

# Temple Meadow Newsletter

Friday 9th September 2022



Dear Parents and Carers,

It is hard to believe we have completed our first week of the autumn term. I mentioned in my welcome back letter earlier in the week that we **have some exciting building projects**. Our pupils have loved the new toilet facilities and I thought I'd share some pupils voice with our parent community.

*'I like them because they are nice and clean'*

*'They are amazing, beautiful and clean'*

*'They're nice, I like the doors on them'*

*'They're painted nicely'.*

We have also had much improved fencing and replacement of some key gates.

**Pupils' attitude, presentation and behaviour this week has been absolutely fantastic.** We had our first whole-school assembly on Tuesday. Pupils looked so smart in their uniform and their behaviour was amazing. At the close of our first day, Mr Smith, our Assistant Headteacher for KS2 and a very experienced KS2 teacher, said he'd had a perfect day with Year 6 which was lovely to hear.

**Our Early years pupils have settled in really well.** I know Miss Williamson, our Early Years lead, has fed back some of the many things to celebrate and key achievements in a separate letter. We had an extremely busy start to term with lots of last minute reception children to accommodate and a number of new pupils across Years 1-6. If you are one of our new parents, we hope that you have felt very welcome. If you would like a tour of our school, please contact the school office to arrange this.

We have continued to embellish and improve our **Irresistible Lunchtime** and we have had incredibly positive behaviour choices and respect for each other and school adults.

I've loved this week handing out some **Headteacher Awards**. I set teachers a really challenging task of only choosing one child per class that has exceptionally stood out on the first day in school. Head Boys and Head Girls did a really excellent job of gathering this information. On the right is a list of all these superstar pupils.

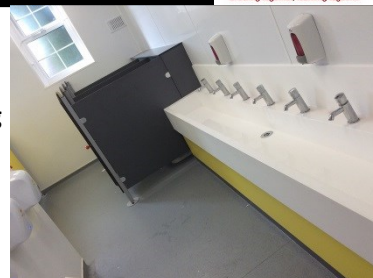


We love seeing how our **jungle garden** has survived the heatwave and I introduced children to two **Tetrapanax plants** which have now been planted. These have the potential to grow really tall with huge jungle-like leaves and we're all looking forward to seeing them flourish.

**Financial Pressures:** We appreciate it is a very challenging time for many of our families and we are thinking hard about ways we can support initiatives such as **poverty proofing**. Lots more information will follow on this. We will most definitely be recycling school uniform that is no longer needed. As you are aware, we are able to issue **food bank vouchers**. Please do contact the school office and speak to the pastoral team if you have this need. This is always done in confidence with plenty of support from us as we know this can be a really challenging time for people who are experiencing this for the first time.

**Parking:** Please do be considerate of our nearby residents when parking at the start and end of the school day. Parents should not park on yellow lines and should not block the driveways of houses. Thank you in advance for your understanding.

**Keep reading to read our response to the death of the Queen.**



Syanna, Kai and Abdul Ahad	Nursery
Joshua	Reception Carle
Reuben	Reception Murphy
Daisy	1 Donaldson
Evelyn	1 Tomlinson
Amie	2 Dahl
Ava	2 Geraghty
Zaharon	3 Fine
Daisy	3 Strong
Matthew, Mustafa and Timmy	The Hub
Neve	4 Ahlberg
Avery	5 Pullman
Kyle	5 Rosen
Chloe	6 Morpurgo
William	6 Rowling

Best regards, Ms Walsh — Headteacher



# Passing of Her Majesty the Queen



Along with everyone we are sad to hear about the death of the Queen yesterday. She has been a 'constant' for every one of us in terms of the only Monarch we have known and such a familiar figure as a back drop to all living in the UK. She was, as many commentators have said, the most famous woman in the world. It is monumental news, as are all the events that now unfold; from state funeral through to all the things that happen regarding the coronation of King Charles III.

We all have our own political and personal views but I have no doubt whether you are a republican or monarchist or simply a 'never really thought about it type of person'; I think we would all agree she was a remarkable woman; incredibly hard working; duty driven and with distinct humility. She was always very dignified and apolitical. Clearly, when you hear all the accolades across the world, she was highly respected for her breath of knowledge over time and admired for how she conducted herself in public life.

So of course we are a school, the home of education; so we will plan all our very own Temple Meadow responses; led by pupil voice. We will frame our own responses to the death of the Queen and the accession of Charles III. We are always mindful of how a public death can impact on our community when there are bereavement issues.



As you can see, we took the opportunity today to mirror what happens at many public buildings and our Head Boys and Girls lowered our Eco flag on our flag pole to half mast at the end of break time. Our newsletter goes out with a black border mirroring what happens in national newspapers. We have already sought some pupil voice on 'how they feel about the death of the queen at the age of 96 and given her long time as queen' and 'if they were King Charles III what would be something they would like him to do'. Some of their responses are given below. Of course, if not age appropriate, we don't force something children are not interested in.

Today, Year 6 are discussing whether they would like school to have a book of condolences and how they would see that working.

Over the next few weeks, we will take opportunities for learning linked to all of these national events. We call this type of response to world events 'continuous provision' and we regularly do this.

Below are some messages from our pupils:

*'I think the death of her husband had really affected her. She was a incredibly good Queen and in my opinion King Charles has some very big shoes to fill.'*

*'I am quite sad that our Queen has passed away. I'm disappointed that she never made it to the age of 100. But I am most definite that King Charles will do a marvellous job on the throne. As king of the U.K, I would like him to help with lowering the cost of petrol, electricity and water bills.'*

*'I am incredibly upset as she has helped us get through hard times such as covid-19. She was the longest reigning king or queen of this country, which is incredible. If I were King Charles III, I would lower the prices of bills.'*

*'I feel quite upset about the death of the Queen. I would like King Charles III, to make us proud and to stay strong, just like the Queen did. I think our school needs a book of condolences so that people can write down their memories.'*

*'The Queen was very nice and she looked after the whole country.'*

*'Respect the country like the Queen did.'*

*'For as long as the Queen has reigned over Great Britain and the countries of the Commonwealth, she has never failed us. On this devastating day, we pay our full respect to the Queen and the Royal Family, recognising the dedication of the longest reigning monarch of all time. Queen Elizabeth II is the only monarch many of us have known and cherished. Today, we look back on the life of our beloved Queen, taking time to remember all the things she has done for this country. The Queen's value to this country is irreplaceable. The memories of her will stay with us forever.'*

*'I would like King Charles III to create a memorial, every year on the 8th September, as remembrance to celebrate the life of our beloved Queen. '*

*'Personally, I feel like the Queen had a brilliant life. To hear about her death is life changing for all of us. Although our whole country is heartbroken, we remember that it is not just us who have to live with this change, other countries are also having to deal with this sad news. We shouldn't worry though, as our beloved Queen lived a wonderful life and will always be with us in our hearts. It is a very tough time for all of us, as she has been on the throne for 70 years, which is the longest time in history. She made Britain great! My wish is for the new King to follow on in her footsteps and continue to make Britain the best it can be.'*

# Other News



## Message from Mrs Van Straaten

As you will all be aware, I am the SENDCO (special educational needs and disability co-ordinator) at Temple Meadow Primary School.

As a school, we are proud of the support we offer to all of our children, including those with additional needs. All schools are allocated a number of days from the NHS speech and language therapy team and this year we have been allocated 5 days. As you can imagine, this does not allow us to provide a high-quality support package to those children who require input from a speech and language therapist. This year, we have prioritised this need and have purchased an enhanced service, meaning that we will have a speech and language therapist in school for a full day, once per fortnight. We are really excited about how this will further improve our overall offer to our children. I have this week met our allocated therapist and I am pleased to say that Ruth Lowe will be joining our team.



Ruth is really looking forward to working with us all and is able to offer the following:

- Makaton including setting up Sign of the Week
- PECS
- Aided language Displays
- Development of speech sounds, language and communication
- Intensive Interaction including how to measure
- Objects of Reference and how to set up/measure
- Visual support through Now and Next/Visual timetables etc
- Parent 'Stay and Play' sessions
- Observations in class/play etc
- Review of targets
- First assessments
- Making spaces 'communication friendly'.

I am also pleased to announce that our Nursery teacher, Mrs Law (left) will be leading on speech and language across the school, working alongside myself as SENDCO. I will be inducting her over the next few weeks and we will be writing to all of our families who currently have a SALT programme.

If you have any questions about how Ruth, Mrs Law or myself could support you or your child, please do not hesitate to get in touch.



## **Music at Temple Meadow**

This year we are very fortunate to have our Sips Education Music Service delivering more music opportunities for our children. On a Monday we will be having Mrs Ross deliver a whole school singing assembly where they will be learning how to use their voices to sing. Year 4 will also be learning how to play the p-bone which is a brass instrument with Mr Beer on a Friday 9.30-10.30. In addition to this, Year 5 will also be learning how to play the ukulele which is a string instrument on Thursday 11-12.

The children will be given an instrument in school to use free of charge and will also be taking these instruments home so children will need to look after them and also return them for their music lesson. Over the course of the year, the children will be performing and showcasing what they have learnt in school to parents and carers. We will communicate these dates with you in due course.

# Support Services



## **Cost of Living Family Support Services**

### **Citizens Advice Sandwell & Walsall**

Are you struggling to pay your Rent or Council Tax and find yourself behind with the payments? Are you worried about bailiffs coming to your door? Do you need "breathing space" and time to get your debts sorted out, you could get up to 60 days by talking to one of our debt advisers.

If YES - please call today on 0121 726 6745 to speak to one of our team OR Email

[debt.advice@citizensadvice-sandwell-walsall.org](mailto:debt.advice@citizensadvice-sandwell-walsall.org)

CASSIE – Mobile Advice Unit Bus

The CASSIE team provides free, confidential and impartial advice Monday – Friday. If you would like to know where CASSIE is visiting you can view the timetable by clicking below:

<https://citizensadvice-sandwell-walsall.org/get-help/mobile-advice-unit/>

### **Financial Advice & Help**

If you are worried about debt to Sandwell Council, please call 0121 569 5333

Council Tax Reduction, Discretionary Housing Payment, Welfare Rights, Self-isolation payments, Money Advice amongst others

[https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/info/200354/coronavirus\\_advice/4460/get\\_financial\\_help](https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/info/200354/coronavirus_advice/4460/get_financial_help)

### **Cost of Living Help**

Support to make the most of your money and find help when you need it.

We're determined to do everything we can at a local level to support people as the cost of living rises. Here you'll find links to useful information, advice and support from the council, DWP and other organisations.

<https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/costoflivinghelp>

### **Resilient Residents**

Lots of Advice and contacts for a whole range of needs (Benefits Checker, debt advice, budgeting and money management, employment advice and support, well-being, food, help in an emergency)

[https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/info/200347/resilient\\_residents](https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/info/200347/resilient_residents)

### **The National Debtline**

National Debtline is a charity. We give free and independent debt advice over the phone and online.

<https://nationaldebtline.org/> or Freephone 0808 808 4000

### **LEAP: The energy and money saving service**

<https://applyforleap.org.uk/>

LEAP is a free service that is helping people keep warm and reduce their energy bills without costing them any money. LEAP can also get FREE white goods and cookers for qualifying families.

Call (FREE) 0800 060 7567 8:45am – 7.00pm Monday to Friday and 9.00am – 12.00pm Saturdays

### **Sandwell Community Offer**

The Community Offer will provide information, advice, guidance and low level practical support to meet your individual needs.

For more information please call the Single Point of Access 0121 726 3983 or email: [ifa1996.community\\_offer@nhs.net](mailto:ifa1996.community_offer@nhs.net)

# Support Services



## **Foodbanks**

<https://www.blackcountryfoodbank.org.uk/>

Telephone: 01384 671250 Email: [admin@blackcountryfoodbank.org.uk](mailto:admin@blackcountryfoodbank.org.uk)

If you don't have access to a voucher please call the above number.

RESTORE, Transformation Church, 1 Station Road, Rowley Regis West Midlands B65 0LI

Opening Hours: Wednesday 11:30 - 13:00

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH – OLD HILL, Halesowen Road, Cradley Heath B64 6JA

Opening Hours: Monday 10:00 - 12:00

COMMUNITY LINK, 72 High Street, Cradley Heath, B64 5HA

Opening Hours: Thursday 13:00 - 15:00

HOLY CROSS CHURCH, Ashleigh Road, Tividale, Rowley Regis, B69 1LL

Opening hours: Wednesday 10.00 – 12.00

BRICKHOUSE COMMUNITY FOODBANK, Dudhill Rd, Rowley Regis, B65 8HS

Opening hours: Tuesday 10.00 – 12.00

Friday 10.00 – 12.00

Other locations <https://www.blackcountryfoodbank.org.uk/locations/>

## **ICare Food Hub**

Umar Masjid & Community Centre, 314-318 Long Lane, Blackheath, B62 9LS.

Food distribution on the last Saturday of every month 11am – 1pm.

If food is urgently needed at other times, please call 07745 985648

## **Manna House Food Pantry**

Manna House, 72A Vicarage Road, Halesowen, B62 8HX

Opening times:

Monday: 10am - 1pm and Thursday: 10am - 1pm

For a small weekly subscription of £4, members at the Manna House Pantry will be able to purchase a weekly food shop including fresh fruit and vegetables (subject to availability) and family favourites to stock up the cupboard and fridge.

## **Emergency Food Parcel**

Midland Langar Seva Society 24hr Emergency Parcel Delivery: 07903 400179

## **Shout**

Shout is a 24/7 text service, free on all major mobile networks, for anyone in crisis anytime, anywhere. It's a place to go if you're struggling to cope and you need immediate help.

Text 85258 for immediate help.



# Support Services



## Samaritans

You can access confidential emotional support at any time from Samaritans either by emailing or by calling 116 123.

## BEAM Sandwell well-being service

We are an emotional health and well-being service for young people aged 5-18 (or up to 25 if you're a care leaver) who are registered with a GP in Sandwell.

Our team of experienced well-being practitioners and volunteers will listen to whatever is troubling you.

We help with anything relating to emotional well-being. In simple terms, this is your emotional health and happiness.

You are emotionally healthy if:

- you function in society - at school, college, uni, work, or with friends and family
- you are able to cope with life's challenges by drawing on your strengths
- you understand and manage your emotions

Face to Face sessions are held as below;

**Haden Cross Fire Station** (Halesowen Rd, Cradley Heath B64 7JU) —Tuesdays, 2.00pm - 6pm (last young person seen at 5pm)

**Dorothy Parkes Centre** (Church Road, Smethwick, West Midlands, B67 6EH) —Wednesdays, 12.00pm - 5.30pm

**Open Heaven Gospel Hall** (Price Rd, Wednesbury, WS10 0EZ)

Thursdays, 2.30pm - 6pm

## Hopeline

Hopeline is a confidential support and advice service for children and young people under the age of 35 who are experiencing thoughts of suicide

If you are having thoughts of suicide or are concerned for a young person who might be you can contact HOPELINEUK for confidential support and practical advice.

Call: 0800 068 4141

Text: 07860039967

Email: [pat@papyrus-uk.org](mailto:pat@papyrus-uk.org)

Opening hours: 9am – midnight every day of the year (Weekends and Bank Holidays included)

## Childline

When you call us on 0800 1111 you'll get through to a counsellor, they're there to listen and support you with anything you'd like to talk about. You can speak to a counsellor by calling 0800 1111 or via 1-2-1 chat between 7.30am and 3.30am every day.

## Bereavement

Unfortunately, some of us may lose someone through coronavirus. There are many organisations who can help.

Cruse Bereavement Care has online resources to support you and your family during this distressing time. This includes how this pandemic may affect bereavement and grief. They offer a free helpline: 0808 808 1677

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT ARWA: 07706701349



## WOMEN'S EXERCISE CLASSES



Every Thursday  
Starting 15/9/22



9:45am - 10:45am



Cradley Heath  
Community Centre,  
Reddal Hill Road,  
B64 5JG

Registration 13/9/22  
12:30-2:30



**FULL BODY  
WORK OUT**

**QUALIFIED FEMALE  
FITNESS INSTRUCTOR**

**FOR ALL  
ABILITIES**

**FREE!  
Term-Time Only**



FREE CLASSES TERM-TIME ONLY.

## ESOL CLASSES



Every Monday  
starting 19/9/22



10am-12pm



Cradley Heath  
Community Centre,  
Reddal Hill Road,  
B64 5JG

- ✓ Learn vocabulary
- ✓ Boost your confidence in English
- ✓ Develop skills to help you with everyday language

Registration: Tuesday 13/9/22 12:30pm - 2:30pm

For more information, contact Arwa: 07706701349

## WOMEN'S WELL-BEING NETWORK

EVERY TUESDAY: 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM  
(TERM TIME ONLY)

VENUE: CRADLEY HEATH COMMUNITY CENTRE  
REDDAL HILL ROAD, CRADLEY HEATH, B64 5JG

TAILOR MADE TOPICS PROMOTING MENTAL HEALTH & WELL-BEING FOR  
WOMEN IN OUR COMMUNITIES.



FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL  
ARWA: 07706701349