

19th January 2024

Attendance

Class	Attendance for the period 08-01-2024 to 12-01-2024 Target 97%
RA	91.50%
RB	92.80%
1A	98.50%
1H	95.20%
2K	93.00%
2Y	97.70%
3A	91.80%
3K	96.00%
4F	93.90%
4S	94.80%
5A	97.80%
5B	94.80%
6D	95.80%
6P	98.60%
Overall School	95.16%

Our attendance target is
97%

Please can we remind parents that any leave requests during term-time will be denied. Time taken during school term time may result in fines administered by the Council and may result in court action.

Happy New Year!

It has been wonderful to see all of our children and parents again, after the Christmas break. We are looking forward to another productive year, with your support as always.

Cold weather

With the recent drop in temperature, it is imperative that you send your child / children into school wearing a winter coat or jacket. Please can you also ensure that if your child's coat does not have a hood, to send your child in with a woolly hat. We would also recommend gloves for your child.

In the event of severe weather resulting in school closure, you will be notified by text / email if we are unable to open. Please ensure your contact details, including your mobile number and email are up-to-date by informing the office of any changes.

We will also post any closures on our school website:

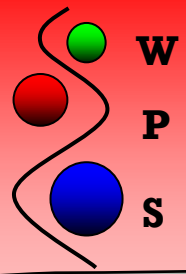
www.westmnst.bham.sch.uk

Lost Property

We have a large number of lost property items in school. If your child has lost or misplaced an item of school uniform or a coat/hat, please come to the school office to check. We will keep items until the end of January 2024; after that any unclaimed items will be disposed of.

Absence Reporting

If your child is not able to attend school due to sickness, medical appointments or other reasons, please make sure you call school to notify us of the absence. Please can you ensure that you call in by 9.00am. Our Parent Support Advisor, Mrs Khan, will start calling families after this time if no message has been received.



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Measles

Measles is a very infectious virus, which spreads quickly if people have not had the MMR vaccine. Two doses of MMR are needed for maximum protection. Measles can cause severe illness, especially in certain at-risk groups including babies and small children, pregnant women, and people with weak immunity. Complications could mean hospitalisation, permanent disability, and in rare cases, it can even cause death. If adults or children have not had the immunisation, this can be requested at your GP surgery. **You can request a vaccination that does not contain gelatine.**

What do I do if a child has suspected measles?

Cold-like symptoms such as runny or blocked nose, sneezing and cough, red/sore watery eyes, high temperature (fever) which may reach around 40 degrees C, a non-itchy red-brown rash usually appears 3-5 days later (sometimes starts around the ears before spreading to rest of the body).

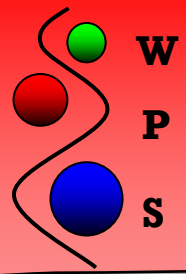
If your child has symptoms of measles which include the red-brown rash, please keep them at home and contact your GP or the agencies listed below.

Suspected measles may cause concern. Advice is available on the NHS website, UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) webpages, NHS 111 and from the person's GP. If you suspect measles, please do NOT go to your GP practice or any other healthcare provider – instead, you should phone for advice and say it could be measles.

If your child is confirmed to have measles, please inform the school immediately.

Dates for your diary: 2023-24

Fri 9th Feb:	Break up for Spring half term holiday
Mon 12th Feb—Fri 16th Feb:	Spring half-term holiday
Mon 19th Feb:	Return to school
Fri 22nd March:	Break up for Easter Holidays
Mon 25th Mar—Fri 5th Apr:	Easter Holidays
Mon 8th April:	Return to school—start of Summer term 2024
Mon 6th May:	Bank holiday—school closed to all
Fri 24th May:	Break up for Summer half-term holiday
Mon 27th May—Fri 31st May:	Summer half-term holiday
Mon 3rd June:	Return to school
Fri 19 July:	Pupils break up for Summer holidays



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Information for Parents

The next Shelter housing advice session will take place on Monday 22nd January 2024 from 10.00am to 12.30pm. Please book an appointment slot with Mrs Khan.

Supporting Autism—Parents session

We have a session for parents of our SEND children on Friday 26th January 2024 . The session will run from 9.00am to 11.00am. We will have a guest speaker in from Autism West Midlands. There will be creche facilities available in this session.

ESOL

We are running pre-entry and entry 1 ESOL sessions every Monday afternoon (12.30—3.00pm) and Thursday morning (9.15—11.45am). If you are interested in attending, please pop in or see Mrs Khan.

ICT

Any parents interested in an ICT/Computing course starting this month, please see Mrs Khan.

International Cookery

A new international cookery course has just started every Tuesday from 9.15 to 11.15am in the community room. If you are interested and wish to attend, please speak to the office team.

Food Parcels

We are working with Handsworth Association to secure food parcels for families who are in need.

If you are currently struggling and in need of a food parcel, please come and speak to our Parent Support Advisor, Mrs Khan. All enquiries will be handled confidentially.