

# February 2026



## Road Safety

Following the email sent home last week, I would like to say a huge thank you to all of the parents who have supported our request to show consideration to our families and wider community when dropping off and picking up from school. We do everything that we can to ensure the safety of everyone and your help really does make a difference.

We have contacted the local council and PCSO who have assured us that they will be attending and supporting our efforts as they have had a number of complaints made from concerned residents.

The police have also recommended that we remind parents of the road rules and parking restrictions outside of schools:

- Parking restrictions outside schools are there to keep you and your children safe. Parking inconsiderately can put people in danger and you also risk being fined. It's important that motorists follow the Highway Code.
- Most school entrances and exits in the UK have yellow zigzag road markings, They indicate the part of the road where motorists should not wait, stop or park a vehicle. They also show that the area must be kept clear so that children and other road users can clearly see when crossing a road.

## Staff Updates

Our Site Manager Mr Dowall will be leaving us at half term. I would like to thank him for his hard work and dedication for the last 8 years and wish him well for his next chapter.

We welcome Mr Richardson to our premises team - some of you may have already seen him at the gates in a morning and I know that you will make him feel part of our community.

## Our PTFA

Just a short update on what our incredible PTFA have achieved so far this academic year:

- Over £1900 donated for new library resources
- Over £4000 raised from September – December 2025
- Supplied crackers, class gifts and arranged a special visit from Santa on Christmas lunch day
- £150 awarded to Y6 for their help at the Christmas Fayre
- Won 1<sup>st</sup> place in the education category at the St Mary's Tree Festival.

We are extremely grateful and proud of the contribution that our PTFA make to school life and would like to thank them for everything that they do to support us. If you would like to get involved, please email [battlingbrookptfa@gmail.com](mailto:battlingbrookptfa@gmail.com) or contact them via their Facebook page.

## Message from Mrs Mathie

How is it February already? January always feels like a long month but it has flown by and we are already nearly at half term!

We have lots of exciting things taking place before the Easter break as you can see from the dates section overleaf. We will shortly be sending out invites for Parents' Evening and we look forward to meeting with you all to review your child's progress.

During the next half term, we will be transferring all of our school/pupil records over to a new database (Arbor) along with updating our communications and payments system. We will contact all parents with instructions on how to activate your accounts and would appreciate this being actioned as soon as possible to prevent any delay in the transfer. Your support and understanding during this period would be very much appreciated as our staff get to grips with our new way of working.

In the meantime, I hope that you and your families have an enjoyable half term break and we look forward to welcoming back the children on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February.

Best wishes  
Mrs Mathie

## Reading Challenge

**We wrote home last term to tell you all about our library renovations and our exciting new Reading Challenge. I am delighted to let you know that this is now up and running and some of the pupils have made great headway already!**

**Each Year Group have their own set of books to read within the academic year and are rewarded based on how many they complete. They have their own record cards to monitor their progress and each stage of bronze, silver and gold will be acknowledged. Those who go the extra mile and achieve their platinum award will receive a special prize!**

**We are extremely keen that our children develop a lifelong love of reading and your support with this at home would be very much appreciated!**

**\* The Reading Challenge will be introduced to Year 2 in the summer term.**

## BB Alumni

Josh Darby, a former pupil at Battling Brook, is now living his dream of playing sell out shows all over the UK! Josh began learning guitar in year 2 with our then guitar teacher Mr Fitton. He quickly discovered a passion for it and continued lessons until he left in 2016.

After leaving BB, Josh has gone on to write his own songs which are available to download on all streaming platforms. He regularly performs all over the midlands but recently has performed gigs in Glasgow, Manchester and more impressively Wembley!

Josh said that he "thoroughly enjoyed his time at Battling Brook", "has many fond memories of his time at BB" and "would not be where is today without those guitar lessons at school".

We are very proud to be a part of Josh's history and watch eagerly for what his future holds. If you or any past pupil would like to share your journey with us, please email [vcropper@battlingbrook.uk](mailto:vcropper@battlingbrook.uk)

## Key Dates

### FEBRUARY

Friday 13<sup>th</sup>:

PTFA Love Yourself non-uniform day/  
Break up for half term  
School opens to pupils.

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup>:

### MARCH

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> :

Year 3 Trip to Creswell Crags

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup>:

2HS Class Assembly (9am)

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup>:

World Book Day (Full details will be sent home)

Friday 6<sup>th</sup>:

PTFA Battling Bars on sale

Monday 9<sup>th</sup>:

PTFA Afternoon Tea Event

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup>:

2LS Class Assembly (9am)

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> :

Parents' Evening (Full details will be sent home)

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>:

Year 2 Theme Day

23<sup>rd</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>:

Parents' Evening (Full details will be sent home)

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>:

Year 5 Bikeability Event

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup>:

1SI Easter Performance to parents (9am)

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup>:

1PF Easter Performance

Friday 27<sup>th</sup>:

1TC Easter Performance

Friday 27<sup>th</sup>:

School Closes for Easter Holidays

### APRIL

Monday 13<sup>th</sup>:

INSET Day/School closed to pupils

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup>:

School opens to pupils



Following the email last week about the NSPCC Speak out. Stay safe. Programme. We have received our certificate for successfully delivering the content and workshops. The staff commented on how engaged and responsible our children were.

