

SPRING TERM 1, 2026

**So, we come to the end of the first Spring half term- and what a wet and cold one it has been!**

Pupils continue to engage well in learning opportunities on offer, with the school remaining a mostly settled and calm environment

New children continue to join the school at a steady rate to get us closer to the Local Authority commissioned number of 80 pupils. 4 new pupils joined Key Stage 2 and 3 are in the process of joining Key Stage 3.

### HI-LIGHTS THIS HALF TERM

- School council continue to work on school projects including jobs in school and planning our new outdoor environment
- Continued visits from my dog Betty- and an introduction to Miss Skinner's dog Oscar
- Visit from Solihull's Deputy Director Jane Sowerby and Councillor Grinsted
- Training for staff from our external partners on specific pupil interventions
- A new girls only weekly PE session to encourage physical activity for our girls- a great success!
- Our first football tournament against other special schools at Aston Villa, we got to the semi-final!
- At last our new swings were installed and pupils love them - they are in constant use, in the words of Jack- 'they are magnificent!'
- Improvements to the school were recognised by Solihull Council at their Cabinet meeting and reported on Facebook.
- We have created a new Explorers form for Key Stage 3
- Pupils played an important part in role in our recruitment activities this week
- KS 2 pupils enjoyed an activity packed week to celebrate Storytelling week as part of the National Year of Reading



### Staffing updates

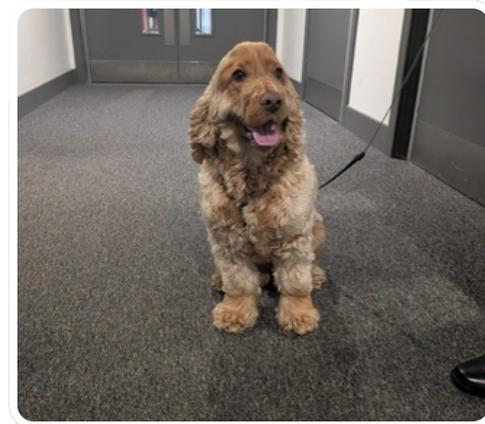
- Miss Roberts will leave at the end of this half term
- We have recruited a new maths teacher, who will join us at Easter. Mr Edge will take up the role of ICT teacher on a permanent basis.
- Our new Key Stage 4 lead will join us after Easter to work on our Key Stage 4 offer.
- Miss Daley will take up a new role planning transition and supporting SENco work in school
- Miss Newton joined us as an interim leader in January, after half term she will take up the post of Deputy Head Teacher

## COMING SOON

Along with Forward Education Trust we plan improvements carefully to ensure they are successful. Next half term expect a focus on the following areas:

- Further work on curriculum and assessment
- Attendance will continue to be a focus
- Well being and implementation of new interventions to support pupils
- Continued review of whole school communication charter to include Home-School agreements with families
- Parents meeting to review pupil targets
- Parent survey will be launched by the Trust on 23<sup>rd</sup> February
- Update to mobile phone policy to reflect National expectations

**PLEASE  
ENCOURAGE YOUR  
CHILD TO BRING A  
HEALTHY SNACK  
AND WATER  
BOTTLE TO SCHOOL  
EACH DAY.**



Oscar had a great time at  
The Heights



## SOLAR PANELS

The Heights has been selected to receive free solar panels- this is a national project with a small number of schools selected

They will deliver clean, renewable energy. lower our carbon footprint and reduce our energy bills.

This project will be completed straight after half term

## A NOTE TO YOU ALL

Thank you for your patience this half term, we had 2 unexpected closures which were out of our control. We are excited to continue on our improvement journey, particularly as our team continues to build capacity and strength. Please make sure you book a slot for our Parents event on 3<sup>rd</sup> March. Enjoy your break.

Lisa Walker, Head Teacher