

# VICTORIA ROAD NEWSLETTER

Spring 1 2025/26

## Headteachers Message:

We are now officially halfway through the school year, and it has flown by! I am always so impressed when I visit or teach in the classes during the Spring term. It is wonderful to see how much the children have matured—both in their learning and in their behaviour. They make me incredibly proud. We are lucky to have some fantastic role models who continually strive to go above and beyond to make our school a safe, supportive, and happy place.

**Our five classes have had a busy half term and want to share some experiences with you:**

## Robins

We were delighted with the success of our first Learn With Me session, which focused on reading. The children thoroughly enjoyed having you in the classroom as we listened to a story together, followed by spending time reading and sharing a book with their grown-up. It was wonderful to see their enthusiasm, confidence and joy as they explored reading alongside you.



## Wrens

We have been exploring the book Lost and Found and have enjoyed writing their own journey stories inspired by the text. We have also been fortunate to have a PE teacher from Rudheath Senior School supporting us with our gymnastics lessons, which the children have absolutely loved. In our topic work, we have been learning all about Northwich and investigating how houses and shops have changed over time. We're now really looking forward to heading out into the local area to see whether we can spot any of the shops that are still on the high street today! We have also been enjoying our reading unit, focusing on The Way Home for Wolf and linking it to our previous learning. The children have been practising reading aloud to strengthen their Oracy skills and build confidence when speaking in front of others.



## Goldfinches

The class have been working exceptionally well in their art lessons recently, particularly when creating mosaics inspired by the theme of nature. They all put in tremendous effort and produced some truly beautiful pieces of artwork. We have also been very impressed with their gymnastics this term. Their teamwork, developing gymnastic skills, and confidence in performing their sequences in front of an audience have been fantastic to see. We are also noticing great improvements in their 'Being Ready' skills and in following instructions first time. Overall, the progress across the class has been remarkable. We are incredibly proud of them all.



## Starlings

This half term has been a busy and exciting one for the Starlings. Our Year 4 children began their instrumental lessons, while Year 5 have started rehearsing for Northwich Sings. We also launched our swimming lessons, and the children have been working incredibly hard—showing growing confidence and enthusiasm in the water. In English, we have been exploring King Kong by Anthony Browne. The children have thoroughly enjoyed this text and have produced some fantastic pieces of writing, which will soon be proudly displayed in the main corridor.



## Owls

This term, the Owl class has been very busy. They have been reading the book 'Oliver Twist' which has inspired them to write narratives and simile poems about it. Year 6 has also risen to the challenges of fractions, decimals and percentages, using different methods to solve challenging problems. Their hard work and perseverance has shone through. A key moment for the class has been meeting the author, Philippa Leathley and hearing about her book, 'Inkbound', which encouraged them to think like an author. Year 6 have been dedicated to their learning and are looking forward to the challenges of the next half term - Written by Oscar Keen



## **Other News!**

Our first movie night of 2026 was wonderfully well attended. In support of Children's Mental Health Week, we watched Inside Out 2 and took the opportunity to reflect on its important messages about experiencing a wide range of emotions. This linked perfectly with our ongoing work on the Zones of Regulation, helping children understand and talk about their feelings in a healthy and positive way.



## **Parental Debt!**

Unfortunately, parental debt remains a problem at our school. We currently have a debt balance of **£2930.59** - this is broken down as follows: Lunch debt = **£1874.04**  
After School Club = **£735.05**  
Breakfast Club = **£321.50**

From Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February, parents will be required to book their child's meal on ParentPay direct. Parents will need to have money in their accounts to book a meal.

Clubs and Trips will now be on Arbor. These will also require a credit in your account to book. If any parent is having a problem accessing ParentPay or Arbor please see the school office for assistance.

# EVENTS

## FUTURE EVENTS & CELEBRATIONS SPRING 2026

School breaks up half term	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2026 (normal time)
Valentine's Day	Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> February 2026
Chinese New Year	Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> February 2026
Start of Ramadan month	Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> February 2026
Shrove Tuesday - pancake day	Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> February 2026
Ash Wednesday – start of 40 days of Lent	Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> February 2026
Children back in school	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2026
Years 3, 4 & 5 parents/carers homework meeting	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> February 2026 @ 3.20pm
Robins "Learn With Me" parents/carers session	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> February 2026 @ 2.45pm
High school year 7 places offered	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March 2026
Parents/Carers evenings	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> & Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> March 2026
Holi Festival	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> March 2026
World Book Day (CHANGE OF SCHOOL DATE)	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> March 2026
Science trip to the Catalyst Museum – Years 3,4 & 5	Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March 2026
Science Week starts	Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> March 2026
International Women's Day	Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> March 2026
Trust Speech Festival	Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> March 2026 (afternoon)
Non-uniform day – Easter Bingo donation	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> March 2026
Robins "Learn With Me" parents/carers session	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> March 2026 @ 2.45pm
Mother's Day	Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> March 2026
St Patricks Day	Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> March 2026
National day of action against bullying & violence	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> March 2026
Shakespeare week starts	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March 2026
Easter Bingo Night	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March 3.30-5.30pm
Robins "Learn With Me" parents/carers session	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March 2026 @ 2.45pm
School breaks up Easter	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2026 @ 1.15pm
Palm Sunday	Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> March 2026
Good Friday	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2026
Easter Sunday	Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> April 2026
Easter Monday	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> April 2026
Children back in school	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April 2026
Reception 2026 places offered	Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> April 2026
Robins "Learn With Me" parents/carers session	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> April 2026 @ 2.45pm
St Georges Day	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April 2026
Robins trip to Peak Wildlife Park	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April 2026
Northwich Sings – Brio Centre	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April 2026 (after school)
May Day (SCHOOL CLOSED)	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
Robins "Learn With Me" parents/carers session	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> May 2026 @ 2.45pm
KS2 Assessment week (Year 6)	Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
Trust Fundraising Day	Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
Robins "Learn With Me" parents/carers session	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2026 @ 2.45pm

## Breakfast Club / After School Club

We would like to remind parents/carers that paid breakfast club opens from 8am. The free breakfast club runs from 8.15am to 8.45am. After school club runs until 4.15pm or 6pm.

Sessions for the Breakfast Club & After School Club must be booked in advance and any due payments paid for prior to the sessions. Please ring the bell by the front office labelled breakfast and after school club when dropping off for the paid breakfast club and collecting from the paid after school club.

### **School Start Time**

We would like to clarify that the school gate opens at 8:40am for Robins children and 8:45am for Wrens, Goldfinches, Starlings & Owls. The school gate closes at 8:55am. Anyone arriving later than 8.55am will need to bring their child/children in via the school office and sign them in.

### **School Finish Time**

The school gates will open around 3.05pm for parents/carers to enter onto the playground. At 3.10pm the Robins children can be collected from their teacher in their outdoor area. At 3.15pm Wrens can be collected from their teacher via the porch area of the main playground and the Goldfinches, Starlings & Owls will come out to meet parents/carers through the door near the kitchen and wait with their teacher. The school gate closes at 3.20pm as we have outdoor clubs running some evenings. Anyone arriving after the gates have closed will need to collect their child via the front office.

### **Year 7 High School Places Sept 26**

Notification of offers will be communicated on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2026 by Cheshire West & Chester (not the school). These can be accessed via parents/carers online application account and also sent via email. The closing date for appeals is 30<sup>th</sup> March 2026. Any appeals made before the closing date will be heard before 16<sup>th</sup> June 2026.

## Attendance Headlines

This terms whole school attendance is 93.01%.

Robins = 90.36%

Starlings = 92.44%

Wrens = 93.75%

Goldfinches = 93.79%

Owls = 94.53%

### **Every Day Matters**

Missing school affects your child's learning and development. Currently, 23.38% of our pupils are classified as persistently absent (missing 10% or more of school) which is significantly higher than national at 18.62%.

Even a few days here and there can quickly add up and impact your child's progress.

### **96% or Above**

51 Children achieved 96% or above this term, with 8 achieving 100% attendance. Well done!

### **Most Improved Attendance**

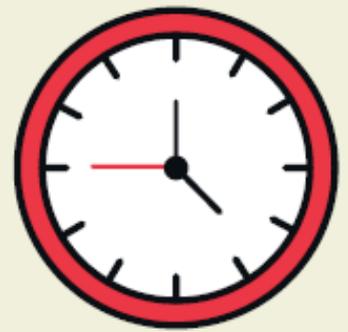
Almost all classes have improved overall attendance this term. However congratulations to Owls for the most improved class!

### **Punctuality**

Regular, small amounts of daily lateness add up to a significant amount of lost education over an academic year.

5 mins late each day = Over 3 days  
10 mins late each day = 6.5 days lost  
15 mins late each day = 10 days  
20 mins late each day = 13 days  
30 mins late each day = 19 days

# ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES



**1**

## **ATTENDANCE LETTER 1 - ATTENDANCE CONCERN**

If your child's attendance falls below 96% (National Average) you will receive a Letter 1 - Attendance Concern

**2**

## **ATTENDANCE LETTER 2 - MEETING LETTER**

If your child's attendance continues to fall after receiving Letter 1 or goes below 90% (persistently absent) you will be asked to attend a meeting with the Attendance Team, and complete an action plan.

**3**

## **ATTENDANCE LETTER 3 - MEETING WITH HEADTEACHER**

If your child's attendance continues to fall further after meeting with the Attendance team, and completing a monitoring period, you will be asked to attend a meeting with either the Headteacher or Executive Headteacher.

**4**

## **IRREGULAR FIXED PENALTY NOTICE**

If your child's attendance does not improve after steps 1-3 above, then the Headteacher/Executive headteacher can decide to unauthorise all future absences. This can result in an Irregular FPN being issued from CWAC.

# Attendance Matters

## **HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME**

If you need to take your child out of school during term time, you'll need to submit a written request to the Headteacher at least 4 weeks in advance of the leave being taken. The Headteacher will consider if your circumstances are 'exceptional' and let you know if your request has been approved. Please note that holidays are not normally considered exceptional. If you take your child out of school without approval, the absence will be recorded as unauthorised and may result in a FPN being issued by CWAC.

# Holiday Dates

## Holiday dates 2025 TO 2026

	Date of opening (First day back at school for pupils)	Date of closing (Last day in school for pupils)
2025 Autumn Term	Wednesday 3rd September	Thursday 23rd October
Autumn Term	Monday 3rd November	Friday 19th December <b>1.15pm Finish</b>
2026 Spring Term	Tuesday 6th January	Friday 13th February
Spring Term	Monday 23rd February	Friday 27th March <b>1.15pm Finish</b>
2026 Summer Term	Monday 13th April (Bank Holiday Monday 4th May)	Friday 22nd May
Summer	Tuesday 2nd June	Friday 17th July <b>1.15pm Finish</b>

### INSET DAYS 2025-2026 (Staff Only)

INSET DAY 1 - Monday 1st September 2025

INSET DAY 2 - Tuesday 2nd September 2025

AET TRUST DAY - Friday 24th October 2025

INSET DAY 4- Monday 5th January 2026

INSET DAY 5 - Monday 1st June 2026

INSET DAY 6 - Monday 20th July 2026

## HOLIDAY DATES 2026 TO 2027

2026-27	Date of opening (First day back at school for pupils)	Date of closing (Last day in school for pupils)
Autumn Term 1	Wednesday 2nd September	Thursday 22nd October
Autumn Term 2	Tuesday 3rd November	Friday 18th December <b>1.15pm Finish</b>
Spring Term 1	Tuesday 5th January	Friday 12th February
Spring Term 2	Monday 22nd February	Thursday 25th March <b>1.15pm Finish</b>
Summer Term 1	Monday 12th April (Bank Holiday Monday 2nd May)	Friday 28th May
Summer Term 2	Monday 7th June	Friday 16th July <b>1.15pm Finish</b>

### INSET DAYS 2026-2027 (Staff Only)

INSET DAY 1 - Tuesday 1st September 2026

AET TRUST DAY - Friday 23rd October 2026

INSET DAY 2 - Monday 2nd November 2026

INSET DAY 3- Monday 19th July 2027

INSET DAY 3- Tuesday 20th July 2027

INSET DAY 3- Wednesday 21st July 2027