# Holyoakes Field First School Newsletter

## Monday 3rd November 2025

The front page of this newsletter really does need to give a great big 'shout out' to our young stars in Nursery and Reception classes. The children have now completed their first half term of schooling and have done amazingly well. Much of this is down to the way in which parents and carers have communicated and worked with staff to ensure every child has got off to the best start possible. They deserve a great big well done and we look forward to sharing their future achievements with you.

### Poppy Appeal 2025.....

As a school, Holyoakes Field will be supporting this years poppy appeal.

Poppies and other remembrance items will be sold by our school ambassadors daily from Tuesday 4th November.

Thank you for your continued support.

### Hot Meal Bookings.....

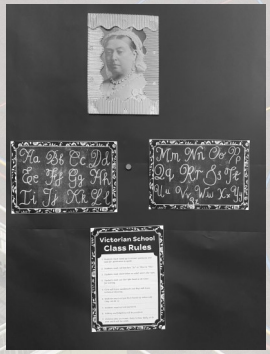
Our new menu is now available for you to book meals up to 3 weeks in advance for all children from nursery to year 4.

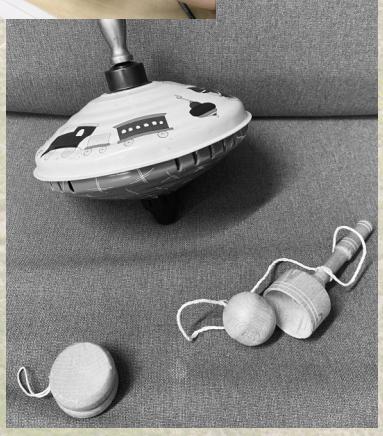
A reminder that meals must be booked a day in advance, unfortunately we are unable to accept any on the day bookings.

Any issues using your MCAS app, please contact the school office.

### Year 1 History Day...

On the last day of half term, year one stepped back in time to 1870 when school became compulsory for children aged 5 to 13. The children completed a range of activities, including cooking, needlework and woodwork. The classrooms were transformed into a Victorian classroom; boys had to sit on one side and girls on the other. The children had a fantastic day and luckily no one received the cane or had to wear the dunce hat. Thank you to parents and carers, the children looked fantastic!





## General communication with staff and the school...

We really value the importance of good communication between home and school and are always open to feedback about how this can be improved. Systems, no matter how well thought through are open to error. As busy professionals, we too may make mistakes and are grateful to those of you who alert us to any issues or difficulties so we can quickly rectify matters.

We understand that from time to time, there will be important information that you need to communicate to staff. The morning drop-off is a time when many parents need to do just that, drop-off quickly and go, due to work commitments. They may have a very quick message for the staff member at the door about their child. If another parent is having a longer conversation this can hold them up. Longer conversations at the door in the morning can also get in the way of lessons starting on time. We therefore kindly request that if you need to have a longer conversation, you ring or email the office with the information you need to pass on or request a call back from the teacher.

## Joint residents, parents and developer meeting...

Before half term, the school hosted a meeting to enable all stakeholders to discuss shared concerns around parking and road safety on Cookridge Close and the surrounding areas. The residents that attended continue to be understandably frustrated and angry because of these issues. We know that many of the issues are because of planning failures and the lack of foresight as to the infrastructure needed to reduce congestion around a busy school site. I did however feel that it was important to make the point that it was a small 'minority' of parents who continue to park dangerously and irresponsibly, and tarnishing the reputation of the school and the parent body as a whole. Many of you are actively choosing to walk to school or are parking in a safe space further away from the school and walking the remaining distance. This was acknowledged by some of the residents too. Thank you!

I am also very grateful to Persimmon Homes as they have been very proactive and forthcoming from the very start. After the school first opened, they agreed to installing a barrier and adding road markings to encourage more responsible parking. During the meeting, they put forward a further potential short-term solution to the various parties present, which included representatives from Worcestershire County Council, Taylor Wimpey and a representative from the MP Chris Bloore's office.

Some of you may already be aware of the forthcoming works planned by Severn Trent (letter emailed seperatley). This again has huge implications for the safety of our children and road users. The developers will be taking our shared concerns about the timing of these works back to Severn Trent. We will also continue to raise concerns with TC Homes about the impact of their parked vehicles along the top end of Cookridge Close as well as the timings of deliveries into and exiting the site.

The staff and I will continue to do what we can but we do need a collaborative and concerted effort on the part of all stakeholders to secure the safety of our pupils.

# Year 1 Afternoon tea

Many thanks to all the parents and carers who joined us for our afternoon tea.

We are pleased to share that we have raised £86 towards our school funds.

## Reception and Middle School Applications September 2026:

Applications are now open for children who will be starting Reception or Middle school in September 2026. Applications close on **15th January 2026**. It is vitally important that you apply straight away online, using the link below before the deadline.

Apply for a school place | Worcestershire County Council

If you have any questions regarding the application process please contact Miss Tomkins in the school office.

## Parent Consultation Evenings.....

It was lovely to see so many of you for the parent consultation meetings before the end of half term. We hope this was a good opportunity for you to hear about your child's achievements as well as look at some of their books. If you were unable to attend and would still like an opportunity to speak with a teacher, please email the school office. If an in-person meeting cannot be arranged, a telephone consultation may be offered instead.

## CEO Statement to all parents..

Bordesley Multi Academy Trust and the school are aware that social networking and messaging platforms are sometimes used by parents and carers to express concerns. While we understand that issues may arise from time to time, we kindly remind all parents and carers that any concerns should be raised through the appropriate channels.

Should you need to discuss a concern with the headteacher or a member of SLT, then please ensure you contact the school office to arrange a mutually convenient time for a meeting.

If you feel that your concerns have not been addressed, then you should use the school's formal complaints procedure. This ensures that matters are addressed promptly, fairly, and in line with our policies.