

Westbury-on-Severn C of E Primary School Newsletter



A small school, dreaming big

Thursday 5th March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Today is World Book Day! We had a fantastic turnout from the community this morning for a Bookish Breakfast between 8-8.30am. Croissants and reading were on the menu and much excitement about costumes amongst friends. We will share the highlights on social media today and then include some photos in our next newsletter. Thanks to everyone who donated a preloved book for the BIG BOOK SWAP. That is now in full swing!

Results of the Parent Reading at home survey are in- see the pie charts in this newsletter- if you were one of the kind folk to say you would like to be involved in the library makeover, please make contact and we can start a working group. Places are filling up for **Parents' Evenings on 24th and 25th** – the deadline is 12th March. Please contact Mrs KD in the office for this important meeting to discuss your child's progress in school.

Anna-Mai Armstrong
Headteacher

SCHOOL VALUES **FORGIVENESS**

Open the Book have been in this week, starting our LENT journey in school.

Mandy Allenhowell will be in on three consecutive afternoons in March to lead Worship on the story of LENT and it's wider significance at this time of year.



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Class News



CHESTNUTS Chestnuts have been very busy this week! They have been out at Forest School spotting the signs of spring and were able to name a variety of flowers, including snowdrops, daffodils and crocuses. In phonics, the children have learned the letters **E** and **U**. They found **U** a little tricky, as it was harder to think of objects beginning with that sound — but they persevered brilliantly! In Maths, they have continued learning about 2D shapes and have started comparing different quantities. We are continuing with our **Hairy Maclary** theme and will be focusing on **Rumpus at the Vet** next week.



WILLOW

Willow Class have had a wonderful start to the new term! In Drawing Club, '**Aliens Love Underpants**' has been our focus book which we have enjoyed massively. Reception have been practising writing simple phrases using their phonics knowledge and Year Ones have been practising using prepositions and exclamations in their writing. In Maths, Year Ones have been learning about the addition and subtraction numbers facts for 13 and 14, by using number lines and counters. While Reception have been learning about how two equal parts make a whole and how to spot a double. This term we have also become Geographers! Specifically learning about the weather in Gloucester and how it varies from season to season.



SYCAMORE

Sycamore have been working incredibly hard this term and are very proud of their learning! In English, the children have been enjoying '**The Journey Home**', which has inspired some wonderful discussions and writing. They have created beautiful posters using the four different sentence types, which are now proudly displayed in the corridor - please do stop by and take a look! In Maths, the children have been focusing on their times tables, with Year 2 practising their **2, 5 and 10** times tables, and Year 3 working on their **3, 4 and 8** times tables. They have also been revising a range of methods for addition and subtraction and are showing great determination and progress.



OAK

This week in Oak Class, we have worked hard across all subjects. In Maths, we developed our skills in adding and subtracting fractions, focusing on finding common denominators and simplifying our answers. The children showed great perseverance when solving more challenging problems. In English, we continued reading **The Last Bear** by Hannah Gold. We explored the author's intentions, discussing themes such as friendship, courage, and caring for the environment, and how language choices influence the reader. In our wider learning, we studied the Galápagos finches and the work of Charles Darwin, learning how his observations of adaptation contributed to the theory of evolution.

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Dates for your diary 2026

13th March- Mothers' Day service in the hall at 2.35pm. All mothers/ Grandmothers/ Aunts/Sisters/Female carers come along and feel the love in the room for you! Friends will be bringing a cake for everyone and the children will communicate their love in their own way to each and every one of you.

19th March- The "Life" tent in the hall: PSHE lesson for each class with Harold the giraffe.

24th & 25th March- Parents' evenings* - Please check your inboxes for a letter from Mrs K-D

26th March- Easter Church service- everyone welcome- 9.15am

27th March- End of Term 4: ***Please NOTE Day ends at 2pm***

13th April- First Day of Term 5

11th May- KS2 SATs week for Year 6

20th May- Whole school walk to the River Severn

21st May- OPAL play afternoon for families- everyone welcome. 1.30-2.30pm

22nd May- End of Term 5: ***Please NOTE Day ends at 2pm***

1st June- Start of Term 6

*During Parents evenings, the hall will be open ***JUST FOR THE SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR.***

There will be QR codes to pay with and we will rely on our wonderful community's honest payments this way. Please make arrangements for your children to be cared for when you attend, or bring toys/colouring to keep them occupied while they wait and you hold your meeting with their teacher.

Each class will leave their class's books in individual trays outside each classroom.

Whole school Attendance update

Sept 1st 2025 – March 5th 2026

=96.5%

National Average 94.8%



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Celebration Awards

Every *Friday* we celebrate pupils' achievements during our Celebration Assembly.

If your child achieves something spectacular out of school, they are welcome to bring in medals, trophies or certificates on a Friday and we will share their success with the whole school.

Willow Class Academic Excellence Award: Sidney, Freddie

Sycamore Class Academic Excellence Award: Evie, Ihan

Oak Class Academic Excellence Award: Eden, Zach

PURPLE LEARNERS OF TERM 3

Marnie

Eliza

Alex

At the end of this term we will be awarding our new **Home Reading Award**- for the child who has read most this term at home across school.

Remember, every time a parent signs their child's reading record to note that reading at home has occurred, **5 house points** are given by the teacher. We will total everyone's at the end of term and that child will get an Award and a prize from the Lucky Dip box! This is part of our drive to motivate home reading because we know what a difference it can make to progress and wellbeing!

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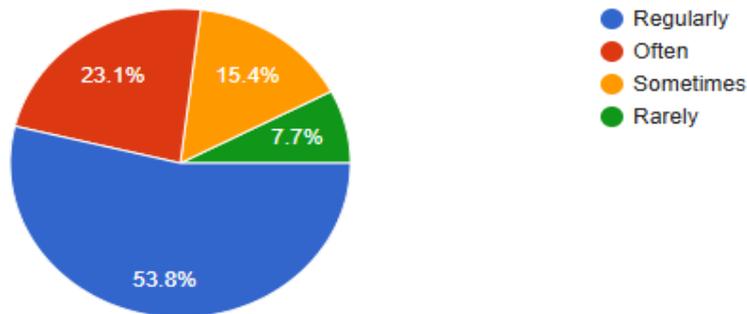
Thursday 5th March 2026



Thank you to all families who completed our Parent Reading Survey- the results are in! We had 13 replies-

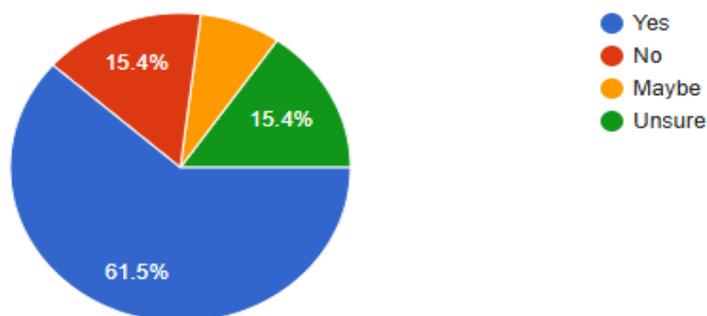
How often does your child see you reading?

13 responses



Do you think your child/children see you as a Keen Reader?

13 responses



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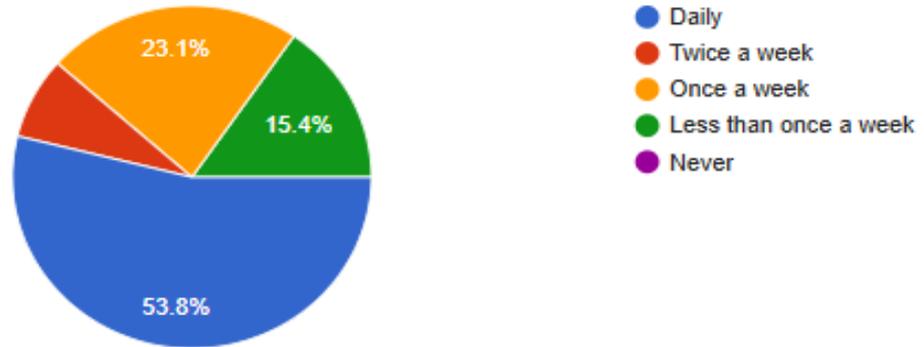


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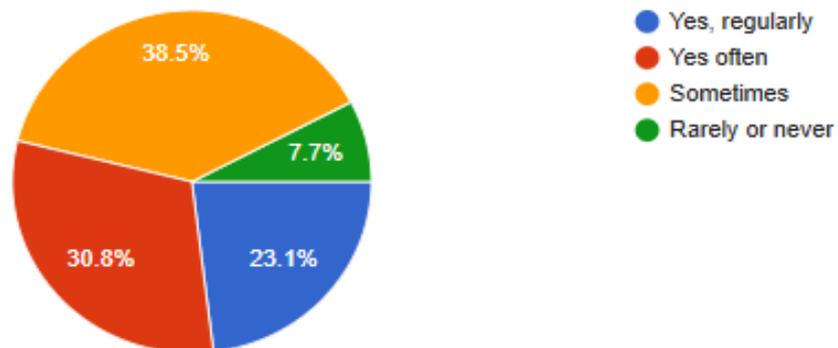
How often do you read to/with your child for pleasure (this does not include Phonics/book banded books)

13 responses



Does your child read or share stories and books with friends or other family members?

13 responses



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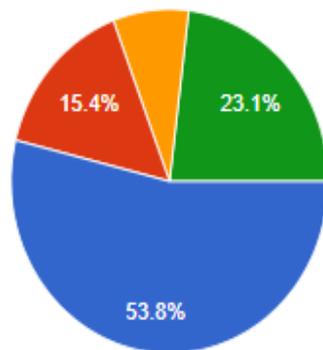
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Does your child choose to read at home by themselves? (younger children- this can include looking at their favourite books)

[Copy chart](#)

13 responses

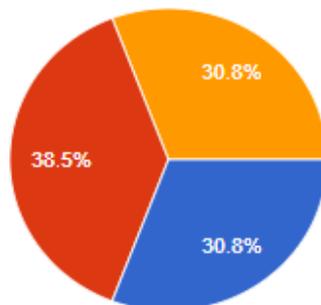


- Daily
- Twice a week
- Once a week
- Less than once a week or never

Finally- would you like to be part of a working party to develop our library in school?

[Copy chart](#)

13 responses



- Yes
- No
- Maybe- I need more information but might be interested in helping

If you were one of the people who said yes/maybe, PLEASE contact Mrs Armstrong and we will start the grand planning! #dreamingbiglibrary

Thank you!

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Bonnie and Jordan are our Forest of Dean Family and Community Connectors, here to help families feel supported, informed, and connected. Their job is all about finding out what's going on in the community—events, activities, groups, and services—and making sure families know what's available. They can also offer friendly signposting and support with things like finances, SEN, and general family wellbeing.

You'll often find them running the Community Café and Stay & Play sessions at River and Hilltop Children and Family Centres, where families can drop in for a chat, a cuppa, and a warm welcome.

Bonnie and Jordan will be coming into school to do some work with the school council and will be attending Parent's evening on 24th March.

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DENE MAGNA



SEN/PP Y5 OPEN MORNING

TUESDAY 24TH MARCH 9AM - 11AM

School Tours, Meet our SEN & Pupil Premium Team

To book, and for more information please call us on 01594 542370 Option 6



denemagna.co.uk

sen@denemagna.gloucs.sch.uk

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GCC Spring Summer 2026		Meat Free	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	Fish Friday
WEEK ONE	13 April 4 May 1 June 22 June 13 July 7 September 28 September 19 October	Option One Option Two Jacket Potato Vegetables Dessert	Tomato Pasta NEW Cheese and Pepper Whit. with Herby Rice Jacket Potato with Baked Beans Vegetables of the Day Oaty Cookie	Sausage Roll with Potato Wedges & Tomato Ketchup NEW Soya Lillipe Pasta Bake Jacket Potato with Cheese Vegetables of the Day NEW Orange Drizzle Cake	Roast Chicken, Stuffing, Roast Potatoes & Gravy Vegan Sausage, Roast Potatoes & Gravy Jacket Potato with Tuna Lillipe and Salmon Lillipe Vegetables of the Day Ice Cream with Fresh Fruit	Spaghetti Bolognaise Coconut Curry with Rice Jacket Potato with Baked Beans Vegetables of the Day Carrot Cake with Custard	Fish Finger with Chips & Tomato Ketchup NEW Cheery Broccoli Fritta with Chips and Tomato Ketchup Jacket Potato with Cheese Baked Beans and Peas Stou Jemmy Jelly with Peaches
WEEK TWO	20 April 11 May 8 June 29 June 20 July 14 September 5 October	Option One Option Two Jacket Potato Vegetables Dessert	Vegan Lillipeballs with Spagherri Cheese and Tomato Pizza with New Potatoes Jacket Potato with Baked Beans Vegetables of the Day Golden Syrup Strop Biscuit	Beef Burger with Cheese in a Bun with Potato Wedges & Tomato Ketchup S'weet Potato Curry with Rice Jacket Potato with Cheese Vegetables of the Day Pecan Crumble with Custard	Roast Gammon, Roast Potatoes & Gravy Roast Quorn, Roast Potatoes & Gravy Jacket Potato with Tuna Lillipe Vegetables of the Day Full Lillipeley	NEW Peri Peri Chicken with Herby Rice, S'weetcorn & Cucumber Salsa Lillipeon Cheese Jacket Potato with Baked Beans Vegetables of the Day Chocolate Brownie	Fish Finger with Chips & Tomato Ketchup Vegan Sausage with Chips and Tomato Ketchup Jacket Potato with Cheese Baked Beans and Peas NEW Orange & Lemon Shortbread
WEEK THREE	27 April 18 May 15 June 6 July 31 August 21 September 12 October	Option One Option Two Jacket Potato Vegetables Dessert	Summer Pizza with New Potatoes Tomato Pasta Bake Jacket Potato with Baked Beans Vegetables of the Day Chocolate Shortbread	Spagherri Lillipeballs Vegan Burger in a Bun with Potato Wedges & Tomato Ketchup Jacket Potato with Cheese Vegetables of the Day Apple Pie with Custard	Roast Pork, Roast Potatoes & Gravy Vegetable Loaf, Roast Potatoes & Gravy Jacket Potato with Tuna Lillipe Vegetables of the Day Iced Vanilla Sponge	Greek Chicken Pitho with Herby Rice and Tzatziki Vegan Bolognaise with Pasta Jacket Potato with Baked Beans Vegetables of the Day Summer Lemon Cake	Fish Finger with Chips & Tomato Ketchup Cheese and Bean Pasty with Chips and Tomato Ketchup Jacket Potato with Cheese Baked Beans and Peas Ice Cream with Peaches
MENU KEY	Added Plant Protein		Wholemeal		Vegan		

Available Daily - Freshly cooked jacket potatoes with a choice of fillings where available - Bread freshly baked on site daily - Daily salad selection - Fresh Fruit and Yoghurt

ALLERGY INFORMATION:
If you would like to know about particular allergens in foods please ask a member of the catering team for information. If your child has a school lunch and has a food allergy or intolerance you will be asked to complete a form to ensure we have the necessary information to cater for your child. We use a large variety of ingredients in the preparation of our meals and due to the nature of our kitchens it is not possible to completely remove the risk of allergen cross contact.

