



Bromesberrow St Mary's C of E Primary School
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December 2025 Newsletter

01/12/25

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we head into the festive season, we wanted to share some important updates and celebrations from across our school community.

Children have been working really hard at the village hall in readiness for their nativity performances. We have had lots of fun being altogether and learning our roles. You are in for a real treat!

Safety at the School Gate

We appreciate that the area around the school gate can feel cramped at drop-off and pick-up times. This is something we are actively exploring solutions for, but it's not an easy fix as we need to balance safeguarding with health and safety requirements.

For now, we kindly ask:

- Please do not park directly outside the school gate.
- Spread out and take turns as much as possible.

Your cooperation helps keep everyone safe—thank you for your understanding.

Feeling Festive!

You may have noticed our beautiful new Christmas tree! A huge thank you to Miss Blewitt and Roger, a local business owner, for donating and organising this. The children love decorating it!

Welcome to Miss Wilson!

We are delighted to welcome Miss Wilson, our new lunchtime supervisor. She has already been busy serving delicious lunches to the children and settling into her role.



Recruitment Update

We are currently advertising for a full-time SEN-focused Teaching Assistant (8:45am–3:15pm, including 30 minutes lunchtime cover). This role will help us provide additional support for children with additional needs. Further details available on request.

Attendance

Our current whole-school attendance stands at 90%. This is well below the national average and lower than other schools across Primary Quest. This level of absence has a significant impact on children's learning, progress, and wellbeing.

Why good attendance is vital

Good attendance is directly linked to stronger academic outcomes, better social development, and improved long-term life chances. When children are in school every day, they benefit from consistent teaching, routines, and positive relationships that help them thrive.

Even small amounts of absence add up quickly. For example:

- 90% attendance = missing one day every two weeks.
- Over a school year, this is the equivalent of four weeks of lost learning.
- Across a child's primary education, 90% attendance means missing half a school year of lessons.

This lost time makes it much harder for children to keep up with learning sequences, build confidence, and make expected progress.

The importance of punctuality

Punctuality matters just as much as attendance. Our school day begins at 8:50am, and children must be in class ready to learn.

Arriving late means:

- Missing key learning activities at the start of the day.
- Losing important settling-in time that supports emotional readiness for learning.
- Disrupting the class and making it harder for children to start the day positively.

Just 10 minutes late each day equals nearly 33 hours of lost learning in a year — equivalent to almost a full school week.

Working together

We know that good attendance is achieved through partnership between school and families. We are here to support you with any difficulties that may be affecting attendance or punctuality. By working together, we can ensure that every child is in school, on time, every day - giving them the very best chance to succeed.



Busy Festive Weeks Ahead

We know this is a busy time for families, and we completely understand that parents and carers cannot attend everything. Please know that staff are working incredibly hard to create magical festive memories and deliver wonderful performances and events for the children.

A huge thank you to our PTA for their ongoing support in making these events special. They have pledged an incredible £6,000 towards our building projects and planned Nurture Nook space-this funding makes such a difference!

The PTA is also planning exciting events for the New Year, including a Valentine's Disco, Easter Bingo, and the return of cake sales and ice cream stalls.

We're thrilled to share that the recent PTA Fireworks Event raised £800-a fantastic achievement and a brilliant evening enjoyed by all.

Enrichment Highlights

Our children have been busy experiencing wonderful enrichment opportunities:

- Year 4 loved their Viney Hill residential, connecting with children from across Primary Quest.
 - Class 2 enjoyed a Primary Quest cinema trip to watch *If*.
 - Class 1 parents joined us for a reading-focused event, which was very well attended.
 - Our Scholastic Book Fair was a success-we hope the children are enjoying their new books!
 - Some members of Class 3 represented us beautifully at a maths event at The Downs School in Colwall.
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School Council in Action

Led by the wonderful Miss Oakes, our School Council has been focusing on community this term. They organised and led the Children in Need cake sale, are running a shoebox appeal, and will soon be visiting Ledbury Food Bank. We are so proud of their efforts to think of others.

Kind Regards

Laura Hankins
Head Teacher



Christmas Calendar Events

December –

- **Thursday 4th December-** Choir singing at Hill Ash House at 1.30pm
- **Tuesday 9th December_**– Christmas Performance 2pm in Village Hall
- **Wednesday 10th December** – Christmas Performance 6pm in Village Hall
- **Thursday 11th December-** School council visiting Deer Park care home at 2pm
- **Monday 15th December-** Arts showcase at 2pm
- **Tuesday 16th December** - Christmas Dinner
- **Wednesday 17th December-** Whole school panto trip
- **Wednesday 17th December-** Choir singing at Ledbury Tesco at 2pm
- **Thursday 18th December-** Christmas post box and party.
- **Friday 19th December** - Church service at 1.30pm
- **Friday 19th December** - Last day of term – Pick up from church at 2pm

January-

- **Monday 5th January-** Inset day
- **Tuesday 6th January-** School reopens

