



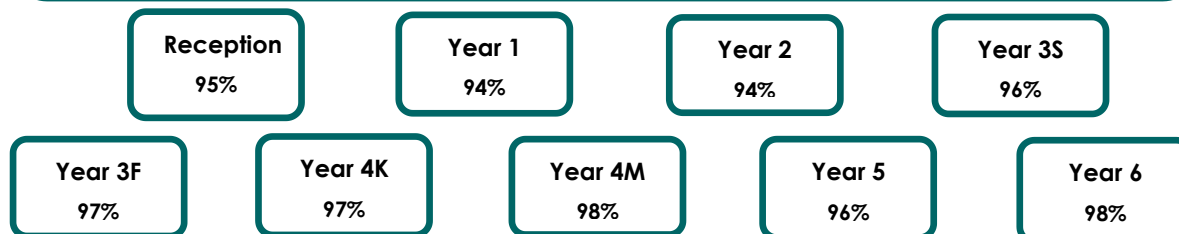
## Spring 2 Primley Wood Primary School Newsletter

### Good attendance and punctuality equals success!

This half term's whole school attendance: 96% Our attendance target for the year is 97%

Year to date is: 95%

Please help your child to achieve success by ensuring that they come to school every day.



### Upcoming Key Dates Green events – parents are welcome

15 <sup>th</sup> April	Back to school
17 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 4 Nell Bank residential meeting for parents of children who are attending
17 <sup>th</sup> April	Drop Everything and Read, Years 1, 2, 3 and 4 - 3:00
6 <sup>th</sup> May	May Bank Holiday
7 <sup>th</sup> May	Back to school – Global environment awareness week Primley's Walk to School Week
8 <sup>th</sup> May	Eco-Council Day - Sir David Attenborough's birthday
9 <sup>th</sup> May	The Big Playground Clean up
10 <sup>th</sup> May	No printing or photocopying day
13 <sup>th</sup> May -16 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6 SATs – SATs breakfast and revision daily from 8:00
17 <sup>th</sup> May	Inspirational People's Day (Careers Day part 1) Option for children to dress up – as a profession (e.g teacher, ballerina, sports person, doctor, etc)
17 <sup>th</sup> May	Bun (cupcake) sale – 50p per bun (money raised will go into Pupil's Bank Account)
20 <sup>th</sup> May	Phonics information event – 9:00 (in school hall), please attend to support your child to read with fluency (this may be parents of children in older years as well as parents with younger children)
21 <sup>st</sup> May	Careers Day – parents please come into support. Let the office or class teacher know if you can support (Careers Day part 2)
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Drop Everything and Read, - Nursery, Reception, Year 5 and Year 6
23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Coffee Morning 9:00 -10:00 in the school hall
Tuesday May 21 <sup>st</sup>	Nursery, Year 2, and Year 4 – Class Museum
Wednesday May 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Year 4 residential to Nell Bank
Wednesday May 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Reception, Year 1 and 3 - Class Museum
Thursday May 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Year 5 Class Museum
Friday May 24 <sup>th</sup>	Break up for half term (2 weeks)

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a fabulous half term and there are so many things to be proud of at Primley Wood. I am so pleased with the outcome of the new Key Stage 2 playground, and it is a delight to see children enjoying it at playtimes. With the support of the Friends of Primley Wood (PTA), we set up playground boxes for both playgrounds to ensure there are a variety of games and equipment for children to play with.

It has been fantastic to see our DEAR sessions become a part of the school culture with reading for pleasure and instilling a love of reading in children which is very high on our agenda at Primley. We have introduced a new writing strategy - Power of Reading which the children and staff are really enjoying. This strategy exposes children to high- quality texts. We have also has a sports coach in to work with teachers to deliver high-quality PE lessons for our pupils.

I am also very proud of the community we are developing at Primley through parents coming into school frequently for coffee mornings, DEAR sessions, workshops, etc. and we are keen to build on this next half term.

This half term, we have also been able to provide a variety of enrichment clubs. We have had cooking, gardening, dancing, choir, board games, debating, timetables and mindfulness. We also launched our Pastoral Suite and are looking forward to developing this next half term. Clubs for next half term are available so please book a space for your child. We are keen to provide more enrichment clubs in the future – do let the school know of any clubs you would particularly like for your child to take part in or if you have any recommendations.

Pupil voice is also very important at Primley Wood. We now have a wonderful School Council, Play Leaders, Lunch time leaders. Next half term, we will be recruiting for Anti-bullying Ambassadors and Eco Councillors. The Eco Council will help to shape a fantastic Global Environment Week next half term.

We also have lots of exciting things planned for next half term such as our Careers Day, Global Environment Week and our Class Museums (an opportunity for children to showcase to parents what they have learned).

Next term, we would like to extend a warm welcome to Mr Philips (our new Deputy Head Teacher), Mrs Eames (new Nursery Teacher), Miss Reynolds (a new teaching assistant) and Mrs Charlotte Webb, our new member of the office team. We would also like to say goodbye and thank you to Mrs Watson who will be leaving us this half term.

I am so proud of the staff team and their relentless effort to provide a wonderful school experience for the Primley Wood children.

Yours Sincerely,



Mrs Kaur, Head Teacher of Primley Wood Primary School

# Read all about us...

## Nursery

We have been very busy this half-term in Nursery learning all about transport! We have been singing The Wheels on the Bus and making lots of vehicles out of different materials. This week we enjoyed reading 'The Naughty Bus' and discussed what the bus in the story was getting up to.

Our visits to the woods have been full of adventure! We have enjoyed exploring outside in the mud and lots of the children are becoming confident in the outside environment. We have had so much fun hunting for bugs and digging in the Nursery Garden.



We welcomed our new teacher Miss Clare Eames in March and have enjoyed taking part in Phonics, Maths and Funky Fingers to get our fingers strong and ready for writing.

We are looking forward to next term where we will be learning about plants, their life cycles and how they play an important role in keeping us healthy.





## Reception

This half term has been buzzing with excitement as we've jumped into our new topic all about TERRIFIC TRANSPORT! We kick started the term off by reading '*red lorry, yellow lorry*' which turned out to be quite a tongue twister when said quickly! The children then came up with as many modes of transport as they could think of – an impressive 22!

In Week 2 it was all aboard the Primley Wood Airline to learn about planes and airports. The children loved making their own passports, writing boarding tickets, packing suitcases, and using the globe to decide where to fly to – in the end we decided on Disney Land! Once all the prep was done we hired cabin crew, security guards and a pilot whilst the rest of the class sat back and enjoyed the flight!

In Maths the children have been working hard to consolidate their knowledge of numbers 1 -15. The number blocks have helped us work out one more and one less and we have also been using number lines to support with this.

In Geography we have been learning all about our capital city and the modes of transport that are there, including the big red buses and underground trains. The class have loved studying maps and looking at the routes that the big red buses use to see the famous London landmarks. Lots of children were able to share their own experiences of going to London – it seems the London Eye is very popular!!

To finish the term we decided to leave Earth and head into Space! This linked nicely to our 3D shape work as we noticed that lots of the planets are spheres! We have also learnt about cubes, cylinders and cones and used this vocabulary when creating junk model rockets.

It's been a wonderful and busy term. The Reception team are super proud of all the children for working so hard! We hope you have a wonderful break and see you all after Easter!

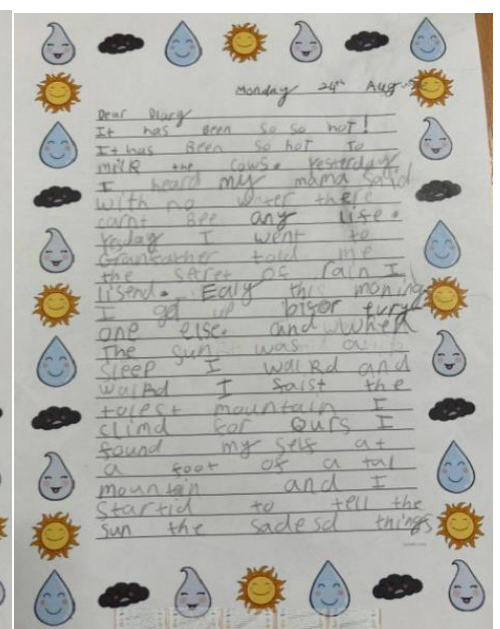
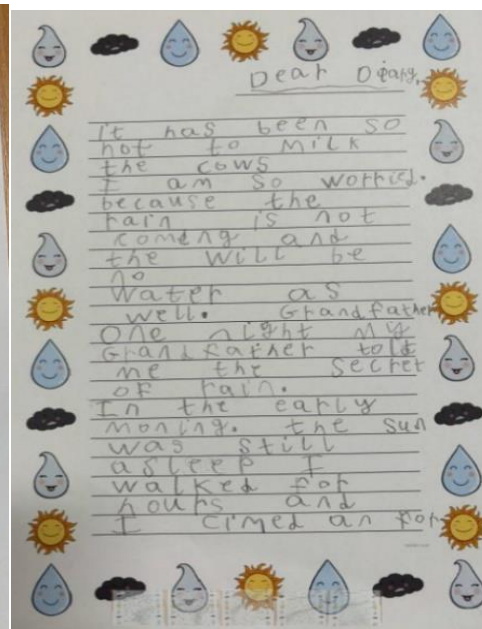
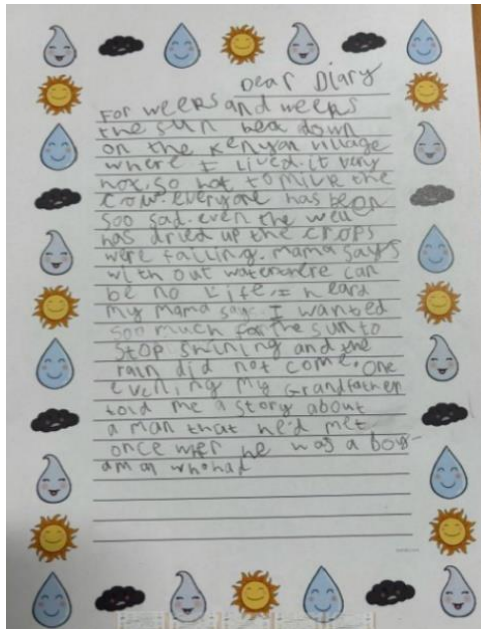


## Year 1

In Year 1 our topic has been plants, and the children have learnt all the wonderful things to do with looking after and growing a plant. At the start of term each child was given a sunflower seed to plant, and after learning about all of the things a plant needs to grow, they have been nurturing their seed with care. Some children's plants have grown over 20cm tall! The children have shown brilliant responsibility with taking care of their plants and hopefully this will continue when they get to take them home.



In English we began a new story: Lila and the Secret of Rain. We travelled all the way to Kenya to immerse ourselves in the hot safari desert and learn about life in Africa. Children read about a girl who was a hero for bringing the rain back to her village and learned what the secret of rain was. We learnt about writing in the first person and created some incredible diary entries as Lila before retelling all the exciting things that happen in the story when Lila reaches the top of the mountain.



PSHE has been an important topic for us in spring, as we were exploring the similarities and differences between each other. We found ways to find out about our similarities and celebrate our differences whilst learning how to respect and care for those who are different from ourselves. These sessions have been incredibly important to us as we are building the foundations for the British Value of respect, something that should develop through their years at Primley Wood.



## Year 2

It's been an exciting half term in Year 2. The children have been learning all about plants and how to grow them successfully. They can explain the life cycle of a plant and photosynthesis. They've taken bean plants home to grow in a pot or the garden – I'm hoping to see some pictures of beanstalks! Perhaps we can combine the maths learning about measuring height to see who has the tallest plant?

Year 2 have enjoyed their music lessons this half term and have been composing their own music to play on the xylophones – they are getting really good! Geography work was a comparison study of Leeds and a small village in Zambia.

The children made clay homes like those in the village of Murgurameno and were shocked to find that there are crocodiles in the Zambezi river where people wash their clothes and dishes! I am proud of the writing Year 2 produced about "Claude in the City," – our excellent class novel for this half term. I look forward to what next half term's learning has to offer.



## Year 3 Falcons

It's been another busy term in Falcons. We all had such good fun celebrating our favourite books on World Book Day. It was so lovely to see everyone dressed up as their favourite book character. I loved seeing children bringing in books written in their home languages too.

In PE, Tag Rugby has been a firm favourite for Falcons, including Mrs Vice. The children worked diligently to develop their skills. In English, Falcons have been working so hard to produce some fantastic versions of "The Frog Prince Continued" in the style of an alternate fairy tale. We have also worked together to produce balanced arguments about whether homework should be banned. There were some passionate arguments on both sides of the coin. We are very proud of our writing.

Our Geography unit on earthquakes and volcanoes has been literally explosive as we have made our own volcanoes. Design and technology has been a firm favourite this term: we have designed and sewn our very own cushions. The children are extremely proud of their hard work.





## Year 3 Sparrowhawks

This half-term in Sparrow hawks, we have had the pleasure of representing our school in a visit to a fantastic local library, Moor Allerton. We had an amazing reading session, exploring how the library system works and delving deep into the land of fiction and non-fiction. We held story-times for each other and shared our favourite jokes from the books. Following on from our school trip, we kept the excitement alive through celebrating World Book Day. We held a circle-time where children each shared their favourite books and authors and we discussed why they would recommend their book to a friend. After that, Year 6 children came into our classroom, some of us went into their classroom, and we each had the opportunity to read to each other. We all loved taking part in this collaboration of reading.

We have also enjoyed writing our own twisted tale narrative based on the book 'The Frog Prince Continued'. These were SO creative and included so many evil fairy-tale villains! Additionally, after having a whole-class debate, we wrote a balanced argument on the very significant topic 'Should Homework Be Banned?' As you can imagine, the children had some very strong opinions on this!

In Design and Technology, we have designed and sewn our very own cushions. The children have worked so hard to complete these projects and they are extremely proud of themselves.

Finally, we have been enjoying our P.E. sessions with Alex our PE coach - learning how to play tag rugby!

It really has been an excellent half term and I am excited to see all the wonderful learning still to come in the summer term!





## Year 4 Kestrels

It's been an action-packed term filled with exciting learning adventures! In our PE sessions, we've been mastering our tag rugby skills, sprinting across the playground with precision and teamwork. Meanwhile, in maths, we've been diving deep into the world of decimals, sharpening our numerical understanding with money and fractions.

Our exploration of rainforests has been truly captivating, as we have uncovered the wonders of these lush ecosystems and the importance of protecting them. In art, we've been playing with light and dark to create stunning compositions, letting our creativity shine through every stroke.

Not forgetting our literary journey! We've been weaving magic with folk tales, writing captivating re-tells that transport readers to far-off lands filled with adventure and wonder. In PSHE, we've been nurturing our citizenship skills, learning how to be responsible members of our community and make a positive difference in the world around us.

We have loved celebrating World Book Day as a class, particularly exploring our most recent read – *Witches* by Roald Dahl. I know how much the pupils enjoy and look forward to seeing you all at their D.E.A.R sessions.

Well done Kestrels for a fabulous term, and all your hard work!



## Year 4 Merlins

Exciting adventures abound in the world of Merlins this term!

First off, we welcomed the dynamic Ms. Keighley to the class team.

In Maths, we dived into the captivating realm of decimals and money, mastering place value while even getting hands-on with pocket money!

Our English journey was nothing short of thrilling as we delved into the folktale "The Village that Vanished" by Ann Grifalconi. We didn't just read; we unleashed our creativity by rewriting this enchanting tale, expanding our writing skills along the way.

Science took us on a fascinating exploration of "Animals Including Humans." The highlight? Investigating our very own digestive systems and conducting experiments on how various liquids affect our teeth – truly hands-on learning at its best!

Journeying into the depths of Geography, we immersed ourselves in the wonders of the rainforest, uncovering its mysteries and marvels.

PE was a blast as we honed our teamwork and communication skills through the exhilarating sport of tag rugby. The children were captivated, learning more about the game while building important life skills.

Hola from our Spanish adventures! We ventured into the wider world, expanding our horizons by delving into Spanish-speaking countries and continents. The children eagerly absorbed new vocabulary, broadening their global awareness.

Last but not least, in RE, we explored the profound significance of Easter in the Christian faith, looking into its traditions and meanings.

It's been a term of discovery, growth, and endless excitement for the Merlins! Well done everyone!





## Year 5 Tawny Owls

What an exciting and busy term we have had in Year 5. The children have made some fantastic progress across all of their learning and we have had a great spring term.

In English, we have been reading 'The Last Wild' and this has informed the children's writing. Year 5 have shown incredible versatility in being able to write a setting description, poetry and a report all based around our reading of this book. I hope this topic has also encouraged the children to think about some of the issues facing the environment and what we can do to help!

In Maths we have done a lot of work on fractions and decimals. We have also looked at area and perimeter and the children have shown impressive skills in the statistics topic of being able to analyse and interpret data.

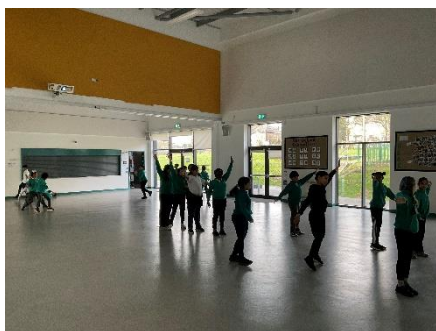


Science has been very exciting and the children have had chance to observe and participate in a lot of investigations all looking at changes in materials, we have seen lots of reversible and irreversible changes and some of them were pretty impressive. The children now know what an explosive reaction ordinary household products such as vinegar and bicarbonate of soda can have!



Our Geography topic has taken us on a trip to Greece (in our imaginations...) where we have looked at the many reasons that Greece is a popular tourist destination; be it for the warm climate, the sun kissed beaches, the historical significance or the wonderful food. I know the children really enjoyed sampling some traditional Greek dishes.

We have been extremely lucky to have two PE sessions a week this half term; the children have had dance on a Tuesday and looked at dances from around the world, including dances to celebrate the Chinese New Year. We have also had two-touch rugby sessions which the children have really enjoyed taking part in.



In Year 5 we continue to share and promote our love of reading in many ways; thank you so much to the parents that have dropped into our D.E.A.R sessions, I know the children have really enjoyed sharing their reading with you. We also had a brilliant time walking to the local library and taking our time to see all of the wonderful books we can borrow; I know the children were very excited to take some books back to school.

It really has been a wonderful half-term and I am excited to see all the wonderful learning still to come in the summer term.





## Year 6 Red kites

It's been another busy term in Year 6! Here are some of the exciting topics we have been covering in our recent Maths and English classes. In Maths, we have been covering several important topics, including area, perimeter, statistics, and arithmetic. Children have been learning about the formulas for calculating the area and perimeter of different shapes, as well as how to analyse and interpret statistical data. They have also been strengthening their arithmetic skills through various exercises. Meanwhile, in English, we have been delving further into the book "Street Child," focusing specifically on character description and building suspense in a short narrative. Our students have been learning how to craft compelling descriptions of characters and settings, as well as how to use language to create tension and suspense in their writing.

Meanwhile in Science we have been focusing on the importance of looking after the environment and exploring different ways of reducing our carbon footprint. Our students have been learning about renewable energy sources, recycling, and other sustainable practices that they can incorporate into their daily lives to help protect our planet.

In PE, we have moved onto gymnastics, where the children have been exploring different techniques to develop their flexibility, strength, technique, control, and balance. They have been practicing various gymnastics moves and routines, building their skills and confidence as they go. In our topic sessions, we have been looking at different artists and aiming to copy their work by putting our own personal touches to it. Our students have been learning about different art styles, techniques, and mediums, and have been experimenting with various tools and materials to create their own unique masterpieces.

I would also like to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude for your continued support and involvement in your child's education. We recently held DEAR sessions for you to read with your children, and we were thrilled to see so many of you take the time to come in and participate. Your presence and engagement truly make a difference in your child's academic progress and overall well-being.

I would also like to thank those of you who attended our recent parents' evenings. We hope that you found the sessions to be informative and useful in gaining a better understanding of your child's progress and areas for improvement. Your feedback and involvement are crucial in helping us tailor our approach to meet the needs of each student and promote their success.

Here's to another half term filled with learning, growth, and memorable experiences!



## Our Phonics Workshops and live lesson

Miss Read, our Year 1 teacher opened her doors this half term to the parents of her class so that they could come and watch a live phonics lesson. The session was incredibly well attended and the children really enjoyed showing off their phonics knowledge with everyone in the room. Not only did we hold this live lesson but parents were also invited to gain further information about our new phonics scheme Little Wandle for Letters and sounds. Keep an eye out for further phonics events to be held next term.

We're teaching every child to read with Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised  
A complete SSP validated by the Department for Education



## Charity news

We have had lots of things going on in school this half term.

- We are so fortunate to receive donations of food from two charities which are delivered to school on a regular basis and are available from our pantry to all our families. A huge thank you to the parents that also support with this.
- We all enjoyed taking part in Red Nose Day and our red-themed non uniform day raised lots of money which we have sent to Comic Relief.



## Primley's Pre-school Messy Play and Playgroup for children under 3.

Please join us on FRIDAYS at 9:30-11:00 for messy play with your child/ren!

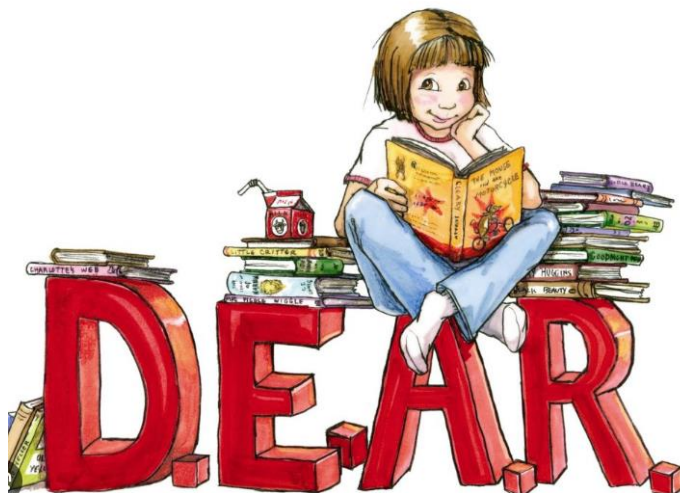
This is a great opportunity for your toddlers to get to know Primley Wood Primary School before they make a start or just to spend some time making friends and engaging in messy play. Please spread the word in Alwoodley.

If you have any unwanted pre-school toys that are in a very good condition- please bring these along.

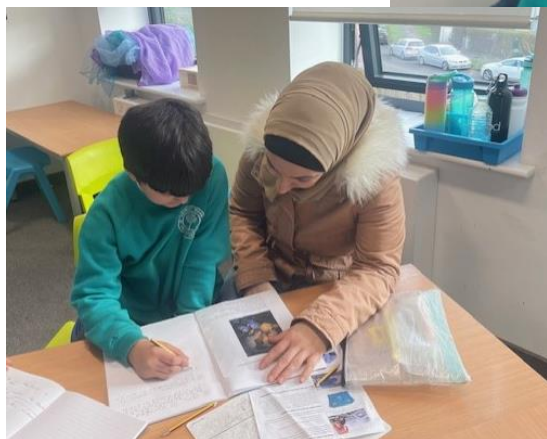
Donations are kindly welcomed.

## Drop Everything and Read

Drop Everything and Read is a great way to create fun and excitement around reading for pleasure. It sends a message that reading for pleasure is important, and something everyone should make time for.



Thank you to all of the parents who joined us for our DEAR sessions. It was so wonderful to see so many parents reading with their child/ groups of children. Thank you for your support in creating a real buzz around reading!





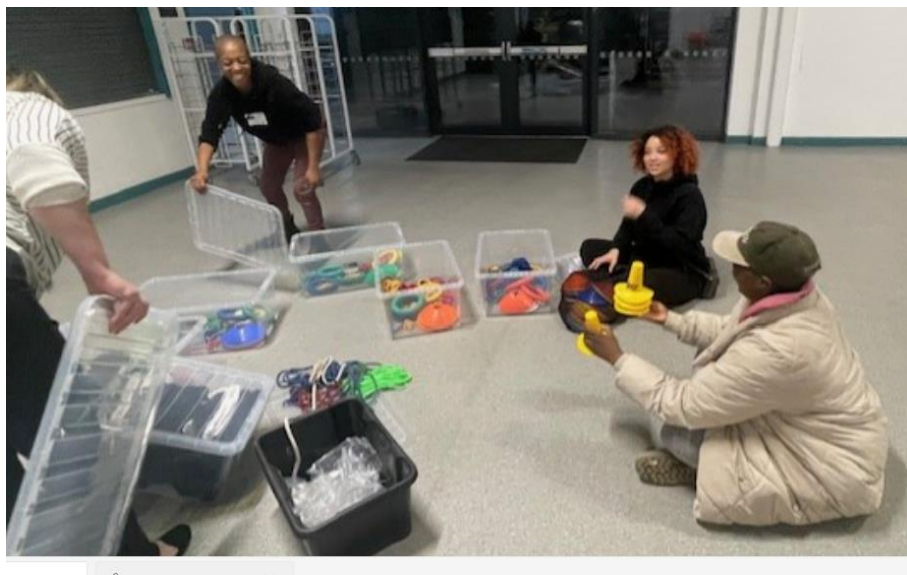
### Read and Snuggle Bags

A huge thankyou again to Mrs Hayes for working so hard to get our Read and Snuggle Bags ready to be sent home and enjoyed. The bags all contain a book, cuddly toy and a hot chocolate to really get you in the mood for a comfy cosy bed time story. If you would like to send in any photographs of you enjoying the Read and Snuggle bags at home- we would love to see them in action!



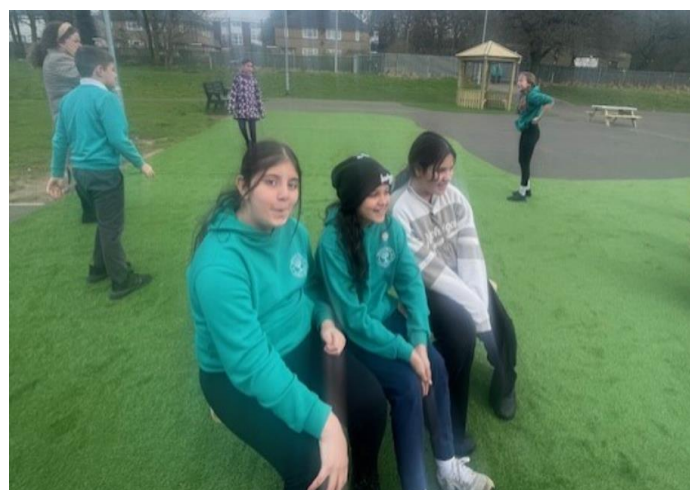
### Friends of Primley Wood

A huge thank you to the wonderful parents that helped us to sort our hall cupboards and set up playtime boxes for our pupils. We appreciate your support and help enormously!



## Our new playground

It has been exciting to watch our new playground take shape over the last few weeks. Thank you so much for your patience and understanding whilst the ground works were taking place. Once complete, the children were able to access the new areas straight away. We have put in place rotas for all of the new areas to ensure that each year group have an equal opportunity to read quietly in the cosy den, play the table top games, perform songs and dance routines on the stage and still have time for that all important game of football. Once again, a huge thank you to everyone in the school community who helped to raise the funds for this exciting development. The children are loving it!





## World Book Day

The children and staff enjoyed a fun filled World Book Day on 7<sup>th</sup> March. There were many wonderful costumes on show from a whole host of children's fiction books, TV shows and movies. Many children brought in their favourite books from home to share with the rest of their class. It was fantastic to see what a wide range of texts the children are enjoying reading at home and it has given us some ideas for which books we could

buy next to enhance our class libraries. As part of our World Book Day celebrations we also ran a "Book in a box" competition. The entries absolutely blew us away. They were so incredibly creative, the fine details really showcased their understanding of the stories on show.



In Nursery, nooks came to life! Can you guess the stories?

The staff enjoyed getting into character!





### Meet Alex our new PE coach



Alex teaches PE on a Friday and runs lunch time clubs for Key Stage 1 and 2.

### Eco Councillors

Exciting news! Next half term, we will be setting up Eco-Counsellors. They will work to make Primley Wood Primary School more eco-friendly. They will lead projects to help us reduce waste and save energy, for example, by starting recycling programmes and organising energy-saving campaigns. They will collaborate with each other and think of new ideas to help us all be kinder to the environment. They will show us how we can make a big difference, one small step at a time.

### Anti-Bullying Ambassadors

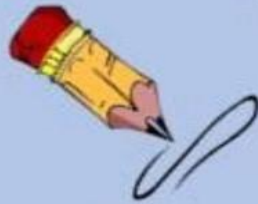
Amazing news! Next half term, we are setting up Anti-Bullying Ambassadors. Their purpose will be to ensure that everyone feels safe and included at Primley Wood Primary School. They will be visible during breaks, offering support and stopping any unkind behaviour. Their aim is to ensure that every student is treated with kindness and respect. Through assemblies, workshops and fun activities, the ambassadors will educate us about the importance of empathy, standing up for each other and creating a culture of kindness where bullying has no place.

### Enterprise Day

Our Enterprise Day was a huge success! The children were given a budget of £35 to design/create and organise a stall or game for their class to showcase at our Easter Fayre. All classes in school took part with some of the older children putting their maths skills to the test to work out costings and how much potential profit they could make. It was a pleasure to see all of the wonderful ideas at the Easter Fayre.



*Primley Wood's Creative Writing Short Story*  
*Competition -*  
*500 words*



Over the half term holidays, each class will be entering into a creative writing competition. The idea is to write a 500 word fictional story on whatever you want...dogs in space? Food coming alive? Aliens taking over? We want to hear it all! The winner from each class will be chosen fairly by their peers and will receive a prize of a fancy notebook and pen set!

The only rules are that the story has to be 500 words or fewer (which is about one side of A4!) and it has to be your own idea, written in your own words by yourself. We want you to write a story you would want to read and so we really want you to get creative with the storyline - we won't be marking you on your spelling, punctuation or grammar (we pinkie promise).

Think about characterisation, originality, plot, language and enjoyment.

Pictures have been provided as a stimulus for generating ideas.

Happy writing!

Miss Rowe ☺



## *Spreading the magic called kindness...*

Last half term, as part of mental health awareness week, we introduced a new motto to school – spreading the magic called kindness. We are very proud of the Primley children who are very kind!

Thank you to all the parent who have written such lovely feedback. Here are a few comments...

Primley Wood School is an absolutely amazing school! Great and caring teachers, warm atmosphere. We love the staff!  
Lovely school!

A caring, nurturing environment. Delivering exceptional learning with an emphasis on the individual child.

Primley Wood is a lovely school with very caring, friendly staff. The children are nurtured and their strengths are noticed.

Primley Wood has catered for my child's needs so well. It is a pleasure for him to be a part of the school.

My child loves the outdoor space and we love all the Reception staff especially!

This school is the best school forever. This school gives my child the best education and the staff are very good and kind.

Primley Wood has a very caring supportive environment, kids are the top priority and everyone is very approachable.

Primley Wood is absolutely amazing with amazing teachers around. I am so happy my daughter is guided by good people.

Big thank you to everyone for the support, caring and safety and emphasising well-being.

Since joining this school in October 2022, my children are excelling personally and academically.

*Thank you to all of the staff for all of their hard work and to parents for your support. Thank you to all of our pupils who make it a delight for staff to work at Primley Wood.  
Have a wonderful holiday everyone!*