

December 2025



Message from Mrs Mathie

Our festivities are well underway and as you can see from our dates on the next page, we have a busy month ahead and lots of fun things taking place in school. We look forward to welcoming parents and carers to our many performances and our fabulous PTFA Christmas Fayre on Saturday.

If you haven't already done so, please make sure you order your child's Christmas lunch in advance, please note that no other meal options will be available on 12th December so you will be required to provide a packed lunch if they do not wish to have a school meal.

We have been blown away by the generosity shown by our families in donating to the Salvation Army Christmas Toy Appeal, your kindness really will make a difference to the recipients of those gifts at Christmas – thank you!

Our beautiful Christmas tree will be arriving in the next few days just in time for the Christmas Fayre. As always, a big thank you to New Farm Christmas Trees for their kindness.

Although it is only the beginning of December, I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of myself and all of the staff at Battling Brook, to wish you and your families a fun-filled festive period. We look forward to welcoming you back on Tuesday 6th January. Merry Christmas!

Kind regards
Mrs Mathie

School Applications

If your child is due to start reception in Autumn 2026, please make your application prior to 15th January 2026.

We still have two places remaining for our amazing pre-school for a full time place from September 2026. Should you or someone you know be interested, please call or come to the school office and speak with Mrs Cropper in the first instance.

School Closure Procedure

Our school will remain open unless it is deemed unsafe to do so or we do not have sufficient staff to support the children as many of our staff travel a significant distance to work. However, as the cold weather begins, I wanted to remind you of the closure procedure. A decision will be made as early as possible and a message sent via the School Gateway app, it will also be posted on the school website and where possible Class Dojo. Please check these two main methods of communication rather than calling the school to check as this blocks our phone lines and prevents us from answering important calls. If you do not receive a message, then school is open. Please ensure that we hold your most up to date contact details on the app to allow us to message you.

Christmas Performances

Our fabulous Christmas performances will take place at the following times/dates:

02/12/2025 – Y4 Christmas Performance (2pm)
04/12/2025 – Y4 Christmas Performance (9.15am)
16/12/2025 - RKV Nativity Performance (9am)
17/12/2025 – RJS Nativity Performance (9am)
18/12/2025 – RLB Nativity Performance (9am).

Further details will be provided by your child's class teacher. Should you have any queries, please speak to them.

Important Information/Reminders

Lost Property - We have a large amount of lost property mounting in our main entrance. If your child has recently lost any of their belongings, please come and check as all remaining items will be given to the PTFA at the end of term to sell on the bus. Please ensure that all items are **clearly labelled with your child's name and class** so they can be returned to them quickly.

Smart Watches – These are not permitted in school and we request that these are left at home.

Staff Update – Mrs Ibberson, who has been a lunchtime supervisor at Battling Brook for over 8 years will sadly be leaving us soon, we thank her for her years of dedication and commitment to the school and wish her well as she moves on. I am pleased to inform you that our lunch team have been joined by Mrs Wooton-Miles. We welcome back Miss Lees and Miss Bailey who are both returning from maternity leave. I would like to congratulate Mrs Ettridge who gave birth to a beautiful baby girl last month – Mother and baby are both doing well!

Site Safety - Please be reminded that children should not be onsite before 8.35am on a morning and the use of on site play equipment before and after school is prohibited. This is to ensure the safety of all of our children and visitors. Also, as the weather starts to turn colder over the coming weeks, I would like to remind all pupils and visitors to our site to remain on the main pathways. Our premises team work hard to keep these pathways clear and gritted to keep everyone safe.

Reporting Absences/Illness - Just a quick message to thank everyone who keeps the school updated when their children are unwell. This is a reminder that any absence should be reported, with full details of illness/symptoms please, before 9.30am; either via an email to the office, a telephone call to the absence line or via the Gateway App.

BB Alumni

As previously advised, we are dedicating a section of our newsletter to our past pupils and their life after Battling Brook.



After leaving Battling Brook and finishing her schooling and A levels, Beth Fellows attended Birmingham City University where she studied Fashion Design. She took a year out before her final year to gain experience in the industry. Working at Brøgger, a Danish luxury fashion label as a pattern cutter, and at House of Holland, another high end fashion label as a designer - collaborating with brands like Coca-Cola, Xtep and Pokémon.

After finishing university, Beth went on to land a job with Sainsbury's fashion label TU, where she now works today designing Ladies and Family nightwear. Beth commented "I love how creative I get to be in my work, bringing lots of fun, whimsical designs into the world and seeing people's reaction through their virality on social media." You never know, you could be wearing nightwear designed by our lovely Beth!

We are very proud of Beth and her achievements and look forward to following her career closely. If you or someone you know would like to feature, please send the details to vcropper@battlingbrook.uk

Key Dates

December

Monday 1st: PTFA Light Trail Begins

Thursday 4th: Reception Movie Night

Friday 5th: Y4 Warner Bros Trip

Saturday 6th: PTFA Christmas Fayre

Thursday 11th: Y1/Y2 Christingle Service

Music Concert for Parents (5pm)

Friday 12th: Christmas Jumper/Christmas Lunch Day

Friday 19th: School Closes

January

Monday 5th: INSET/Staff Training Day

Tuesday 6th: School Opens to Pupils.