



Ward End Primary School Newsletter

March 2025

We are, confident communicators, independent and proud !

Lots happening in school this Spring term.

The swimming pool is a huge success! Pupils are smiling from ear to ear whilst bobbing around in the water! We can see real progress in swimming and water skills due to swimming twice a week. Well done years 3 and 4. Week beginning 7th April it will be the turn of year one and two.

Year 6 enjoyed a trip to Woodlands Camp at the end of February. Many thanks to all our parents who supported Year 6's fundraising effort to make this trip possible

Year Two are completing a sculpture trail around Birmingham City Centre this week, and journeying on the bus. Year 4 have been to the Utilita area to watch Championship badminton, and year one have visited a local church as part of our programme of visits to each religious building. We have trained 4 staff to drive mini buses, and are looking forward to using these to transport pupils more cost effectively to local venues.

Parents are aware we have been facing challenges with our heating systems. Pupils have all been responsible and managed very well when asked to work in different rooms. The underfloor heating in the Canteen section of school has been fixed this week. We are hoping

the original heating issue will be sorted within the Easter break- as the corridor floor needs to be dug up. This would have necessitated closing school, so we have asked for the job to happen during the school holidays. This means Reception and year one will stay in their present rooms until Easter. It also means that we are still serving lunches in classrooms. This is not ideal, however there is no easier solution. Again I thank everyone for their patience and support.

Parents afternoons- 25th and 26th March- booking via BromCom

Parking outside school is becoming an increasing concern and a safety issue. Parents **MUST** park away from school gates and walk pupils to school site. Parking on zigzags is a parking offense and is dangerous to pupils and parents entering by foot. Please park safely.

Registration plates will be noted and forwarded to police where parents continue to park or drive dangerously. Thank you. I have discussed the parking issues with Liam Byrne MP on his recent visit to Ward End School, he will ask local police to support us.

Liam Byrne MP, visited school last Friday. Our UNICEF ambassadors greeted him and lobbied for street cleaning and environmental safety around local parks. Hopefully some good news to follow.

I am liaising with the builders across the road from school and asking them to park away from school gates too.

Thank you parents for your support.

There are merit points & stickers for pupils, who have the correct uniform, PE kit and reading record- neatly completed daily.



UNIFORM EXPECTATIONS

- Grey or black trousers / skirt / salwar kameez
- White polo or shirt with or without logo
- Black school shoes - not trainers
- Black jumper or cardy – preferably with logo.
When buying new please note the new badge for jumpers/ cardy from September. See link on website (uniform page.)
Previous logo uniform is still Ok.
- Headscarves, in white or black, plain, and close fitted.
- No jewellery. Long hair should be tied up for school please.
- No extreme hair styles, colours, or patterns shaved into hair
- Summer dress **blue only** from Autumn 2024



PE KIT

- White T shirt (with or without school logo) otherwise plain.
- Plain black shorts / leggings / tracksuit (not baggy)
- Plain black pumps



1 - Here is our Uniform from September 2024

For girls wearing headscarves please ensure they are either black or white and a good fit around the head. Scarves trailing on shoulders and back are a health and safety hazard.

Also children with longer hair - please ensure the hair is neatly tied up in ponytails off the face. Again this is for safeguarding the children and also to ensure they look smart. For pupils who arrive to school with long open hair, a hair tie will be provided by the school to help neaten the style.



Jumpers (and soon book bags) now available to purchase from the school office using Parent Pay, please email enquiries@wardend.org.uk to order.

We have a selection of sizes so if you are unsure- please ask at the office to have a look at the ones we have in stock.

Items with the previous logo are still Ok to wear next year- when buying new please choose the new logo.

PE Kit - please ensure your child comes into school with the correct PE kit. If a PE is missing, one will be provided from school which then needs to be washed and returned to school.

Safer Internet Day 2025



The theme this year is : protecting yourself on line. There are many activities suitable for Primary pupils aged 7-11 years on the BBC bitesize website. We have compiled some in school- perhaps look at some with your children, to learn important messages regarding internet safety.

Ward End Primary School Allotment plot



2 - Our pupils are keen on growing, so this year we have hired a BCC allotment plot locally- Blackpitts Lane.

Our pupils are keen on growing, so this year we have hired a BCC allotment plot locally- Blackpitts Lane.

We desperately need volunteers to help dig and tidy ready for pupils to grow from seed in the poly tunnel during March. If you are able to help us, please make contact (enquiries@wardend.org.uk) Thank you.

Our School Day - a reminder

The school day is still the same as last year. Here is a reminder:

8.30 am - School Gates open to welcome pupils

8.40 am - Registration in class

8.45 am - School Gates are closed, teaching begins - anyone arriving after this time will be allocated a LATE mark

Friday school day - Morning times are the same but school will finish at 3.00 pm

NURSERY TIMES:

Monday to Thursday

Nur AM - 8.30 am - 11.30 am

Nur PM - 12.20 pm - 3.20 pm

Fridays

Nur AM - 8.30 am - 11.30 am

Nur PM - 12.20 am - 3.20 pm - Nursery pupils can be collected from 3.00 pm onwards

We encourage you to make ALL routine appointments (medical/dental etc) out of school hours. This causes less disruption to your child's school day.

PLEASE REMEMBER SCHOOL CLOSURES AT 3.00 PM ON FRIDAY - EVERY FRIDAY! There are no after-school facilities for children who are collected late - please be punctual at the end of the day.

As a parent if you are running late at the end of the day please make alternative arrangements for collection of your children ie a family member, neighbour etc.

Gates close at 3.45pm - keeps our site safe and secure- to keep everyone safe, please ask pupils to leave promptly without stopping to play on climbing equipment at home time - thank you.

Dates for NEXT school year 2025-2026

School starts on Wednesday 3rd September 2025 -closes Thursday 23rd October for half term.

Open Monday 3rd November closes Friday 19th December.

Open Tuesday 6th January 2026. Half term Monday 16th February - Friday 20th February 2026

Closes Friday 27th March 2026.

Open after Easter break on Tuesday 14th April 2026

half term Monday 25th May- Friday 29th May 2026

Closes Friday 17th July 2026

The new snack payment item will be added onto your child's ParentPay account for the next half term (Summer Term 1) end of this week. This new payment item will cover SNACK for your child from Tuesday 29th April to Friday 23rd May 2025. Please ensure you select ONE choice only. Some of our children have a preference for certain fruits and vegetables from home. Parents now have a choice:

- to pay for snack from school via ParentPay
- to send in a piece of fruit or vegetable from home.

Snacks permitted from home are:

Banana/apple/orange/pear/raisins/carrots/cucumber

No grapes please - they can be a choking hazard even when cut into pieces.

This list may change if a child with allergies is admitted.

Eid Mubarak!



Eid Mubarak to all our Muslim families who are celebrating the end of Ramadhan with the festival of Eid ul Fitr. School will authorise ONE day for celebrating the festival with your loved ones. Please complete the form which has been sent to you via email to indicate which day your children will be absent from school. Eid parties to follow later in the week.

Wishing you all a peaceful day with your loved ones and lots of yummy food of course!

Leave in Term Time

The LA does not permit leave to be taken during term time and for this academic year the rules have changed. Letters have been sent out to parents regarding this. If you are thinking of taking time off the school needs to be informed. **Please collect a Pupil Leave of Absence Request form from the Office, complete and return it for the attention of the Pastoral Managers who will then have a chat with you. Please bear in mind the LA will issue a penalty notice for any time taken off during term time and your child also misses out on vital education. Please refer to letters on our website for the change in penalty notices and rules.**

Term dates 2024- 2025 (2025- 2026 see website)

Tuesday 29th April - Friday 23rd May 2025

Monday 2nd June - Friday 18th July 2025

Please **DO NOT** take your children out of school during term-time without following the above protocol.

UNICEF - Article of the Week



3 - UNCRC Article of the Week (children's rights/UNICEF) This week's article will be on **article 15**

Right to meet with friends and join groups (as long as it's safe and doesn't break the law). The theme will be on 'connections'. Attached ppt is the Early/KS1 ppt. If parents would like me to post the KS2 ppt, I can post that in a separate post.

Information for Parents



4 - Here is some information you may find useful.

ESOL - classes are provided by Birmingham Adult Education at our setting.

Classes continue at our setting every Thursday from 9-11 am and are well attended.

Family Support Drop will continue on a Wednesday after Coffee Morning from 10am - 12 noon. The FSWs are available to assist with any paperwork/queries etc. Please speak to them for a time-slot.

Seaside trip coming up in July - details to follow.

Birmingham Children's Partnership

**HELP FOR ALL FAMILIES
IN BIRMINGHAM**

- Food & Energy
- Youth Support
- Domestic Abuse
- Emergency Funding
- Money & Debt Advice
- Data & IT
- Under 5's Support
- School Uniforms & Clothing
- Parenting
- Special Needs & Disabilities
- Bereavement
- Housing
- Sexual Health
- Mental Health
- Play

**BIRMINGHAM
CHILDREN &
YOUNG PEOPLE'S
PARTNERSHIP**



**BIRMINGHAM
CHILDREN &
YOUNG PEOPLE'S
PARTNERSHIP**



EDGBASTON

EarlyHelpEdgbaston@gatewayfs.org
0121 456 7821

ERDINGTON

ErdingtonFamilies@compass-support.org.uk
0121 748 8199

HALL GREEN

HallGreen.Families@greensquareaccord.co.uk
07570 953 519 (9:30am to 4:30pm)

HODGE HILL

YardleyHodgeHillEH@barnardos.org.uk
0121 289 4875

LADYWOOD

BirminghamEarlyHelpLadywood@family-action.org.uk
07816 086 607

NORTHFIELD

EarlyHelpNorthfield@gatewayfs.org
0121 456 7821

PERRY BARR

BirminghamEarlyHelpPerryBarr@family-action.org.uk
07385 464 482

SELLY OAK

SellyOak.Families@greensquareaccord.co.uk
07483 090 434

SUTTON COLDFIELD

SuttonColdfieldEarlyHelp@compass-support.org.uk
0121 748 8199

YARDLEY

YardleyHodgeHillEH@barnardos.org.uk
0121 289 4875



Free, specialist legal advice and representation Birmingham

Central England Law Centre provides free specialist legal advice in seven areas of social welfare law to those most in need and uses legal processes to fight inequality



Our mission is to embed rights in our communities to reduce inequalities, challenge unfair systems and advance social justice through specialist legal advice and education

- Asylum & immigration law
- Child & family law
- Housing law
- Employment & discrimination law
- Health & social care law
- Public law
- Welfare rights law

Central England Law Centre:

- Advocates for people
- Challenges unfair decisions
- Takes cases to the highest court
- Partners with other support services



I was in a terrible state financially, had fallen behind on my rent, and felt like I had no one to turn to. Somebody suggested Central England Law Centre and I contacted them. I worked with different people and with their assistance was able to fix my problems. If I hadn't who knows where I would be now?

Housing client supported by the Law Centre to stay in her home

centralenglandlc.org.uk/birmingham | 0121 227 6540

5 - Central England Law Centre

At CELC we have a dedicated team of legal professionals supporting people to challenge unfair sanctions, putting money back in people's pockets and reducing the demand for emergency intervention. CELC are offering free, specialist legal advice on Housing Law, Welfare Rights, Employment, Child and Family Law and more!

Get in touch at centralenglandlc.org.uk/Birmingham or call 0121 227 6540 to find out more.

Walk & Talk

With optional litterpick

**Have concerns? Meet Ward End
Residents' Group (GF&TC) &**

Washwood Heath

Neighbourhood Police

5.00 p.m. - 6.00 p.m.

Saturday 5th April 2025

Meet Corner of Treaford Road & Alum Rock
Road

Ward End B8 2UG

Further information ✉wardendgftc@outlook.com

X WardEndGFTC Facebook B Seen Ward End



6 - Walk and Talk event in April - please attend if you can. Could prove to be very useful.

Educate against Hate. Useful parental advice here:-

https://www.educateagainsthate.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/EAH_Parents-Booklet_2018_English_AW_V3-v7.pdf

All National Online Safety advice is based on current legislation, games, apps and subject to any changes that may occur. It is not intended to be a substitute for professional advice. For more information on safety with the internet, please visit our website: www.nationalonlinesafety.com

What you need to know about... GAMING STREAMERS & INFLUENCERS

Part of our Gaming & Gambling Advice

NOS Gaming & Gambling

Brought to you by National Online Safety

www.nationalonlinesafety.com

What are they?

Gaming Streamers & Influencers

Streamers are people who stream themselves gaming, drawing, making videos etc. for people to watch on the internet. Usually the streamer, gamer, and others are able to chat with them in real time while they do this. Influencers are social media stars who hold influence over the people that follow them. Some kind of long-term or taste-maker, who companies often pay to promote their products. A tweeter could also be considered an influencer in their chosen arena.

JADAGAMING

Know the Risks

Adult Content

Many influencers have children in their videos. It is important to be aware of what your child is watching. Some influencers may have content that is not suitable for children. Some influencers may have content that is not suitable for children. Some influencers may have content that is not suitable for children.

Authenticity Risk

Some influencers will be sponsored and sponsored posts are not always clearly marked. Some influencers will be sponsored and sponsored posts are not always clearly marked. Some influencers will be sponsored and sponsored posts are not always clearly marked.

Bullying and hate

Some influencers will be bullied or harassed. Some influencers will be bullied or harassed. Some influencers will be bullied or harassed.

Subscriptions

Some influencers will be subscribed to. Some influencers will be subscribed to. Some influencers will be subscribed to.

Safety Tips

Discuss what's real online

Be aware of the difference between what's real and what's not real. Be aware of the difference between what's real and what's not real. Be aware of the difference between what's real and what's not real.

Use Filters

Use filters to block out inappropriate content. Use filters to block out inappropriate content. Use filters to block out inappropriate content.

Check age settings

Check the age settings on your devices. Check the age settings on your devices. Check the age settings on your devices.

Affiliate links

Be aware of affiliate links. Be aware of affiliate links. Be aware of affiliate links.

Action & Support

Name check streamers

If your child has begun following an influencer, it is important to check their name. If your child has begun following an influencer, it is important to check their name. If your child has begun following an influencer, it is important to check their name.

Talk to your child

Have an open dialogue with your child about the kind of content they are watching. Have an open dialogue with your child about the kind of content they are watching. Have an open dialogue with your child about the kind of content they are watching.

Block and report

If you suspect an influencer might be taking advantage of their audience, it is important to block and report them. If you suspect an influencer might be taking advantage of their audience, it is important to block and report them. If you suspect an influencer might be taking advantage of their audience, it is important to block and report them.

Our Expert

Mark Foster

Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for 5 years as a writer, editor and presenter. He is the current gaming editor of two of the biggest gaming news sites in the world, UNLAD Gaming and GAMINGible. Starting gaming from a young age with his siblings, he has a passion for understanding how games and tech work, but more importantly, how to make them safe and fun.

www.nationalonlinesafety.com Twitter: @nationalonlinesafety Facebook: NationalOnlineSafety Instagram: @nationalonlinesafety

7 - Some very useful information to protect your children against scammers especially if your children are playing online games- please have a read!

Please read Ward End Primary School's Safeguarding Policy on the website. The policy follows BCC advice and guidance and is updated annually and approved by our Governors.

How we refer Safeguarding, mental health and Child protection concerns: See page 15 onwards. Also see right help, right time booklet (link below and available in school office reception) Page 22 of the policy - involving Parents and Carers.

Support to keep pupils safe on line:- page 40-41

Strengthening Child Protection: The 3 Safeguarding Partners (Local Authority, Clinical commissioning group and Chief Police officer) are responsible for agreeing and implementing new safeguarding strategies to improve multi- agency working and the provision of safeguarding and child protection in each area. Safeguarding Partners must outline how they will work with all relevant agencies and make clear their arrangements for conducting local reviews.

Contact Details

Have you changed your mobile number or email address? Please update your details via the School Office. It is imperative that we have correct contact details on our systems for safeguarding issues.

Communication from school is also via email and now Dojo. If you have not signed up for Dojo - please do so by scanning the QR code which is located on the inside of your child's reading record. Any issues? Please contact the Front Office for support.

Mrs R Chahal - Headteacher

Ward End Primary School

T: (0121) 4645424

E: enquiry@wardend.org.uk