

Pickersleigh Grove
Malvern
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Headteacher
Miss Guest
Chair of IEB
Mr Painter

Spring 1: 17.01.2025

Safeguarding Leads

Ms. Guest

Mrs Bilke (Deputy Safeguarding)

Mrs Smith (Deputy Safeguarding)

Acting Assistant Headteacher

Mrs Bilke

SENCO:

Mrs Smith



WELCOME BACK

I would like to welcome Miss Scarlett back to our Early Years team. Miss Scarlett is returning following her maternity leave.

Miss Scarlett will work closely with EYFS lead, Miss Perkins to ensure that our EYFS provision inspires children's learning. They have been investigating India already this term.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

On behalf of staff and Governors, I would like to wish you a happy new year. It is always a pleasure to watch the children come back to school, ready for another year of learning and friendships.

I would like to update you on school development. Due to ongoing discussions between the Local Authority and the Mercian Trust, the conversion has been delayed. While this is frustrating for all parties, please be reassured that development plans continue in school.

The school hall will be closed next week. This is to allow our new dinner servery to be completed more quickly. The builders are putting in a cupboard to store our new lunch tables. We hope that by half term, children will enjoy their lunches in our school hall. Although this will be a big change for the children, they are very excited.

There is brand new fencing going up between the two buildings. We will still have access to Forest School and Cheeky Monkeys. As well as this, our school's playground will be developed with new equipment to encourage active play times.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 23rd January:

School Nurse to see Year 6

Friday 24th January:

Beech Class swimming

Tuesday 25th January:

Homework Club

No Reading Ambassadors

Wednesday 29th January:

Read Write Inc Day

Empower Sports club

Thursday 30th January:

Open The Book assembly

BEECH CLASS: Boundless Outdoors Day

Friday 31st January:

MATHS PUZZLE WORKSHOP

Monday 3rd February:

Children's Mental Health Week

Brilliant Behaviour:



MARVELLOUS MANNERS

Bringing out the best in everyone

GRACIAS A TODOS!

In Monday's Values assembly, the children were set a challenge linked to their brilliant behaviour for the next 2 weeks. I asked the children to challenge themselves to learn how to say 'thank you' in 5 different languages.

It has been incredible to see how enthused the children have been this week. Even our youngest children have gone above and beyond, learning 10 ways to say 'thank you!'

The children's interest in learning a new language can be seen in the classrooms as well. We follow the 'Rigolo' scheme to learn French in Key Stage 2. A child in Year 5 told me they already learn Spanish because it is the most widely spoken language in the world.

CURRICULUM CORNER: PHYSICAL EDUCATION

At Grove Primary School, we aim to bring out the best in everyone through a varied curriculum that meets the needs of all children.

Our pupils tell us that P.E is one of their favourite subjects because they learn new skills, play team sports with their friends and keep active.

We work closely with external providers to provide a wide range of sports. This term, the children are enjoying Tag Rugby, Swimming, Gymnastics and Dance. The use of specialist coaches from Empower Active and Dancefest is funded by a ring-fenced P.E budget.

Our teachers provide the planning for their class and take part in the lessons with the children. This means the teacher can assess the development of skills and knowledge of children, model the importance of being active and develop their teaching skills.

This term, Beech Class is swimming. Every year, the school reports how many children by Year 6 can swim 25 metres. It is best that all children develop their confidence around water as young as possible.

I am sure we can all agree that being able to swim and develop life-guarding skills is an essential life skill.



DID YOU KNOW?

The Department for Education requires that by the end of Year 6, children can:

- Swim at least 25 metres
- Use a variety of strokes, such as the front crawl, backstroke, and breaststroke
- Perform safe self-rescue in different water situations

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT YOUR CHILD:

Contact **Malvern Splash** for information about swimming lessons:

01684 893 423

INSPIRED BY BOOKS!

Thank you to all the children who worked with their families over the holiday to produce a winter wonderland for a homesick polar bear. The children read the book 'Leaf' and produced some wonderful scenes for us to enjoy. If you would like to have a look for yourself, please come into our Reception area.





THE BIG SCHOOLS' BIRDWATCH

On Wednesday, Mr Burton launched the RSPB Big School's Bird Watch. Mr Burton was helped by our resident **ornithologist**, Thomas, in Year 6.

The children gave up some of their lunchtime on a chilly day to conduct a survey to find out the types and numbers of birds that visit the school grounds. The children used tally charts to record their findings. These findings will be sent to the RSPB so they can report on the national picture of bird-life.

The children loved the activity and reported that they had seen Robins, Sparrows and 'too many magpies'.



REMINDER: The Key Stage 2 'Design a bird-box' competition is underway. Get those entries in!

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