



# Bentley West Newsletter Issue 01

## Friday 4th September 2026

### Welcome Back!

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a brand new school year! I hope you have all had a wonderful summer break and have enjoyed spending time together with your families.

We have had a really positive and strong start to the new academic year. It has been fantastic to welcome the children back into school, and on Wednesday we came together for our whole-school assembly, where we launched our theme for the year – **The Year of Possibilities and Growth**. We talked about embracing new opportunities, believing in ourselves and supporting one another to grow throughout the year.

A very warm welcome also goes to our youngest children, as our Nursery and Reception children begin their Bentley West journey in small groups on Thursday and Friday. We are delighted to have them and their families join our school community.

### A Few Important Reminders

- **School uniform** must be worn every day.
- **No jewellery** should be worn in school (other than permitted stud earrings where appropriate).
- Children should wear **black school shoes**.
- Please ensure **all clothing and belongings are clearly labelled** with your child's name.
- On **PE days**, children should come to school wearing their full school PE kit.
- Every child should have a **Bentley West book bag**, which can be purchased from the school office for **£5**.

### Summer Homework Projects

If your child completed a homework project over the summer, please send it into school by **Monday 7th September**. We look forward to celebrating all of the wonderful work the children have completed.

### Parent Meetings

Next week we will be holding our annual **Year Group Parent Meetings**. These meetings are a great opportunity to meet your child's teacher, find out about the year ahead and ask any questions. We look forward to seeing many of you there.

### MCAS – My Child At School App

All of this year's calendar dates have now been shared with families. From **Monday 7th September**, please ensure you have access to the **MCAS (My Child At School)** app, as this will now be our main method of communication for letters, updates and important school information.

Thank you for your continued support. We are excited for the year ahead and all of the possibilities it will bring for our children.

Have a wonderful weekend.

**Miss Stanley**

*Head Teacher*



Creativity



Aspiration



Respect



Excellence



Supportive



# Bentley West Newsletter

## Key Dates

There may be further dates added throughout the term, please look out for these on the weekly school newsletters.

### September 2026

|                                                                     |                                                               |                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| School Closed for children                                          | Training Day                                                  | Tues, 1st Sep 26 |
| School reopens                                                      | All students return to school<br>(Gates open 8.35am - 8.45am) | Wed, 2 Sep 26    |
| September 100% Attendance Challenge Starts -<br>Vouchers to be won! | All year groups (Reception start<br>from Thursday 3rd)        | Wed, 2 Sep 26    |
| Reception Start School!                                             | Reception Classroom Doors<br>8.35am                           | Thur 3 Sept 26   |
| Year 4 PGL Residential Parent Meeting (3pm)                         | Small Hall (arrive at the main<br>office 2.50pm)              | Fri 4 Sept 26    |
| Year 1 Welcome Meeting (9am)                                        | Dinner Hall                                                   | Mon 7 Sept 26    |
| Year 6 Head Pupil and Prefect Applications<br>deadline              | -                                                             | Mon 7 Sept 26    |
| Swimming starts for Year 5                                          | See Year 5 parent information<br>booklet                      | Tues 8 Sept 26   |
| Year 2 Welcome Meeting (9am)                                        | Small Hall                                                    | Tues 8 Sept 26   |
| Year 3 Welcome Meeting (2.30pm)                                     | Small Hall                                                    | Wed 9 Sep 26     |
| Year 4 Welcome Meeting (9am)                                        | Small Hall                                                    | Thur 10 Sept 26  |
| Year 6 Welcome Meeting (3pm)                                        | Small Hall                                                    | Thur 10 Sept 26  |
| Year 5 Welcome Meeting (9am)                                        | Small Hall                                                    | Fri 11 Sept 26   |
| Head Pupil Interviews                                               | Miss Stanley's Office                                         | Fri 11 Sept 26   |
|                                                                     |                                                               |                  |
| Year Reception Welcome Meeting (9am)                                | Dinner Hall                                                   | Mon 14 Sept 26   |



## PE Dates

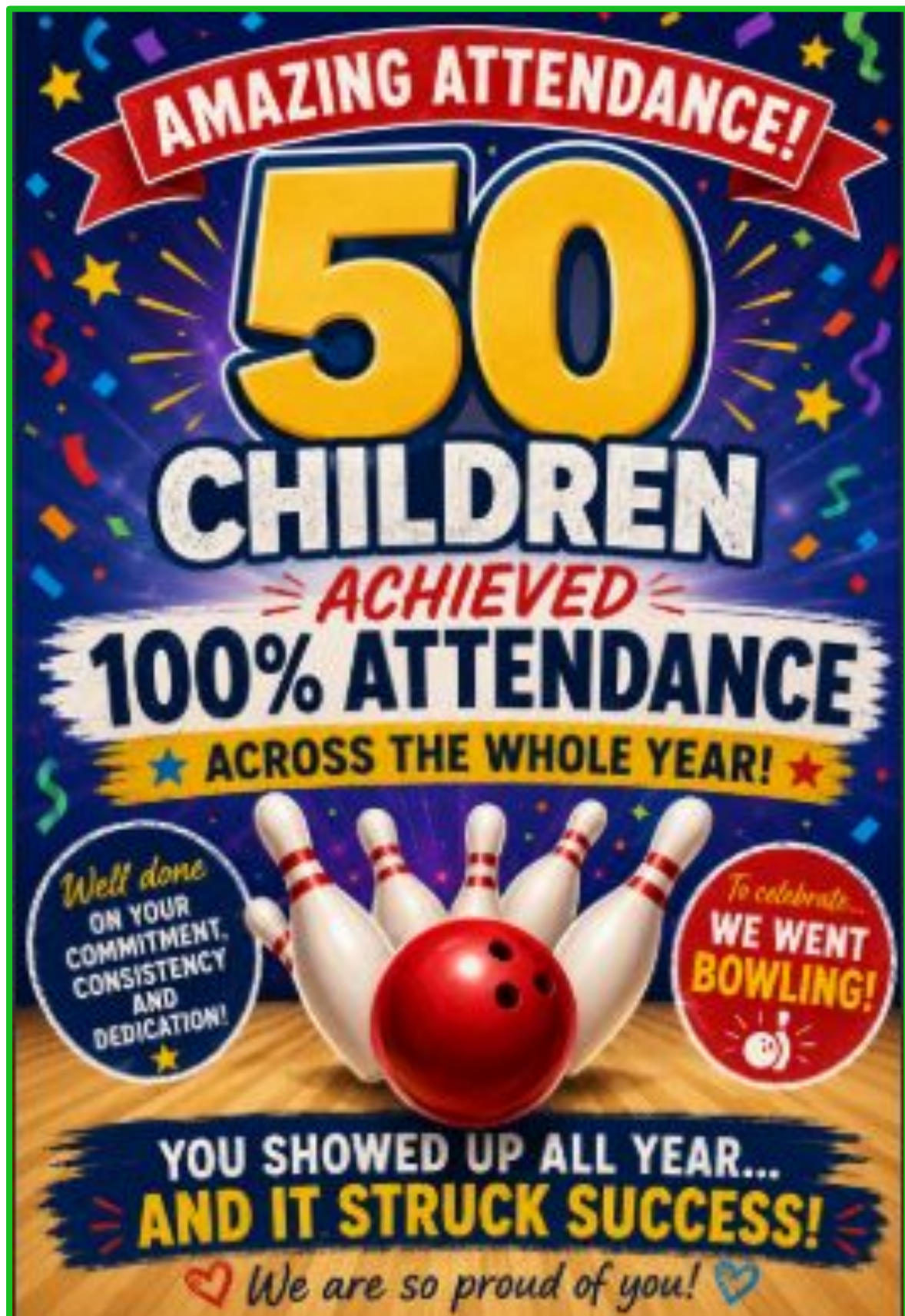
Nursery - Monday and Wednesday  
Reception - Monday and Friday  
Year 1 - Wednesday and Thursday  
Year 2 - Tuesday and Thursday

Year 3 - Tuesday and Friday  
Year 4 - Monday and Thursday  
Year 5 - Wednesday and Friday  
Year 6 - Monday and Tuesday



# Bentley West Newsletter Issue 01

## Attendance Matters





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Black Country Healthcare  
NHS Foundation Trust

## CAMHS Parent/Carer Workshops

Come and join our Parent/Carer Workshops, run by Black Country CAMHS services (on MS Teams for 1 hour). Groups held 12pm - 1pm.

We know that suffering from mental health difficulties does not only affect the person struggling, but also the family around them. Parenting a child/young person with mental health difficulties can create additional challenges for parents.

We are running workshops exploring a range of difficulties that children/young people may experience, that can impact their emotional wellbeing.

22.04.2026 - Anxiety

27.05.2026 - Understanding Autism

17.06.2026 - Low mood in Children

15.07.2026 - Anger Conduct

23.09.2026 - Trauma with attachment

21.10.2026 - Self Harm with DBT skills

18.11.2026 - Anxiety and OCD



To register your interest telephone Andrea Ehgartner / Nicole Whitehouse on 01922 607400



@bchft\_camhs



www.blackcountrychildrens.nhs.uk/camhs

## Free School Meals

Changes from September 2026

### What is changing?

- The Government is changing the rules for Free School Meals from September 2026
- This means all children who currently get Free School Meals will be checked again before September 2026 to make sure they still qualify.
- If your child no longer qualifies, you may need to pay for their school meals from September 2026
- All families receiving Universal Credit will be entitled to Free School Meals under the new rules
- After this, children receiving Free School Meals will be checked every year



### Who can get Free School Meals?

Your child may be eligible if you receive certain benefits. If you qualify, Free School Meals will be split into two groups, depending on your circumstances.



Walsall Council

Dear Parents/Carers

We're delighted to let you know about a range of special school lunch promotions taking place between September and November, giving pupils even more to look forward to at lunchtime:

- 26 September-12 October:** Love British Food Fortnight - celebrating local and British-grown ingredients as part of this national initiative.
- September Snacktember:** Sammy's Healthy Snack Tasting Specials - sampling healthy food choices.
- October:** 100 Years of Winnie-the-Pooh - celebration menu featuring a cupcake with a Winnie-the-Pooh topper.
- 1 October:** Census Day - Sammy's Special Box Meal (Burger/Wrap/Hotdog etc) - every school meal chosen on this day helps support your child's school.
- 31 October:** Hallowe'en - Spooks & Jelly Special Menu + Guess the Number of Pumpkin Seeds in the Jar competition - celebrating Hallowe'en.
- 5 November:** Bonfire Night - Sparkling Special Menu - a seasonal favourite pupils love.
- 10-14 November:** National School Meals Week - supporting this national initiative and celebrating the benefits of school meals.
- 11 November:** Remembrance Day - poppy cupcakes.

These promotions help make mealtimes engaging and enjoyable while celebrating healthy eating, British produce, national initiatives, seasonal events, and key dates throughout the school year. They form part of our commitment to creating positive dining experiences, encouraging healthy choices, and supporting school meal uptake.

Choosing a school meal is about more than convenience - it supports healthy eating habits, helps children stay energised for learning, and allows them to be part of the shared school dining experience.

Please see the attached information for more details.

Thank you.



## Walsall's SEND Local Offer

The Local Offer website provides useful information, available in one place for children and young people aged 0-25 years with Special Education Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND), their parents/carers and professionals.

This includes information about local services to help children, young people, parents and carers make choices about the support they receive.

The Local Offer is created and published in collaboration with SEND children, young people and their parents/carers.

To find out more, visit the Local Offer website: <https://send.walsall.gov.uk/> or scan the QR code



Walsall Council




## We are a Nut Free School

Please be advised that NO nuts or items of food containing nuts are allowed in school at any time this includes for dinner or snack time.

**School dinner**  
School meals are now £2.65 per day, please book via Scopay before 12 midnight the night before

**School photographs**  
The photographer will be in school Wednesday 23rd September 2026



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Aspiration



Respect



Excellence



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