



NEWSLETTER 49 – 9th February 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we approach the half term break, the children have continued to excel in their lessons and build on their prior learning. It has been a pleasure to see them in their classes engaged in lesson and excited to learn.

Head teacher Appointment

The staff and Governors have been busy following the recruitment procedures for the new Head Teacher. This week candidates for the position led a whole school assembly, met with groups of children, completed a series of desk top exercises to demonstrate their skills and met with groups of staff to explain their philosophy on education. The next stage of the procedure will be for the candidates to deliver a presentation on a given topic and then be interviewed by the Governors. This will be a rigorous process to find the most suitable person for the role. It is hoped that a final decision will be made soon and that we will then be able to notify you of who the successful applicant will be. I will then arrange for the new Head teacher to visit school during the coming months to undertake a comprehensive hand over and ensure a smooth transition.

Online Apps

Youth Fed have reminded all Year 5 and 6 children again about the recommended age range for accessing social media apps. Please see below as a reminder. Before giving permission for your child to use social media apps, please consider the following:

Readiness Checklist for Parents

Legal age doesn't always equal emotional maturity. Ask yourself:

1. **Resilience:** How would they handle mean comments or disagreements?
2. **Privacy Awareness:** Do they understand that what they post can be permanent?
3. **Communication:** Would they tell you if they saw something uncomfortable?
4. **Self-Regulation:** Can they manage their screen time without constant reminders?

| OpenView Education TRAINING THROUGH THEATRE | | | |
|--|----------|------------|------------|
| APPS AND THEIR AGE RATINGS | | | |
| 13+ | | 16+ | |
| Facebook | Snapchat | WhatsApp | |
| Instagram | Twitter | 17+ | |
| TikTok | Kik | Sorahah | 18+ |
| YouNow | Yubo | YOLO | MeetMe |
| House Party | Monkey | | LiveMe |



World Book Day - Thursday 5th March 2026

It's that time of year again, we are all getting super excited about celebrating World Book Day at High Street. Our dressing up theme this year will be to come to school '**Ready for a Bedtime Story**'. This means your child can come to school wearing their favourite **pyjamas, oodles, dressing gowns and slippers**.

Alternatively, if your child would like to dress up as their **favourite book character**, that would also be wonderful - it is their choice. Please could you send your child with appropriate footwear (trainers, school shoes, etc) for playing outside in as slippers will be unsafe, especially if it rains.

Book Fair: Friday 6th March - Wednesday 11th March 2026

The Scholastic Book Fair will launch on Friday 6th March, straight after school, at 3:20pm. We will run the Book Fair on the Green Carpet area. On Monday 9th March, Tuesday 10th March and Wednesday 11th March, we will open the book fair in the mornings before school at 8:20am as well as after school at 3:15pm. Mrs Bueno-Ballantyne will be running the Book Fair with other additional staff to support.

Last year, we had a record amount of sales and were awarded with £270 commission from Scholastic, which was spent on updating the book banded books. Our aim this year is to beat our sales, hopefully even increase it, as our commission will be spent on new reading books for KS1 and LKS2.

There will be three ways to pay for your books on the day:

- Cash
- QR Code (you need your bank details to be able to pay this way)
- Apple Pay/Google Pay

Be sure to bring your World Book Day tokens with you to receive a discount. Scholastic have approved that these tokens do not need to be sent back to them once the purchase has been made. This means that you can use the voucher again in all major supermarkets and book shops.

If you have any questions regarding World Book Day or the Book Fair, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Bueno-Ballantyne directly through Dojo.

CWAC Free Holiday Clubs at Half Term

Please see below (also on dojo) the Free Holiday clubs for children during the February Half Term who are eligible for free school meals



ATTENDANCE MATTERS



School begins 8.45am, and all pupils are expected to be in school for registration at that time.

• Register taken at 8.55am • Registers close at 9.15am

Any child who arrives after the gates are closed must enter the school by the main entrance and report to the school office to sign in. If pupils are not in class when the register is taken, they will be coded as 'L'. Any late arrivals after 9.15am will be coded as 'U' which is an unauthorised absence for that session. In accordance with the 'Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006', if your child arrives after the registers close, they will receive a mark, code U, that shows them to be on site, but this will not count as a present mark, and it will mean they have an unauthorised absence. This may mean that you could face the possibility of a Fixed Penalty Notice or other legal action if the problem persists.

Children who are consistently late for school are disrupting not only their own education, but also that of other children. Where persistent lateness gives cause for concern, you will be invited to a meeting to resolve the issues. If there is no improvement following this meeting, further action will be taken which may include referral to external agencies.

You may approach the school at any time for support and advice if you are having difficulty getting your child to school on time or maintaining regular attendance



School Residential Visits and Day trips

Year 1, 5 and 6 Residential visits are up and running on Arbor. If you have a child attending any of these visits, please can you check that you can see the payments on the Arbor app. Any queries about payments please let us know.

Year 1 – 2nd payment 14th February 2026

Year 1 and 2 Chester Zoo – payment by Mon 23rd February

Year 4 – York residential – consent form has been distributed and payment by Friday 20th February

Year 4 – Tamworth Castle – consent form has been distributed and payment by Mon 23rd February

Year 5 – Final payment 30th January 2026

Year 6 – 2nd payment 19th January 2026

*As stated on the original letters, if you have consented to a residential visit and your child, no longer wishes to attend **we cannot refund deposits**. As with family holidays, we are required to start paying towards the visits well in advance and a change of mind does not allow us to claim the money back should a child decide not to attend. Please can you inform us of any cancellations in writing or by emailing admin@highstreet.cheshire.sch.uk*

School entrance/Late to school

If you need to collect your child in the day for an appointment, or if you are late to school, please use the Verdin Exchange entrance only. We no longer use the previous entrance on the glass corridor. If children are late please can you ensure that you come in with them and sign in on the screen, thank you for your co-operation.

Calpol

A reminder if your child needs Calpol please can we ask that you administer this before school and if they need a further dose, please bring a bottle to school in a named box/bag and complete a medication form.

We only have a very small supply of Calpol in the school office which is only for emergencies. If your child needs Calpol we will need to ring and ask you to bring it into school.

Medication

Just a reminder that Office staff can **only** administer medicine which is prescribed by a doctor as four times a day. If you need us to administer medication, please complete a form in the Office.

HUB Before and After School club

Just a reminder that all HUB clubs need to be prebooked in advance on the Arbor app to secure a place for each session for your child. Top ups can be made under the wraparound care section of the app.

Town Mayor's Oscar Awards Evening – Saturday 18th April

The Town Mayor of Winsford, Cllr Graham Newton will be holding a very special 'Town Mayor's Oscar Awards 2026' Event at the Meadow Bank Social Club on Saturday 18th April to recognise the achievements of local people.

<https://winsford.gov.uk/events/winsford-oscars-2026/>.

All nominations should be received by Friday 20th March at 9:00 am.



Scouts, Beavers and Cubs


1st Over St John's Scout Group
St John's Church Hall, Delamere Street, Winsford, CW7 2LU
 Are you ready to have fun, go on
 adventures and learn skills for life?
 **Friday evenings**
 6-8 years **6-7pm**
 **Thursday evenings**
 8-10½ years **6.30-8pm**
 **Friday evenings**
 10½-14 years **7.15-9pm**

To join us or get further information
 please contact us at:
osjscouts@gmail.com



Diary Dates: * new dates

| Date | Information |
|--|--|
| | |
| Friday 13 th February 2026 | School closes for the Half term at 3.15pm (The HUB will be open for paid sessions as usual until 5.50pm) |
| 16 th February to 20 th February 2026 | Half Term |
| Monday 23 rd February 2026 | Inset Day 4 – school closed to children |
| Tuesday 24 th February 2026 | School opens for the new term |
| 24 th – 26 th February 2026 | Year 5 London Residential |
| 27 th February 2026 | Year 4 Tamworth Castle |
| 5 th March 2026* | World Book Day 'Ready for a bedtime story' (pyjamas/slippers/oodies) or dress as your favourite book character |
| 6 th March to 11 th March | Book Fair |
| 24 th March 2026 | Chester Zoo trip - Year 1 and Year 2 |
| Wednesday 1 st April 2026 | School closes for the Half Term at 3.15pm (The HUB will be open for paid sessions as usual until 5.50pm) |
| Thursday 2 nd April 2026 – 17 th April | Spring Break |
| Monday 20 th April 2026 | School opens for the Summer term |
| 5 th – 6 th May 2026 | Year 1 Conwy Residential |
| Monday 25 th May – Friday 29 th May | May Half Term |
| Monday 1 st June 2026 | School opens for the new term |
| 1 st – 3 rd June 2026 | Year 4 York Residential |
| Tuesday 9 th June 2026* | Reception and Year 6 whole class photos and Sports Teams |
| 22 nd – 25 th June 2026 | Year 6 Lake District Residential |
| Tuesday 21 st July 2026 | School closes for the Half Term at 3.15pm (The HUB will be open for paid sessions as usual until 5.50pm) |
| Wednesday 22 nd July 2026 | Inset Day 5 – school closed to children |

Should you need to make contact with school, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Joule on: head@highstreet.cheshire.sch.uk or returns@highstreet.cheshire.sch.uk and please remember the year group emails if you need to contact your child's class teacher.

However, please note that all email accounts will not be monitored as regularly after 5.30pm each evening or during the holiday, to ensure a work life balance for the staff.

Kind regards, Mark Joule, Head Teacher