



# School Newsletter

FRIDAY 9TH FEBRUARY 2024  
Headteacher:  
**Mr N Lamorte**

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## MESSAGE FROM MR LAMORTE - HEADTEACHER

As always, it has been another really busy few weeks at Wychall! The Year 5 children thoroughly enjoyed their trip to the Black Country Museum to enhance their history topic of 'The Victorians'. The children were so excited to regale stories of their visit, including the Talking Telephone and the visit to the Victorian Classroom. It seems that the children were better behaved than the teachers, as Mr Singh almost received the cane for his conduct and for over-acting! The children had a fabulous time - I'm told that they behaved wonderfully and were great ambassadors for Wychall



Primary School. A big thank you to all the staff for ensuring the trip was safe and successful and of course, thank you to the children, for being FAB!!

Year 3 children also enjoyed a trip to Audley Primary School, which is another school withing the drb Multi Academy Trust family. The children were participating in a Drama Performance as part of our work with Creative Connections. They watched a number of other schools within our Multi Academy Trust perform, and shared their work from the last few weeks. The children did a wonderful job. See the picture below. They thoroughly enjoyed the event and, just like Y5, behaved brilliantly. Thank you to the staff who supported this event.



A huge congratulations to Year 4 for working so hard on Times Table Rock Stars. Congratulations to 4DN for winning the TT Rock Stars competition, for getting the most points over the last two weeks. Some of the Y4 children received a certificate in assembly today for their times table work and I know parents who attended were both shocked and impressed by the speed at which children could solve the problems being asked. Great work from the teachers, the children, and parents who are supporting them at home. Thank you.

As you will know, children are central to all that we do at Wychall and their voice is important. To help us gain a better understanding of what the children like about school and what they think we could improve on, we have been conducting pupil voice conversations. Their insights are always fascinating, and we will be looking to develop some of their ideas, including 'making one of the children Headteacher for the day'!! Watch this space! Here is a small sample of their thoughts. Wishing you all a safe and relaxing half term.

### What do you like about Wychall?

- I get smarter every day – L*
- Everyone is treated fairly – J*
- We can express ourselves and share our ideas – L*
- Healthy food options – L*
- I feel like I am part of a community – T*
- The teachers listen and I have lots of friends – B*
- Teachers are kind to us – K*
- The library – V*
- I like that school is safe - K*

### What would make Wychall even better?

- More fun books in the library: comics, murder mysteries, thrillers and crime – E*
- Live at school – L*
- More trips – H*
- Football matches with other schools – S*
- More playground equipment – C*
- A day when the child is the Headteacher – D*
- Nicer toilets & soap dispensers – A*
- More flowers – K*

## Key Dates and Information

- Friday 9th February - Break up for half term
- Monday 19th February - Return to school
- Tuesday 27th February - Parents' Evening 16:00 - 18:30 - Uniform SwapShop
- Thursday 29th February - Parents' Evening 15:30 - 17:30 - Uniform SwapShop
- Tuesday 5th March - 6ST Parent Meetings and evenings?
- Thursday 7th March - 6JF Parent Meetings and evenings?
- Friday 8th March - World Book Day - Dress up as a book character
- Friday 8th March - Parent Voice Meeting (all parents/carers invited) 2pm
- Thursday 14th March - Year 2 Multiplication Workshops
- Friday 15th March - Red Nose Day - Wear something red and bring a donation.
- Friday 22nd March - Autism Awareness Day - 'Light it up blue' - Wear something blue day.
- Friday 22nd March - Spring Disco
- Monday 22nd April - Year 5 Reading Workshop
- **Thursday 2nd May—School Closed for Voting Day (Open for Year 6)**
- Monday 13th May - Friday 17th May - SATS Week

### A Message from Ms Porter

#### Attendance

- Just a friendly reminder that if your child is absent then please notify the office or attendance by 8:30am or at your earliest convenience.
- Please make sure you provide a valid reason for absence.

#### Competition

- Congratulations to Ahmed in 2PW who won last term's attendance raffle prize of an android tablet.
- **This term's attendance raffle prize is a mystery family day out!**
- To be in a chance of winning then you must have 97% or more attendance by the time the prize is drawn on 21st March 2024. Good Luck!



### A Message from Ms Benson

#### Clubs

- Pupils that have a place on the next term clubs will be notified by text.
- Pupils on the waiting list will be notified by text.

#### PE

- A letter has been sent home with your child about school PE kit.
- Spare PE kits will be distributed by sport ambassadors to those that need a kit for PE that day.
- Football studded trainers should NOT be worn for PE or indeed the school day.

## ScholarPack Migration

DRB Ignite Multi Academy Trust is transferring all of its schools from ScholarPack to Arbor.

This means from Friday 9th February, the Scholarpack app will no longer work. Details on the Arbor app will follow. [Moving to Arbor will also help us to reduce the number of Apps that we ask parents to use. This was raised by the Parent Voice Group.](#) The company Arbor own ScholarPack which is no longer being supported for development. Arbor is efficient and a secure system which will support communication between yourselves and us.

We will provide further information in the upcoming weeks.

## Supermarket Vouchers

We are happy to offer you a £20 supermarket voucher to help you buy food for your family over February half term. These vouchers have been made available from Birmingham City Council, through the Household Support Fund which is funded by the Department for Work and Pensions. This is a one-off service they are providing for February Half Term (2024).

To claim your £20 supermarket voucher (1 has been issued per child), please click the link that has been sent to you via text/app and choose your preferred supermarket. Please make sure that you redeem your voucher as soon as possible.

All vouchers have an expiry date of 11<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

## Food Aid

If you are in a position whereby you are struggling to provide meals for yourself or children, please come and see us. We are a food bank referral agency.

The B30 foodbank operates from Friends Meeting House in Cotteridge on Tuesdays and Fridays weekly.

If you feel this service would benefit you please come and speak to Miss Stanley or Mrs Jones in confidence.

## What to do if you are worried about a Child

We are very lucky that we have such a supportive community, whereby families often contact us directly if they have seen or know something of concern relating to any of our pupils. We appreciate that families and the community are the eyes and ears for vulnerable children so please see below organisations that you can contact directly if you have genuine concerns about the safety and wellbeing of any child.

**West Midlands Police - 999 (if the child is in immediate danger)**

**NSPCC - 0800 800 5000 - Report child abuse**

**Children's Advice and Support Service (CASS) - 0121 303 1888 or [cass@birminghamchildrenstrust.co.uk](mailto:cass@birminghamchildrenstrust.co.uk)**

**Online Information from the NSPCC for parents can be found at: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>**

## Household Support Fund

Household support fund is still taking applications until March 2024. If you have not made an application within the last 12 months please email [enquiry@wychall.drbignitemat.org](mailto:enquiry@wychall.drbignitemat.org) with your contact details and a member of the pastoral team will call you for more information.

# Bright Kids Wigwam

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Where children love to play... and play to learn



We have



## Spaces Available at our Out of School Club

Operating between 7.30am to 9.00am  
and 3.15pm to 6.00pm  
Monday to Friday

For more information, please  
call 07932 086 311

You can also visit

[www.bright-kids.co.uk](http://www.bright-kids.co.uk)

Or email:

[wlgwam@bright-kids.co.uk](mailto:wlgwam@bright-kids.co.uk)

