



Fulfen Newsletter

Leading the way to a brighter future

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Issue: 31
March 2024



Follow us on Facebook!

Foreword

Sometimes I can't quite believe how much we fit into such a short amount of time! The broad experiences that we endeavour to provide for our pupils to enjoy really do enhance their wider education. I can proudly say that everyone in our school works so hard to ensure that our pupils – the next generation – will be leading their way to a brighter future!

There's so much to celebrate in this newsletter as well as important information about what's coming up. I would like to draw your attention to my message on page 9 (the start of the useful information) as it would be such a shame if we are forced to cancel some of the opportunities that we currently provide.

As we get closer to Easter, there is excitement in the air with discos and Easter egg hunts amongst our activities. There is a tinge of sadness as we say goodbye to Mrs Tranter, who is moving on to pastures new to become a headteacher and I would like to personally wish her all the best in her new venture.



Stars of the week!

Robyn Millard, Isla Holden, Sullivan O'Hanlon, Adela Mihailov, Joel Copper, Avery King, Arthur Roadnight, Amaiah Seedhouse, Evie Gibson-Collins, Ada Legood, Daisy Walters, Charlotte Pearce, Isabella Ward, Jessica Lingwood, Harvey Harrington, Rainy Peace, Luka Williams, Paige Ranger, Iris Corfield, Theo Hatfield, Lacey Cope,

Megan Smith, William Breen, Bobby Knowles, Paige Dixon, Harrison Upton, Siena Milligan, Bodhi King, Bailey F, Oliver M, Eve Hancox, Benjamin Ricketts, Amelia Woodhouse, Poppy Gould, Grace Wright, Nyaa Matthews, Hettie Goldsmith, Corbyn Seedhouse, Richie Nijjar, Tommy Holmes, Tommy Derry, Olivia Newman, Matthew Jenkins, Lily Vale, Isabelle Kendrick,

Elliot Gibson-Collins, Luca Bott, Emilee Hall-Williams, Jessica Watson, Olivia Odejimi, Evie Vale, Ruby Long, Sophia Millington, All of 4S, Macy Tunnicliff, Jacob Chawner, Freya spears, Isla Davis, Evie Dixon, Freddie Irons, Rosie Witcomb, Jacob Gilbert, Kian Yeomans, Jessica Sullivan, Chloe Hackitt, Sophie Drayton, William Trickett, Carson Tranter, Pippa Beadle, Emilia Weldon, Aidan Hitchcock

Love of Learning...

- dream big, have a thirst for learning and achieve your ambitions...

Encouraging...

- to be supportive of yourself and others and value everyone's ideas...

Adaptable...

- being versatile, creative and being prepared to take risks...

Determination...

- being resilient when the going gets tough...

Don't forget to follow us on Facebook!

Our Facebook page is brimming with photos and news of what's going on in school each day. If you haven't already, please take the time to follow our [page](#) so you can see what we're getting up to and catch a glimpse of your child in action! You can also share this with other members of the family so they can follow our successes.



You can also see our latest Facebook feed at the bottom of the home page of our website.



Love of Learning... Encouraging... Adaptable... Determination...

Celebrations - what we've been up to

World Book Day Success!

At Fulfen, we share our passion for reading all the time, but it's always good to have a special day dedicated to our love of books! Here are some photos from the day:



Celebrations - what we've been up to

Rugby Stars!

Fulfen competed at Burntwood Rugby Club on Monday 4th March. They didn't let the cold weather put them off and put their all into the game. With agile dodging, dashing and darting, they weaved through the opposition and managed to win three of their first four games. The spectators thought they were sure to get through to the quarter finals, but they narrowly missed out.

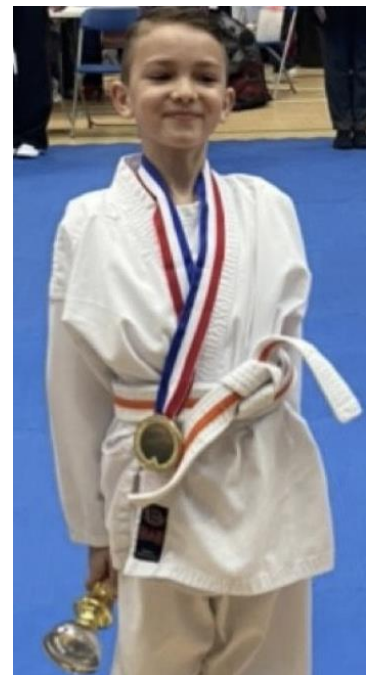
Mr Broadhead is incredibly proud of this team and the determination they have shown.



Karate Champions!



Sarayah and David took part in their first karate competition at the start of March. Hundreds of competitors from all over the country (including some of Mr Broadhead's Karate students) competed during the day, but Sarayah and David didn't let this phase them. Sarayah won gold and bronze medals in sparring and David won gold for his kata. Huge congratulations to them both!



Celebrations - what we've been up to

Elephant Sneak Peak!

The herd is coming! From 1st July to 8th September 2024, the streets, parks and open spaces of Lichfield, Tamworth and Sutton Coldfield will be home to over 60 beautifully designed elephant sculptures.

Thirty large elephants have been designed by local and national artists and more than 40 mini members of the herd have been designed by local schools and community groups including Fulfen!

Our very own member of the herd has now chosen her name and Poppy-Belle can't wait for you to go and find her on the trail. Her design is top secret but here's a sneak peek of what you can look forward to seeing. Our design team have worked so hard alongside Mrs Ashcroft and Miss Shuck it would be wonderful to see how many of our pupils can spot Poppy-Belle on the March of the Elephants!

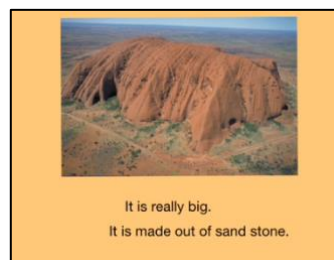


Amazing Australia

Year 2 have been learning all about Australia and created these amazing videos including video, animation, text and narration about Uluru and the Great Barrier Reef. Click on the images below to watch their videos and remember: these pupils are only 6 and 7 years old! What will they be creating in a few years?!



Chloe & Delilah



Oliver & Ollie



Bodhi



Celebrations - what we've been up to

Gotta Dance!

Our Year 5&6 dancers completed two dances at Cannock Gotta Dance. They performed so brilliantly and represented our school incredibly well. They brought the energy with 'Dance the Night Away' and brought emotion with 'A Million Dreams'. Go Fulfen dance team!



Year 1 History Project!

Year 1 have been learning about toys in the past. As part of their homework, they were asked to speak to their grown-ups at home about the toys they use to play with and how much their toys cost, among a variety of other questions the children wanted to ask! We had some fabulous projects come back and a lot of work has gone into them. Well done Year 1!



Love of Learning... Encouraging... Adaptable... Determination...

Celebrations - what we've been up to

What did a Blacksmith do in the Iron Age?

Children in year three have made green screen videos to share what they've learnt about the role of a Blacksmith in the Iron Age. Click on these images to watch the videos of Charles, Abigail and Finley's videos:



Did you know?

Parts of our newsletter are interactive! Try tapping on the images above to watch the videos!



Pre-School

Pre-School children were lucky enough to have two amazing nurses, a police officer and a PCSO visit their classes and inspire the next generation.

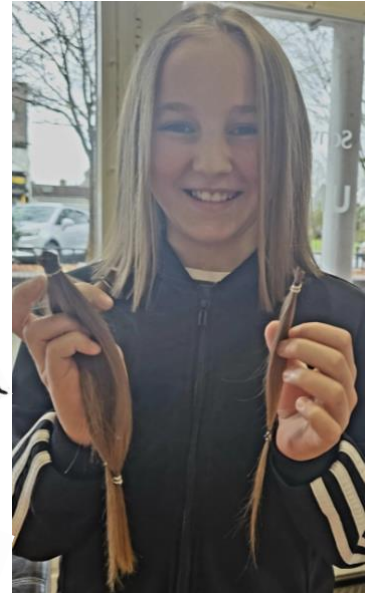


Celebrations - what we've been up to

Can you help the Little Princess Trust?

Isabelle has been growing her hair for five years to have it cut to raise money for this charity. The Little Princess Trust provides real hair wigs, free of charge, to children and young people who have lost their own hair through cancer treatment or to other conditions such as Alopecia.

The charity is also one of the largest funders of childhood cancer research in the UK. The Little Princess Trust relies solely on the generosity of its wonderful supporters who help the charity give Hair and Hope to so many children and young people with cancer each year. Click on the images to go to the just giving page to donate:



Farewell to Mrs Tranter

Mrs Tranter will be leaving Fulfen at Easter. During her time at Fulfen, she has been awarded a Specialist Leader of Education specialising in SEND and the National Award for Special Educational Needs Co-ordination with Birmingham University. She also worked at the forefront of our school achieving the Enhanced Dyslexia Status in 2016.



We wish Mrs Tranter every success as she moves to her new position as headteacher at a primary school in Walsall. We're sure that she'll have a huge impact on the staff and pupils that she works with.

Good luck Mrs Tranter!

We have appointed Miss Sturch as our new Deputy Head, who will be starting after Easter.



Love of Learning... Encouraging... Adaptable... Determination...

We REALLY don't want to CANCEL SCHOOL TRIPS! A message from Miss Davies.



As a school, we value the quality first hand experiences that our school trips provide and strongly believe it enhances pupil learning. All planned trips have been carefully chosen by the staff to provide a valuable learning experience which contributes to each child's learning and an integral part of the work that takes place in the classroom following the trip. I know that in our recent inspection, the inspectors were very impressed with both the number and the quality of our school trips.

Unfortunately, this year we have had to subsidise a number of school trips substantially as we have not received enough money to pay for the trip. In some classes, it has been as many as 7 parents in one class who have not contributed any money at all. *We do not* receive any additional money into our budget for this cost so it has to come out of the main school budget.

This financial year, we have spent as much on subsidising school trips as we have for our *entire English and Mathematics budgets put together*. **The school cannot afford to continue to do this as it is not financially viable.**

It is with great sadness that we will have to cancel a school trip if a large proportion of parents/carers do not make the voluntary contribution.

We always endeavour to put out trip information early, allowing a number of weeks to ensure that parent/carers have enough time and prior knowledge to plan for the cost. Moving forward, we will improve our communication by providing:

- as much notice as possible of planned trips and workshops;
- detailed information on the quality of the learning experience;
- a breakdown of the costs;
- clear guidance on how the school can support families financially.

We do not request contributions to cover the cost of those families who do not make a contribution. You can find out more about voluntary contributions in our [Charging and Remissions Policy](#).

We hope that this information will be useful and that pupils will be able to continue to experience these worthwhile learning opportunities.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Useful Information & what's coming up

Free School Meals – can you apply?

If your financial circumstances have changed recently, you might be able to claim free school meals for your children.

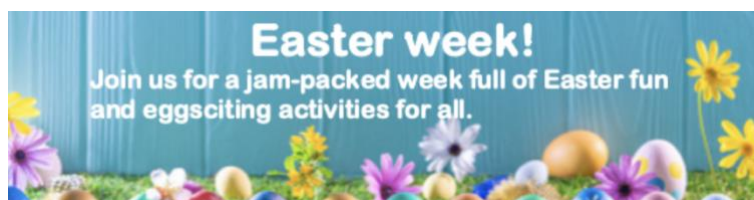
You can only apply online if you meet the low-income criteria. Remember, you can only claim free school meals if your child is going to be in Reception year or above when the meals begin:

<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Education/Educational-awards-benefits/FreeSchoolMeals/Apply-online.aspx>

After completing an application, you can print or screenshot a copy of the confirmation page to give to the school for meals to start immediately.

HAF Easter Holiday Club

Fulfen Club are bringing back their hugely successful HAF Club over Easter and there are a limited number of spaces left!



	Monday 25 th March	Tuesday 26 th March	Wednesday 27 th March	Thursday 28 th March
8:30pm-9:30pm	Free choice stations Including creative table, painting, sand, water, roleplay area, construction, modelling station and more!			
9:30pm-10:30pm	Cooking fun! Making Easter nests	Chocolate Easter Egg Hunt and exploring our natural environment in our forest.	Easter Craft Eggstravaganza!	Design and make your very own Easter bonnet.
10:30pm-11:00pm	Snack & free choice including a blast outside.			
11:00pm-12:00pm	Mini assault course	Football or Basketball	Easter Egg and Spoon Races	Team Games
12:00pm-1:00pm	Lunch			
1:00 pm-2:45pm	Wow Experience! Wizard workshop, magic show & high energy party games.	Wow Experience! Reptile Adventure – meet various reptiles visiting us for the afternoon.	Animal Experience! Visiting and learning all about our very own Fulfen chickens.	Easter Bonnet Parade Families welcome to join us to celebrate our Easter bonnets from 2.45pm
2:45pm-3:30pm	Snack and wind down for the end of the day.			

There is a range of fun activities available each day with a varied menu for lunch. Here is our timetable for the week:

Look at our [website page](#) for further details.

If your child receives free school meals, you will have been sent your HAF code on 8th March, which entitles your child to 4 free half-day sessions. From 11th March, you can register for your free sessions with Staffordshire [here](#) and then book your place at Fulfen Club [here](#).

If your child doesn't receive free school meals, you can still book a place in our exciting holiday club [here](#). **Please note that bookings must be received by end of day 20th March.**



Useful Information & what's coming up

Year 6 SATs

Our Year 6 children are busy preparing for their SATs tests in May. There are extra revision clubs after Easter which will be run by a number of staff after school. All year 6 families have been sent a link to book onto these clubs and we recommend that you take up the offer so that your child is as prepared as possible.

Year 6 SATS Information

For further support in preparation for the SATs, we have put a section at the bottom of the Year 6 Class page with lots of links for extra resources and support that the children and their families may find useful. Click [here](#) to take a look.

Are you concerned about parking around our school?

We want to encourage anyone who is concerned about parking issues to report them directly to Staffordshire County Council. This can be done by following this [link](#). It only takes a couple of minutes to complete and will hopefully help to make our immediate local area safer for all of our pupils and their families.



Have any of your details changed?



Are your
**CONTACT
DETAILS**
up to date?

If you've changed your phone number, email or postal address recently, have you let school know? Please take a minute to fill in [this form](#), which can also be found under the Parents tab of our website. It is so important that we have up-to-date contact details for parents and other close contacts for our pupils.



Useful Information & what's coming up

Extra-Curricular Clubs on offer after Easter

Monday – KS1 – Athletics (Mr Broadhead)

- Y1/2/3 Little Voices Choir – lunchtime (Mrs Shermer)
- KS1 – Nature Club – lunchtime – (Miss Spiers & Mrs MacDonald)
- Y6 – Maths Revision Club

Tuesday – KS2 – Martial Arts (Mr Broadhead)

- Y4/5 – Cross Country (Mr Bennett)
- Y6 Reading Revision Club
- KS2 – Drawing Club (Mrs Ashcroft)

Wednesday – KS2 – Boys' Football (Mr Broadhead)

- Y6 Grammar Revision Club
- Y1/2 Forest Club (Mrs Willows)

Thursday – Y4/5 – Gardening Club (Mrs Steele & Mrs Dimmack)

Red Nose Day Competition!

Comic Relief are holding a competition to design and make something that will reduce food waste in our local area – this might be at home, school or your entire town. This can be made from lego or any other materials and, if you don't have any materials, don't worry – just the design is enough.

If you create the winning design, you could win £2000 for our school, which will be invested into our design and technology equipment to benefit all of our pupils!

[Click here to see the help video.](#)

Here are some extra resources to help:

[love food – hate waste](#)

[food waste facts](#)

[10 ways to cut food waste](#)



This is open to all year groups. Your finished design can be uploaded to **Seesaw** – there's an activity created for this called the "Lego Food Waste Challenge".

The closing date for submission to school is 30th April. Good luck!



Useful Information & what's coming up

Online Safety Focus – Y99 chat site – what you need to know:

Finally, Omegle – an anonymous chat website – has been forced off the internet. However, there are more sites and apps taking its place. A new one for parents to be aware of is Y99. There is a very good article on the Internet Matters website about Y99, which is aimed at parents. [Read this article here.](#)

Bullying – in person or cyber-bullying – let's work together!

Research shows that young people who maintain positive communication with their family are less likely to experience bullying, so read these top tips to help support your child.

1. WATCH FOR BEHAVIOURAL CHANGES

Children who are experiencing bullying may become quiet, withdrawn, or anxious; however, they may also act on the pain and anger that they're feeling. A shift in attitude towards their existing friends (or not mentioning them any more at all) or alluding to new friendships which seem notably different could also be warning signs. It's important to be alert to such changes and talk to your child about them if they occur.

2. THINK THINGS THROUGH

Before acting, ask yourself if this is the right time and place to address concerns about bullying. Might your worries trigger strong feelings – perhaps from your own experiences – that could discourage your child from opening up to you? You could try discussing what you've noticed with another trusted adult who knows your child well.

3. BE OPEN AND UNDERSTANDING

Try to outline to your child the changes that you've noticed in their body language, appearance, behaviour, or tone of voice – and do so without sounding judgemental. Help them to describe what they're feeling – be it anger, sadness, fear or something else – as accurately as possible. If they say they're "angry", do they mean "enraged" or "frustrated"? This will help them to understand how they're feeling and why.

You can find out about our school's approach to bullying [here in our anti-bullying policy.](#)

If you're concerned that your child is being bullied, let us know.

4. LET THEM SPEAK FREELY

Use open questions and a welcoming tone to encourage your child to talk. Listen closely and summarise what they've said at appropriate points (ideally without interrupting) to demonstrate that you're understanding clearly. Bullying may have undermined your child's sense of control, and they may fear that you'll judge them, overreact or impose consequences – so this conversation can reassure them being honest with you was the right decision.

5. CALL A TIME OUT

A conversation about bullying could leave both you and your child feeling distressed. It's important to recognise this and pause at suitable moments to calm down. Take deep breaths, enjoy a hot drink or even have a cathartic cry. This can reinforce trust, while also helping you both feel that you have control over the situation and the emotions that you're feeling.



Useful Information & what's coming up

Dates for your diary



Thursday 14th Mar – Girls' Football Tournament

Friday 15th Mar – Red Nose Day

Friday 15th Mar – Y5 Greek Day – option to dress up as an Ancient Greek!

Tuesday 19th Mar – Easter Egg Hunt

Friday 22nd Mar – Feel Good Friday – no school uniform

Monday 25th Mar – School Closed – EASTER BREAK

Monday 8th Apr – Welcome back to school

Tuesday 9th Apr – Year 1 Trip – Black Country Museum

Tuesday 9th Apr – Music Live

Thursday 18th April – 5:30pm – Y6 Paris Meeting

Thursday 25th Apr – Girls' Football event

Tuesday 30th Apr – Class photographs

Monday 6th May – School Closed – BANK HOLIDAY

Monday 13th May – Y6 SATs Week

Friday 17th May – Y6 Inflatable Fun Treat

Monday 20th May – Y6 Trip to Paris

