

Newsletter



Week Beginning
24/03/2025

Dates for your diary

Class Assemblies

<u>02/04/25</u>	<u>09/04/25</u>	<u>07/05/25</u>	<u>14/05/25</u>	<u>21/05/25</u>
Reception	Year 1	Year 5	Year 3	Year 2

8th May - Red, White & Blue Day - special celebration of Victory in Europe. (See poster below)

Monday 7th April - 9am- Nursery & Reception Easter Bonnet Parade (see below for details)

Wednesday 9th April - 9am - Year 1 & year 2 Easter Bonnet Parade (see below for details)

Walsall School Term date 2024 - 2025

Spring term 2025

- Term starts: Monday 6 January 2025
- Half term holiday: Monday 17 February 2025 to Friday 21 February 2025
- Term ends: Friday 11 April 2025

Summer term 2025

- Term starts: Monday 28 April 2025
- Half term holiday: Monday 26 May 2025 to Friday 30 May 2025
- Term ends: Monday 21 July 2025

Attendance

It is important that your child attends school everyday that the school is open unless they are unwell or for unforeseen circumstances. Taking children out of schools for holidays will not be authorised and therefore could result in a fine. Please remember that taking a child out of school can have an impact on their learning for the time that they are off and they can miss key concepts to learning. Not only can it impact academically but it can also have an effect on their social skills and confidence too.

Reception	96.3%	<p>Academic Year Attendance Ladder</p>
Year One	97.5%	
Year Two	98.7%	
Year Three	90.0%	
Year Four	92.0%	
Year Five	90.7%	
Year Six	97.7%	

Well Done Year 2 - A trip to the Education Garden for you this week with milkshakes.

PE Champions

Each week, one pupil from each class will get to bring home their class PE Champion trophy! This will be a pupil who has shown resilience, dedication and hard work during their PE sessions. Can we ask that the trophy is returned the following week, ready to be awarded to the next pupil.

<u>Nursery</u>	Alpha for his fantastic balancing and jumping skills.
<u>Reception</u>	Darcy - for great team work and encouraging others.
<u>Year 1</u>	AJ for demonstrating some outstanding jumps during this week's lesson!
<u>Year 2</u>	<i>No P.E. this week due dentist assembly.</i>
<u>Year 3</u>	Evie for excellent fielding skills in cricket.
<u>Year 4</u>	Nayeli for working incredibly hard every lesson.
<u>Year 5</u>	Nayra for working hard when creating a new routine.
<u>Year 6</u>	Elemia for brilliant batting skills when working with the cricket coach.

Easter Bonnet Parade

Monday 7th April - 9am- Nursery & Reception Easter Bonnet Parade

Wednesday 9th April - 9am - Year 1 & year 2 Easter Bonnet Parade

Please send your child to school with their bonnet on this day.

Each child that takes part will receive a chocolate prize,

There will be a 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize for each class.

Parents are invited to attend and it will be lovely to see you in school.



Reduce, Reuse and Recycle Workshop For Years 3-5.

The Gazebo Theatre put on an interactive performance called: Invasion of the Flingatrons addressing climate change and sustainability. The workshop was about highlighting the need and importance of looking after our planet through efforts to "reduce, reuse and recycle" our waste. Children learnt about how impactful our waste is on the planet, with a visitor from the future "Ecos" who brings a message of how bad the future could get with the "Flingatrons" who throw everything away, and don't repair, reuse or recycle. Children came up with ideas of how to upcycle everyday items we throw away, using dance, spoken word, poems and actions.



Year 4 Assembly

We want to say a massive thank you to the Y4 parents for attending our Assembly this week about 'Celebrating Difference'. As a Y4 team, Mrs Lockett, Mrs Massey and I are very proud of the children for being so mature and for learning a song in French too.

We hope you all enjoyed it too

Thanks



Weekly PE Challenge



Catch and Clap 60 Second Challenge

How many times can you throw a ball up, clap once and catch it in 60 seconds?



The ball must go above your head. If you drop the ball, carry on counting your score from where you left off.



Achieve Gold

35 catch and claps



Achieve Silver

25 catch and claps



Achieve Bronze

15 catch and claps



Comic Relief



Thank you for all of your donations for Comic Relief. The children had a lovely day and took part in a lot of fantastic activities. The total raised so far is £126.41!



Thank you to ASDA and all who have helped collect points through the ASDA cashpot scheme this cycle. We are absolutely amazed and unbelievably grateful to announce that we have managed to raise

£453.72

This money will help us to continue to enhance children's experiences at our school!

WALSALL HAF EASTER FOOTBALL CAMP



VENUE:

CHRIST CHURCH CE PRIMARY SCHOOL
HARDEN ROAD
LEAMORE
WALSALL
WS3 1EN

DATE:

TUESDAY 22ND APRIL 2025 - FRIDAY 25TH APRIL 2025

TIME:

10:00AM - 2:00PM

FOOTBALL CAMP

COME ALONG TO OUR FANTASTIC FOOTBALL CAMP. OUR CAMP OFFERS AN ABUNDANCE OF FUN FOOTBALL ACTIVITIES SUCH AS PENALTY SHOOT OUTS, AMERICAN SHOOT OUTS, SMALL SIDED GAMES AND COACHING SESSIONS IN GOAL KEEPING, PASSING, DRIBBLING AND MORE! ALL ACTIVITIES ARE DESIGNED TO IMPROVE CHILDREN'S FOOTBALL SKILLS WITH AN EMPHASIS ON HAVING FUN AND BEING ACTIVE. A HOT HEALTHY LUNCH IS PROVIDED EACH DAY.

AGE 5 - 11 YEARS

**TO BOOK YOUR FREE PLACE(S)
PLEASE GO TO YOUR WALSALL HAF PORTAL
* SPACES ARE LIMITED ***





DRESS FOR VICTORY

WEAR **RED**

WHITE & BLUE

Thursday 8 May

£1

Come to school wearing red, white and blue to celebrate the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE Day) and raise money to support veterans in need



Registered Charity Number: England & Wales 210063 | Scotland SC048795

Clive Mark Walsall

We Are Relocating To...

**CLIVE MARK SCHOOLWEAR
UNIT 6,
15 BRADFORD MALL,
SADDLERS CENTRE,
WALSALL, WS1 1YT**



Walsall.office@clivemark.co.uk

**All your uniform available
from one new location **JUST
DOWNSTAIRS!****

From 16th April 2025

Quality Service & Value

FOR OVER 50 YEARS IN THE MIDLANDS

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about BLUESKY SOCIAL APP

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

With an App Store rating of 17+ & Google Play rating Mature

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

NO PRIVATE ACCOUNTS

While most social networks allow accounts to be private, at the time of writing, all Bluesky accounts must be public. The development team has indicated this might change in the future, but the app is built on a public-first protocol. If private accounts are ever introduced, it may only be in a limited way – such as through the implementation of group chats.

INTERACTIONS WITH STRANGERS

Every account being public means that anyone can be contacted by anyone else. While users don't have to respond and can easily block people and move on, it does mean that youngsters are at particular risk of being conned by scammers, messaged by predatory adults or exposed to others with ill intentions. These hazards can be compounded by the fact that Bluesky doesn't require its users to provide their real name.

TROLLING AND BULLYING

While Bluesky currently feels a lot friendlier than X seems to have become, its lack of private accounts means that there's nothing to stop users from trolling and cyberbullying younger people. While accounts can be blocked and reported, a persistent bully could simply create a new profile, potentially making their victims feel unsafe in continuing to use the app.

DANGEROUS MISINFORMATION

Established news organisations have fact-checking and editing processes, but social networks have no such controls and can often serve as breeding grounds for misinformation and disinformation. Bluesky will possibly be no different once it reaches a certain size, and children may not have the critical thinking skills to tell fact from fiction – or to discern an informative, honest user from a malicious one.

ADULT TARGET AUDIENCE

Bluesky isn't designed with children in mind, and there aren't many parental controls on the platform. In an interview with the BBC, Bluesky's CEO originally said that the app would only allow users aged 18 and above to sign up, but a spokesperson later clarified its age restriction as 13+. This could imply the app was originally meant for an adult audience and suggests that making the platform more child-friendly might not currently be a priority.

RAPID GROWTH

At the time of writing, Bluesky seems calm in comparison with other social networks where moderation is lax and the atmosphere toxic – but that's due at least in part to its smaller community. The app has recently been adding as many as a million users per day, and if that continues, there'll be more unpleasant users to handle, and moderators could struggle to maintain the pleasant environment Bluesky is currently known for.

Advice for Parents & Educators

USE THE ADULT CONTENT FILTER

Bluesky doesn't have much in the way of parental controls, but there are content filters which can hide sexual and graphic imagery. These are enabled by default for underage accounts but can be manually turned on in the 'Moderation' section of the app's settings. The 'advanced' Bluesky Moderation Service lets you restrict content even further, hiding – for example – self-harm content, extremist rhetoric, and even rude posts.

ENCOURAGE BLOCKING AND REPORTING

Another tool that Bluesky uses to ensure a decent experience is muting and blocking accounts. The former prevents you from seeing a specific user's content, while the latter stops them from seeing yours. If a child is encountering trolls or bullies on the platform, encourage them to use this function, while also reporting the offenders to help make the platform a nicer place for everyone.

LOOK OUT FOR FAKES

Impersonation is a problem on all social networks. While the consequences are usually benign, imposters sometimes attempt to scam or groom children by pretending to be a popular influencer or online personality. Bluesky is unique in that it can be connected to official domains, with users' handles linking to other sites; while this isn't widely used right now, it could be a reliable way to verify celebrities and public figures in future.

KEEP AN OPEN DIALOGUE

As with all social media platforms, moderation and content filters can only do so much; it's highly likely that a child will eventually face something unsavoury. For that reason, it's important to make sure that young people are aware of the risks and know how to handle the technology if anything they see on the app makes them feel unsafe or uncomfortable.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard, The Guardian and The New Statesman.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/bluesky-app>

@wake_up_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 26.03.2025

Bikeability

Bikeability is a scheme designed to help children, young people and adults develop essential cycling skills and confidence. The scheme is delivered by the council, in partnership with Active Travel England and [Bikeability.org.uk](https://www.bikeability.org.uk).

Two weeks of sessions will be delivered starting from Monday 14 April 2025, for two different age groups and abilities:

- Learn to Ride at Walsall Arboretum: This session is open to anyone over 4 years old and is perfect for beginners who want to learn how to ride a bike.
- Level 1 & 2 Bikeability at Oak Park Active Living Centre: This session is tailored for individuals over 10 years old who wish to enhance their cycling skills and safety awareness.

“Cycling is a brilliant way for children to get active, and these sessions are perfect for those children who want to either learn how to ride, or build some confidence when it comes to road safety.

Our road safety officers lead the sessions and are on hand to provide help for children and young people of all abilities. The sessions are free to attend, and all you need to bring along is your bike and helmet, so get booked on, and enjoy the ride this Easter!” Councillor Gary Flint, Portfolio Holder for Health and Wellbeing Walsall Council

Spaces are limited, so early booking is essential. To find out more information and to secure a spot in one of our sessions, please email bikeability@walsall.gov.uk.

Walsall Council operates 6 local cycling hubs across the borough. Each hub is fully equipped with bikes which can be used free of charge, with the aim of fostering a cycling-friendly community. Plenty of activities are on offer for cyclists of all skill levels, including family rides and bike maintenance workshops.

Cycling hubs are located in Brownhills Community Centre, Palfrey park, Pleck park, Reedswood park, Walsall Arboretum and Willenhall Memorial park. More information about the hubs and what they offer can be found on the council's website: [Activities and events on offer | Walsall Council](#)



Families are invited to step into a magical Easter Wonderland at Saddlers Shopping Centre, Walsall, for a free day of festive fun on Wednesday, 16th April from 11 AM – 4 PM.

Children can enjoy a variety of exciting activities, including balloon modelling, a glitter tattoo station, and a hands-on Easter basket Workshop.

Adding to the excitement, the Easter Bunny and Bo Peep will be on hand to guide families through the wonderland, creating magical memories and posing for photos.

Easter Egg Hunt Competition

Little adventurers can also take part in an Easter egg hunt, searching high and low for hidden clues throughout the centre.

From 14th – 27th April, visitors can take part in the Saddlers Easter Egg Hunt Competition for a chance to win a prize worth up to £50! Simply find the hidden clues around the shopping centre for a chance to win this fantastic Easter treat.

Don't miss this egg-tra special Easter celebration—come along and join the fun