



PROSPECT VALE GAZETTE

We care, we strive, together we thrive

2025/26 EDITION 14 > Friday 05.12.25

Headteacher's Welcome

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are now well into the festive season, and what a joyful few weeks it has already been. Our school choir gave a truly stunning performance at St George's Church, singing confidently in front of an audience of hundreds. They represented the school brilliantly, and we could not be prouder of them.



This week also saw our Nursery, Reception and Year 1 children take to the stage for It's a Baby! Their performance was full of charm, confidence and Christmas magic. It genuinely brought a tear to our eyes to see just how far our youngest pupils have already come in such a short space of time. A huge well done to all the children and staff involved.

Looking ahead, we still have so much to look forward to: Christmas Jumper Day, Christmas Dinner Day, our annual (and famous!) Santa Dash for families, Christmas parties throughout the school, and of course a visit from a very special

guest indeed. Please consult the school [calendar](#) for more information.

We are also aware that there are lots of winter bugs and illnesses circulating at the moment. As soon as your child is well enough, please do ensure they return to school—every day really does make a difference. [NHS guidance](#) is a helpful reference, and one of our key targets this year is to reach 96% attendance. We appreciate your support in helping us get your children in and learning.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support as we head through this busy and joyful period.

Warm regards,



Mr Redfearn
Headteacher

Dates for your diary

Monday 8th December

- ★ ★ PM during school School Football team cup tournament
- ★ ★ 2.15pm Rock Steady Christmas Concert
- ★ ★ Cheerleading for Year 2 and Year 3 at 3.30pm-4.30pm

Tuesday 9th December

- ★ ★ 3.30-4.30 Boys and Girls Football Club KS2 (Last one)

Wednesday 10th December

- ★ ★ Forest School for Year 2 and Year 3 AM
- ★ ★ Nursery Forest School
- ★ ★ Choir Practice at lunchtime
- ★ ★ 4pm Year 2,3,4 Christmas Performance

Thursday 11th December

- ★ ★ PM Choir Sining at Moya Cole Hospice
- ★ ★ 3.30-4.15pm Recorder Club
- ★ ★ 3.30-4.30pm Cheerleading

Friday 12th December

- ★ ★ Year 4 Swimming
- ★ ★ Year 5 Brass
- ★ ★ Year 4 Recorder



Attendance Matters

I know I mentioned attendance on the opening page—and I know I mention it every week—but it really does matter. Last week, our attendance was the **lowest it has been since September 2024**. Research shows that even small amounts of missed learning can have a noticeable impact: a single missed day often breaks a key link in a sequence of lessons, which then affects the rest of the week—not just that one day. We see this in school all the time. Children who miss just one phonics lesson can spend several sessions catching up on vital sounds; in maths, missing the introduction to a new concept can make later steps much harder; and in English, missing the start of a writing sequence can mean children return feeling unsure or behind their peers.

Please take note of NHS guidance, but as soon as your child is better, do make every effort to get them back into school. A mild snuffle or cough is absolutely fine to come in with, and your support makes a real difference at this key time of year. If you are ever unsure, please don't hesitate to **call the school office for advice**. Thank you for doing your bit to help us move back towards our 96% target.

Moving Mountains in Year 4

We are always looking for creative and inspirational ways to bring learning to life. In Year 4, the children have been exploring the topographical features of the Indus Valley—a *clever way of describing the shape of the land, including how flat, hilly or mountainous it is*. To deepen their understanding, they created their own mountain ranges on a map of the region using papier-mâché. It's been a fantastic hands-on project and just another example of what makes Prospect Vale such a special place to learn.





St George's Super Stars

It's a very special time of year, and there's nothing that makes it more magical than the opportunity to sing at St George's in Stockport. Viewed by hundreds of spectators, the Prospect Vale choir shone brightly with their performances alongside other local schools. They represented themselves beautifully on Tuesday evening and, although my view was slightly obscured by a pillar, it was still an incredibly special event to be part of.

If your child would like to get involved, why not encourage them to join the school choir? With lots of exciting opportunities on the horizon, it's a wonderful time to be part of it.



Forest School Fire Starters

This year, as a staff team, we took time to reflect on the kinds of experiences we want every child to have during their time at Prospect Vale—experiences that create lifelong memories but also build important skills for the future. One of those experiences was learning how to safely build a fire and toast marshmallows in the forest.

This week, **Year 2** achieved exactly that, and they had the most wonderful time doing it. The children showed great teamwork, listened carefully to safety instructions, and then enjoyed the magical moment of toasting marshmallows together in the crisp winter air. It was great fun, and a reminder of why these hands-on opportunities mean so much.





Heald Green Christmas Markets

We are part of a very special community here in Heald Green, and this week we were honoured to take part in something truly wonderful—the Heald Green Christmas Markets. Our choir performed brilliantly, and I may be biased, but I genuinely felt they stole the show. Several members of the public came over to tell me just how incredible our children were, and I couldn't have been prouder of them. A big thank you to Mrs White and Mrs Novacki for preparing and conducting a wonderful performance by the choir.

It was also a particularly special moment for Minahil in Year 5, who was selected by the school to switch on the Christmas tree lights. Minahil has made an outstanding contribution to music this year, and the honour was thoroughly deserved. Well done, Minahil!









It's a Baby – a heart-warming Nativity

Finally, there's nothing more magical than our EYFS and Year 1 Nativity, and this year's performance was truly something special. It's hard to believe how far our little ones have come—standing confidently on stage, singing and dancing in front of a hall full of families. It's the kind of moment you'll remember for the rest of your life, and I'm sure the children will too.

A huge thank you to everyone for your generosity. Through your donations, we have raised **nearly £400** to replenish our phonics books, which is absolutely fantastic and will make a real difference to the children's reading journey.



Certificate Winners

Well done to our certificate winners this week. You went above and beyond in exemplifying our school ethos!

Reception	Alora
Year 1	Panashe
Year 2	Aiyla
Year 3	Zahra
Year 4	Ayan
Year 5	Sherain
Year 6	Ishaal

Well done everyone!

Dojo Certificates

Every day, children are awarded with dojo points that count towards a weekly total and an ongoing total. The weekly total winners for each class are displayed here. There are also opportunities to receive badges for children collecting dojos over time. This allows us to celebrate our school ethos at every opportunity.

Reception	Arabella
Year 1	Pearl
Year 2	Benjamin
Year 3	Aaliyah
Year 4	Hargun
Year 5	Harrison
Year 6	Megan

Attendance

Well done to **Year 2** for achieving the highest attendance this week! Keep up the great work! Our weekly attendance was **87.5%**

This is below our **96%** target. We need to make a big improvement next week. Let's try our hardest next week everyone!

Reception	90
Year 1	81.4
Year 2	93.3
Year 3	88.7
Year 4	78.7
Year 5	90.7
Year 6	88.3
TOTAL	87.5%



