



LEARNING AND GROWING TOGETHER

10 - Newsletter - Friday 14th November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

This week, we have been taking part in Anti-Bullying Week, starting off with Odd Socks Day on Monday—a fun way to celebrate what makes us all unique!

Our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors were introduced during Monday's assembly. They have been in training for their roles in the lead-up to this week and have started wearing their special hats and jackets on the playground. Children know they can approach them if they need help or support.

Throughout the week, children have been involved in a variety of activities designed to promote kindness, respect, and acceptance. One of the highlights has been the “Cool to Be Kind” envelopes. Each child randomly selected an envelope with the name of someone in their class and carried out an anonymous act of kindness. This included things like writing a message or giving a “free” gift—such as a flower or conker.

During circle time, classes have also been discussing important topics such as:

- What bullying looks like
- What to do if you are being bullied
- How to support someone who may be experiencing bullying

In addition, we’ve been enjoying story time with books specially chosen for Anti-Bullying Week such as, *The Smeds and The Smoos*, *Kindness is my Superpower* and *Acceptance is my Superpower*.

Finally, children have been creating their own blue anti-bullying wristbands, using cards to design wristbands with positive messages. The colour blue represents a commitment to kindness and an end to bullying. It has been wonderful to see our SPARKS value of 'Kind' shining through in all the activities this week.

I hope everyone has a wonderful weekend—even if the forecast is wet and windy!

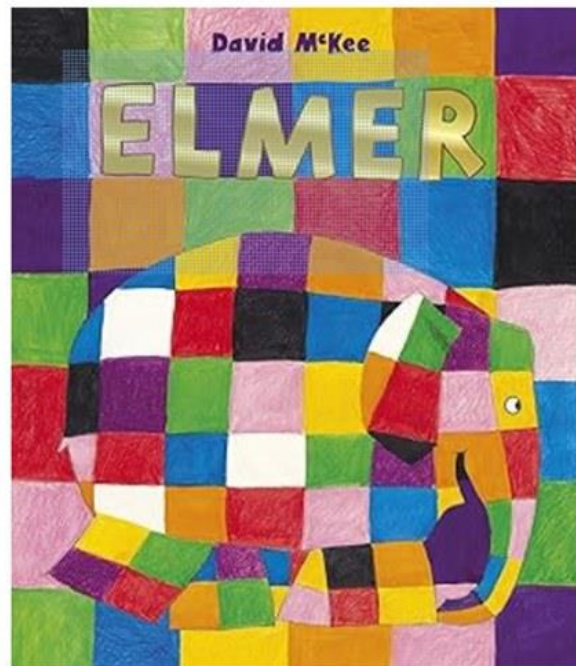
Miss Hull



Ash Class - Nursery

This week in Nursery we are learning about colours. We read the story *Elmer* and named all the colours we could see on his patchwork skin. During our carpet time we learnt how to talk to a partner, and we told them our favourite colour. Teddy said, “My favourite colour is red.” Willow said, “yellow.” We also made some rainbow biscuits!

Mrs Morris



Willow Class - Reception

Reception have enjoyed another very busy week! Tying in with Anti-bullying week, we thought about all kinds of differences whilst wearing our odd socks and agreed that “different” is definitely something to be celebrated. In the ICT suite we are continuing to develop our fine motor skills using the mouse to navigate our way around Mini-Mash whilst

painting pictures. Lots of fun was had in PE as we moved around the hall as Mister Men and Misses with Mr Muddle proving to be the most popular! The children have also started to learn some special songs this week and are making a great job of it.

Well done, everyone!

Mrs Wright



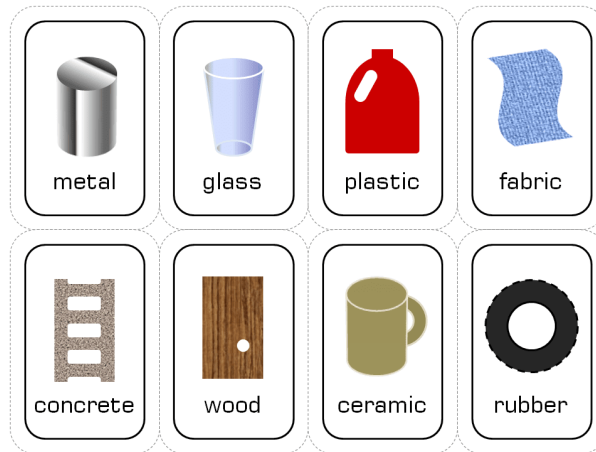
Maple Class - Year 1

This week, Year 1 have continued to explore the text, 'I Want My Hat Back' by Jon Klassen. The children have written a letter and have written a list of what rabbit needs for his journey back to the forest.

In Maths, the children have been exploring addition and subtraction and have used number lines to jump forwards and backwards, as well as ten frames.

In Science, the children have been learning the differences between objects and materials. The children sorted objects by their material and could name several materials, such as wood, plastic and glass. There are some useful videos all about this, including this one on BBC <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zrsgk7/articles/z6jm7yc>.

Mrs Rayner and Mrs Amies



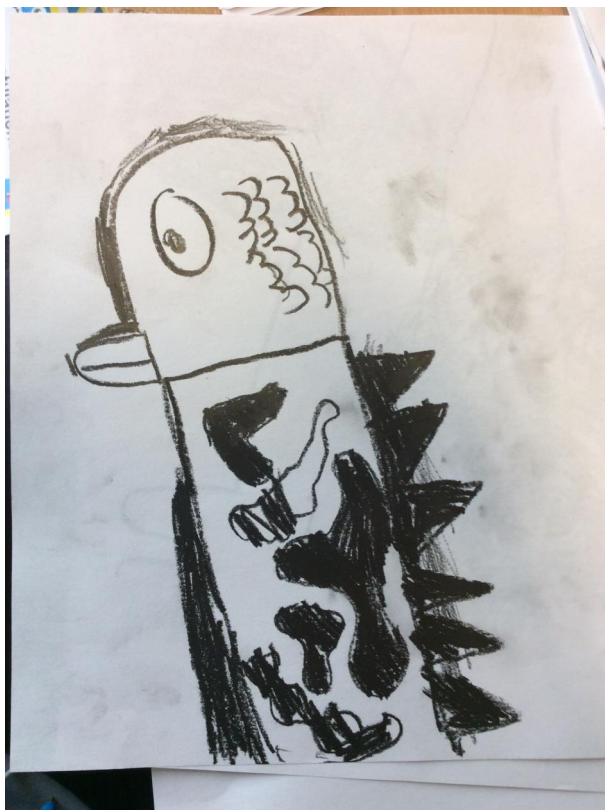
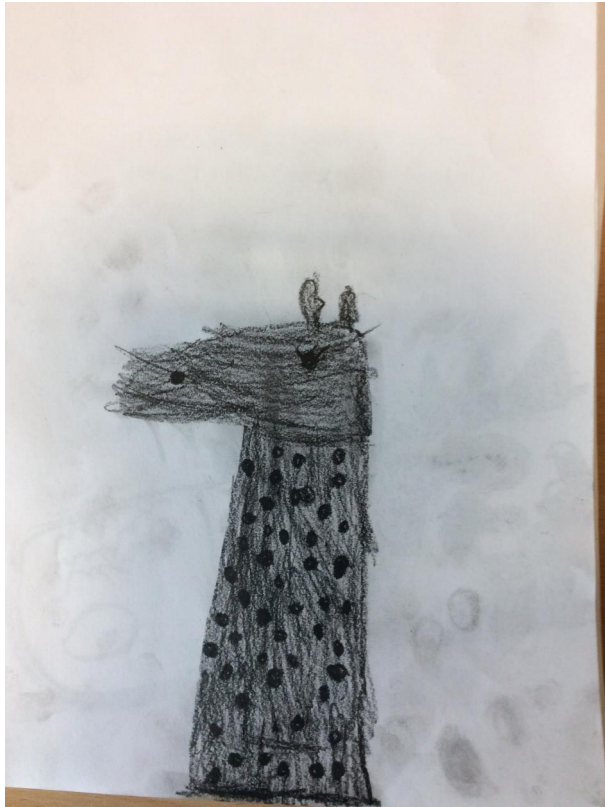
Beech Class - Year 2

This week in Year 2, we have been exploring our new topic in geography our local area. We looked at the difference between 2D aerial maps and 3D images. To showcase their understanding they were able to draw a aerial map of the classroom. In Maths we have been working on dividing numbers into equal groups, and we will be making a start on using the multiplication symbol on Friday.

In Science and English, we have been learning about living things and specifically animal habitats. We have been looking at how different animals habitats are being destroyed. 'The Journey Home' by Frann Preston-Gannon outlines the journey of four endangered animals, in which we will create our own story next week.

In Art we have started creating a ' Fantasy Creature' drawing the heads of our animals.

Mr Wilcox



🎄 Christmas Fair Donations – Friday 21st November 🎄

Next Friday, 21st November, the children are invited to wear bright, colourful socks in exchange for bringing a chocolate donation for our Christmas Fair! 🍫

Thank you for your support.



👁️ Santa's Grotto – Thursday 4th December 👁️

We are delighted to announce that Mr and Mrs Christmas will be joining us for our festive celebration on Thursday 4th December! Every child, including Woodies, will have the chance to visit Santa's Grotto and receive a special festive gift.

To help us provide this magical experience, we kindly ask for a £5.00 contribution per child. This includes a gift and a professional photo taken by Alexandra Louise Photo. Throughout the day, children will also enjoy party games and prizes and a special Christmas picnic.

If you would like your child to have a photo, please make payment via ParentPay under the heading "Santa's Grotto" by Monday 1st December at 9:00am.

Please note: Images will be held securely by Alexandra Louise Photo solely for printing purposes and will not be shared with any other individuals or organisations.

If you do not wish for your child to visit Santa's Grotto and/or have a photo taken, please inform the school office in writing by Monday 1st December.

We can't wait to share this festive experience with the children! 🎄 ✨



Nursery Applications for September 2026

Applications for our School Nursery for **September 2026** are now being accepted.

Please visit our website to view the Application Form and Admissions Policy. Hard copies are also available from the School Office.

Closing date for applications is: **Friday 5th December 2025**

A Message from Mrs White

I am writing to share the news that I will be leaving Damson Wood at the end of this term. This has been a very difficult decision to make, as Damson Wood has been such a large and special part of my life and the school community for so many years.

After 13 wonderful years working here—and over 19 years as part of the school community, with my own children having attended—I have accepted an exciting new role at Tidbury Green Primary School. While I am really looking forward to this new chapter, leaving Damson Wood will be incredibly hard.

I feel truly privileged to have worked with so many incredible children, dedicated staff, and supportive families over the years. It has been an honour to be part of such a warm and caring community, and I will miss you all very much.

Damson Wood will always hold a very special place in my heart, and I'm sure I'll continue to see many of you in and around the area.

Wishing you all a lovely, restful weekend,

Genette White

Attendance

Well done to Maple Class for such amazing attendance this week! Thank you to parents/carers for ensuring your child is in school, on time ready to learn. We really see the effects of great attendance on their learning each day.

The expectation is attendance should be 95% or above in line with the National average.

Class Attendance for last week was:

Ash - 73.8%


Willow - 97.5%

Maple - 98.3%


Beech - 89.85%


The whole school attendance for the week was 90.8% and for this academic year so far is 94.2%.

Solihull School Nursing Team

Did you know?  You can easily message the Solihull School Nurses Team through their text service. They're full of helpful advice and can support you with sleep challenges, eating, emotional health, behaviour, and much more. Don't hesitate to reach out—they're here to help!

Did you know you can message us for confidential advice and support?

Young people aged 11-19 can message us via  ChatHealth our text messaging service on: 07520 615730

Parents can message us via our  ChatHealth text messaging service on: 07480 635496

9:00am – 4.30pm
Monday to Friday
(excluding bank and public holidays).

Clothes Bank

We are pleased to let you know that a Star Foundation Clothes Bank is now permanently located on our school premises, by the Stockwell Rise entrance.

The Star Foundation works to support local communities and raise funds for schools and now you can help by donating a lot more items than previously possible and at any time during drop off/ or collection times.

What you can donate:

- Toys
- DVDs, CDs and Videos
- All types of clothing (dressing up clothes: outgrown clothes; damaged clothes; any school branded items; rags)
- Paired Shoes
- Bags and belts
- Bed linen and towels (No duvets or pillows).

By donating, you're not only supporting a great cause but also helping the environment by reducing waste. The damaged clothes and rags will be recycled into a new product. Thank you for your continued support!



Build a Brick

Leave a Legacy at our School!

Our personalised Wall of Fame brick display, on the outside wall of the playground, offers a unique way to celebrate your connection to our school. Whether you choose to feature your name, your child's or grandchild's name, or a heartfelt message, each brick will serve as a lasting tribute to those who are part of our school's story, past or present all for £27.00. Payment can be made through ParentPay.

Order Deadlines:

Spring: Thursday 26th March 2026

Summer: Thursday 21st May 2026

Please pick up an order form from the reception area and send to s19brick@damson-wood.solihull.sch.uk or hand in to the office. More information on: <https://www.damson-wood.co.uk/buy-a-brick/>



Our permanent **Wall of Fame** by on the outside wall of the playground.

Term Dates 2025 - 2026



	AUTUMN TERM	INSET DAY
Term Commences	Monday 1 st September 2025 Children start Wednesday 3rd September 2025 (Please see personalised induction timetable for children starting in Nursery & Reception Class)	Monday 1st September 2025 Tuesday 2nd September 2025
Half Term	Monday 27 th October to Friday 31 st October 2025	
Term Ends	Friday 19 th December 2025	

	SPRING TERM	INSET DAY
Term Commences	Monday 5 th January 2026	Monday 5th January 2026
Half Term	Monday 16 th February to Friday 20 th February 2026	
Term Ends	Friday 27 th March 2026	

	SUMMER TERM	INSET DAY
Term Commences	Monday 13 th April 2026	May Day Bank Holiday: Monday 4th May 2026
Half Term	Monday 25 th May to Friday 29 th May 2026	
Term Ends	Friday 17 th July 2026	Friday 3rd July 2026