic goals for the days ahead

19 Identify one of your positive qualities that will be helpful in the future

20 Find joy in tackling a task you've put off for some time

21 Let go of the expectations of others and focus on what matters to you

22 Share a hopeful quote, picture or video with a friend or colleague

23 Recognise that you have a choice about what to prioritise

24 Write down three specific things that have gone well recently

25 You can't do everything! What are your three priorities right now?

26 Find a new perspective on a problem you face

27 Be kind to yourself today. Remember, progress takes time

28 Ask yourself, will this still matter a year from now?

29 Plan a fun or exciting activity to look forward to

30 Identify three things that give you hope for the future

31 Set a goal that brings a sense of purpose for the coming month



OCTOBER HOLIDAY CLUBS

ST ALBAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL,
KINGS HEATH, B14 5AL

OCTOBER HALF TERM
TUESDAY 27TH - THURSDAY 29TH OCTOBER
£23.50 9AM-4PM (5-11 YEAR OLDS)
£14.00 9AM-1PM (4 YEAR OLDS IN RECEPTION)

WE WILL PROVIDE A FULL RANGE OF EXCITING AND ENGAGING
ACTIVITIES TO SUIT ALL AGES AND ABILITIES!

SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT
WWW.PREMIER-EDUCATION.COM/HOLIDAY-CAMPS

**BOOK
NOW!**

