Belonging Respect Responsibility

OLD PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



HEADTEACHER MESSAGE

Well done to our Year 5 and Year 6 pupils who reached the final of the curling competition this week. We are incredibly proud of their achievement and the excellent sportsmanship they showed throughout the event.

Thank you to all the parents and family members who attended our Open Orchestra event and the TIHYO concert on Thursday. It was wonderful to see so many people supporting our pupils and celebrating their musical talents.

We are also excited to share that our swimming pool has now been fully installed and is ready for pupils to start using from Monday. We know this will be a fantastic opportunity for our children to develop their swimming skills right here on site.

Today, staff from Adams' Grammar School worked with some of our Year 5 pupils as part of the Rising Stars Maths Programme. The children thoroughly enjoyed the experience and benefited from the challenge and enrichment activities on offer.

Please look out for next week's newsletter, which will include dates and times for all of our Christmas performances.

THINGS HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Monday 23rd November: Year 5 swimming starts
Monday 23rd November: School Improvement Partner Visit
Tuesday 24th November: Year 5 cinema trip
Tuesday 24th November: Year 4 cinema trip
Tuesday 24th November: Year 3 swimming
Friday 25th November: Malinslee Christmas light switch on (School xmas cafe and carol singing)

ATTENDANCE

Our whole school target for attendance is **96%**. The following classes achieved the target this week:

2H, 34P, 3C, 3F, 4S, 5C, 5W and 6P.

A special well done to **3C** who had the highest attendance across the school. The attendance trophy is on its way to you!



We are very excited that our outdoor swimming pool is now ready for the pupils to use for the next two weeks.

Year 5 swimming starts from Monday 23rd November and continues through to Friday 4th December 2026.

Year 3 have swimming on Tuesday 24th November.

On the day(s) that pupils have swimming can you pleas ensure that they have:

- A swimming costume, swimming shorts or trunks
- A towel
- Flip flops, sliders or trainers to walk to and from the pool



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AUTUMN 2 DATES

** More dates may be added below as the term progresses*

Week beginning 23rd and 30th November: Year 5 swimming (look out for information on ParentPay on Monday 9th November).

Tuesday 24th November: Year 3 swimming experience

Tuesday 24th November: Year 4 and 5 cinema trip

Friday 27th November: Malinslee Christmas Light Switch on

Week beginning 30th November: Assessment week

Friday 4th December: Full governors meeting

Thursday 10th December: Non Uniform day: Christmas Jumper Day (£1 donations)

Wednesday 16th December: Christmas lunch day (Pupils can wear Christmas jumpers)

Friday 18th December: Last day of term

Please look out for Xmas performance dates/times next week

TERM DATES FOR 2026/2027

September '26

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

October '26

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November '26

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

December '26

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

January '27

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

February '27

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

March '27

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

April '27

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

May '27

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

June '27

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

July '27

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

August '27

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Holidays

Staff PD Day (school is closed to pupils)

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NEWSLETTER

Telford & Wrekin Co-operative Council

Protect, care and invest to create a better borough



Apply online NOW

Starting school?

Closing date for applications:

15 January 2027

If your child has an Education, Health & Care Plan (EHCP) the closing date is **31 October 2026**.

www.telford.gov.uk/admissions

- You **must** apply if your child was born between 1 September 2022 – 31 August 2023.
- You **must** apply even if your child is attending a nursery or pre-school on a school site or you have a child already attending the school.
- You are advised to list four schools on your application form, including your catchment area/nearest school.
- Attending a nursery does **not** guarantee a school place.
- School places are allocated in line with oversubscription criteria.
- See website for more information **www.telford.gov.uk/admissions** or contact School Admissions at **admissions@telford.gov.uk**



Is my child too ill for school?

UK Government NHS

Does your child have a high temperature (38ºC or more)? YES Keep them off school until it goes away. NO Follow the guidance below.

Your child can usually go to school with a mild cough or cold if they are otherwise well. If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone the school or nursery on the first day and give them the reason.

Should go in	Should go in (let the school know)	Seek treatment before returning to school	Keep them off (at first)
A cough, cold or sore throat Fine with slight cough or common cold symptoms, such as a runny nose, sore throat or headache, as long as they're otherwise well and do not have a high temperature.	**Cold sores** Encourage them not to touch the blister or kiss anyone while they have the cold sore, or to share things like cups and towels.	**Impetigo** They'll need treatment from a pharmacist or GP, often with antibiotics. Keep them off school until all the sores have crusted over and healed, or for 48 hours after they start antibiotic treatment. Encourage your child to wash their hands regularly and not to share things like towels and cups with other children at school.	**Ear infection** If your child has an ear infection and a high temperature or severe earache, keep them off school until they're feeling better or their high temperature goes away.
Threadworms Speak to your pharmacist, who can recommend a treatment.	**Conjunctivitis** Fine unless they are feeling very unwell. Seek advice from your pharmacist. Encourage your child not to rub their eyes and to wash their hands regularly.	**Ringworm** See your pharmacist unless it's on their scalp, in which case you should see a GP. It's fine for your child to go to school once they have started treatment.	**Measles** They'll need to see a GP. Call the GP surgery before you go in, as measles can spread to others easily. Keep your child off school for at least 4 days from when the rash first appears. They should also avoid close contact with babies and anyone who is pregnant or has a weakened immune system.
	Head lice & nits You can treat head lice and nits without seeing a GP.	**Scarlet fever** They'll need treatment with antibiotics from a GP. Otherwise they'll be infectious for 2 to 3 weeks. Your child can go back to school 24 hours after starting antibiotics.	**Vomiting & diarrhoea** Stay away from school until they have not been sick or had diarrhoea due to illness for at least 2 days (48 hours).
	Hand, foot & mouth disease If they seem well enough to go to school, there's no need to keep them off. Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues straight away and to wash their hands regularly.	**Chickenpox** Keep them off school until all the spots have crusted over. This is usually about 5 days after the spots first appeared.	
	Slapped cheek syndrome Once the rash appears, they're no longer infectious. Let the school or teacher know if you think your child has slapped cheek syndrome.		

Feeling worried or anxious: It's normal for any of us to feel worried sometimes. We may get a tummy ache or headache, or have problems eating or sleeping. Avoiding school can sometimes make a child's worries about going to school worse. If your child is struggling, please speak to school as soon as possible to explore available help. If your child is still struggling and it's affecting their everyday life, you should contact GP or school nurse.

To find out more, search www.NHS.uk for the specific illness or infection, or 'Is my child too ill for school?'

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OLD PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Second Hand Uniform Shop

A range of items on offer, including:



FREE OF CHARGE!

If you ever need anything, please come to

Main Reception

and we will help.

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WEEK BEGINNING 23.11.26 WEEK 3



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Old Park Primary School and Nursery

Belonging ♥ Respect ♥ Responsibility

A great start to a brighter future!

New Reception Intake 2027

OPEN EVENING

Come and see what makes our school special!

Starting primary school is a significant milestone for your child's learning and development. Children usually start the reception year at primary school at the start of September following their fourth birthday.

Children born between **1 September 2022 and 31 August 2023** will start primary school from **September 2027.**



Parents need to apply for a reception place by **15 January 2027.**

If a child has an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) the application closing date is **31 October 2026.**

You are strongly advised to apply to four local schools including your nearest or catchment area school. You can use our **Catchment Area School Finder Tool** to check which school are your nearest or catchment area schools.

Please read the **Guide to Primary School Admissions** booklet for more information on the process of applying for a primary school place and to understand how places are offered.

Our Open Evening Dates

- Wednesday 16th September at 3:30pm
- Wednesday 14th October at 3:30pm
- Wednesday 18th November at 3:30pm
- Wednesday 9th December at 3:30pm

For further information, please contact the school office on **01952 387250**

We look forward to meeting you!

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IDT School Service
TELFORD & WREKIN



Mobile Phones

A Parent Guide for Primary Schools

Why it matters

- Phones can **distract** children from learning and play.
- Too much screen time can affect **sleep and feelings.**
- Children may see **upsetting content** or **unkind messages.**

School rules

- Most primary pupils **do not need** a smartphone in school.
- Many schools ask children **not to bring phones**, or to hand them in at the start of the day.
- Exceptions may be made for **medical or accessibility needs**. Always follow your school's policy.

What parents can do

1. **Delay smartphones** if you can.
2. If a device is needed, **a basic phone** may be enough.
3. Create **screen-free times**, especially before bed.
4. Talk often about **kindness, safety and asking for help.**
5. Check your school's mobile phone policy and any exceptions.

Quick reminder

- Every child is **different.**
- Use **age-appropriate boundaries.**
- Work with your school if you **need support.**

Check your school's mobile phone policy.

IDT School Service | ictservicesforschools@taw.org.uk