

# LADYWOOD SCHOOL

## MARCH 2026 NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents/Carers

It's been another great few weeks at school, especially as we have seen more sunshine! We are delighted to share that the Lower KS2 playground development has now been completed, creating a lovely space for our children to play, climb and explore with their friends. Alongside this, we have also developed the outdoor areas adjacent to some of the Year 1 classroom areas, providing even greater opportunities for learning beyond the classroom. These new spaces will continue to allow children to take part in a wider range of outdoor activities and support creative, hands-on learning.

Work will continue over the coming weeks, with the Upper KS2 playground equipment scheduled to be completed during the Easter holidays. We are excited to see this final stage of the project come together, as this is the final stage to complete the significant building work that has taken place over the last few years. We are very much looking forward to seeing the children enjoying the new equipment.

Thank you to everyone who replied to the Class Dojo survey - the feedback was overwhelmingly positive and we have identified some areas that we intend to improve. Following the survey, we met with the Friends of Ladywood Parents team and have begun to create a school/ home Class Dojo agreement, which will be shared over the next couple of weeks. Thank you to all the parents who were involved. It was also great to see so many parents attending the Mothers Day event- we had over 50 parents attending, which is fantastic!

Last week we had a fabulous World Book Day, with children and staff celebrating their love of reading. It was wonderful to see so many amazing book characters across school and the day was filled with stories, activities and a shared love of books. Our Mentor Dog Sully even got a mention in one of the books shared with the children!

Thank you as always for your continued support,

Lynsey



### Upcoming Events

- ★ 13th March - Non uniform day - see full details below
- ★ 25th March - Easter Bingo - see full details below



### Reminder

School closes on  
Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April and  
re-opens on Monday 20<sup>th</sup>  
April

# Important Information

## End-of-Day Collection Time Reminder:

To help maximise learning time for all pupils, we kindly ask parents and carers to collect children promptly at 2:45pm.

Early collection will only be arranged in extenuating circumstances, agreed in advance. Parents are welcome to arrive earlier and wait outside; however, please note that children will not be brought to the door before 2:45pm. Any extenuating circumstances will be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure maximum attendance.

This approach helps us reduce interruptions to lessons and ensures pupils benefit from the full learning day. Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

## LEARNING THROUGH MOTION

Please see information below for Sunday sessions being held at Bishop Bridgeman CE Primary School, please telephone direct to book. Parents/carers are expected to stay with their child during these sessions.

### Move, Play, Develop & Explore!



#### Sensory Sessions

Mix of **structured** tasks and **exploratory** play.

For **Neurodiverse**, aligned with **EHCP/IEP**

Builds **confidence**, **Regulation** and **Essential sensory** and **motor** skills

**BISHOP BRIDGEMAN C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
Rupert St, Great Lever, BL3 6PY

**EVERY SUNDAY**  
09:00-12:00  
45 minute sessions

**CONTACT US TODAY FOR A  
FREE TRIAL SESSION!**

07356074072 info@learningthroughmotion.co.uk



# Friends of Ladywood



*In school we celebrated Valentine's Day with a disco that all children in the school attended. The children also took part in the creation of a lovely display titled 'What We Love about Ladywood'. The children really enjoyed the opportunity to share what they love about their friends, teachers and the school. We had a blast celebrating the love we have for others and our school environment!*



Remember to use your child's name first before giving an instruction.

Say what you want your child to do rather than what you don't want e.g. Dont climb becomes feet on floor.



Following our Summer term Parent Questionnaire, we have been exploring the option of introducing an additional rucksack-style bag for children at school.

Children will continue to receive a free Reading Bag at the start of their time at Ladywood; however, there will also be an optional rucksack available for parents to purchase, which can hold more items.

Further information will follow soon.



# Celebrating World Book Day



## SEND Local Offer Website

Are you aware what's available for your child? The SEND Local Offer is there to provide a single point for information to help families access details about services available to them, and offer guidance in multiple areas. Please click on the link below for further information.

<https://www.bolton.gov.uk/sendlocaloffer/>



## Social Media at Ladywood

Join us on our new Facebook page!



Twitter



Instagram



## Ladywood Social Media

To keep up to date with all our latest news, please follow us on our various social media platforms.

# Welcome to Ladywood!



A huge welcome to Jeff Githinji, Shannon Higgins, Faye Heywood, Lauren Allum and Vicky Booth who have recently joined the Ladywood team.

At The National College, our [WakeUpWednesday](#) guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](https://nationalcollege.com).

## 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SUPPORTING SAFE USE OF AI

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is increasingly woven into young people's digital lives. It can offer some educational benefits and day-to-day assistance; however, it also raises concerns about misinformation, privacy, fairness, and safety. This guide provides parents and educators with practical strategies to support young people to navigate AI tools responsibly, and to use them safely and with discernment.

### 1 DEMYSTIFY WHAT AI REALLY IS

Children encounter AI in most online places, including games, streaming platforms, and school tools. Explain that AI uses patterns from past data to make decisions, but it doesn't think or feel like humans. Use age-appropriate examples, like how recommendations on YouTube or Netflix work, to build understanding and prevent false beliefs about AI being all-knowing or alive.

### 2 TALK ABOUT RISKS OF MISINFORMATION

AI can create convincing false information, including deepfake videos, photos, and fake facts. Encourage children to think critically about what they see and read. Teach them to double-check information using reliable sources, to look at images and videos carefully, and to ask an adult if something doesn't seem right.

### 3 DISCUSS DATA AND PRIVACY

Explain that AI systems learn by analysing lots of data, sometimes including personal information. Help young people to be mindful of what they share online and why protecting personal data matters. Model good habits like reading app permissions together or reviewing what's collected by voice assistants like Alexa or Siri.

### 4 ENCOURAGE CREATIVE USE OF AI

Support children, when using AI tools, to explore ideas, make art, or build projects. This fosters confidence, imagination, and independent thinking. When children use AI creatively, rather than just passively consuming it, they are more likely to stay engaged and make thoughtful choices.

### 5 USE AGE-APPROPRIATE AI TOOLS

Not all AI platforms are suitable for children. Choose tools designed for education or creativity, with clear safety policies. Review terms of use and privacy settings, and help children use them in age-appropriate ways. For example, some chatbot tools mimic conversation but should only be used with guidance and boundaries in place.

### 6 USE AI TOGETHER

Exploring AI tools together can help adults understand how they work and spot potential issues. Try co-writing a story with an AI writing assistant or experimenting with an AI art tool. This encourages curiosity, helps you stay informed about the latest AI tools, and allows you to reinforce safe and respectful use while modelling critical thinking.

### 7 SET BOUNDARIES FOR AI USE

Establish when, where, and how AI tools can be used, just as you would with any digital technology. For example, you might agree not to use AI tools to complete school assignments without permission, or to avoid unsupervised use of voice assistants. Consistent boundaries help manage overuse and misuse.

### 8 WATCH FOR OVERRELIANCE

Some AI tools, like homework help apps, may be tempting shortcuts. Encourage children to use AI to support their thinking, not replace it. Celebrate effort and process over perfect answers. Reinforce that mistakes are part of learning and that relying too heavily on AI can limit real understanding.

### 9 TEACH DIGITAL ETHICS AND LITERACY

Help children explore how AI works, where it might be biased, and why ethical thinking matters. Building digital literacy alongside ethical awareness ensures children engage with AI critically, not just conveniently. Help young people to understand that not all people use AI for legitimate purposes; some use it for malicious reasons. Encourage questions about fairness, representation, and who benefits from certain tools; talk about algorithms, echo chambers, and the impact of automation on daily life.

### 10 STAY CURIOUS AND INVOLVED

AI is developing rapidly, and staying informed helps you support the young people in your care. Follow trusted sources for updates and keep the conversation going. If a child brings up a new AI trend or tool, take the opportunity to learn about it together. Showing interest builds trust and strengthens digital resilience.

### Meet Our Expert

Home to the world's largest CPD library for educators, The National College has transformed the way education establishments go about developing their workforces and managing compliance. Our three memberships help all phases and types of setting raise standards, save time, reduce risk, and build a culture of improvement.

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

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@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

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## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION - ALLERGY AWARE**

A reminder that we are an 'Allergy Aware' school and therefore nuts should be avoided at all costs.

We have a number of children who are severely allergic to nuts and therefore these shouldn't be coming into school in any form.

Allergy Aware School



Thank you for your co-operation.

## **Medication Reminder**

A gentle reminder that any medication that needs to come into school needs to be brought by a parent/carer to Reception. Please do not send on transport. We need this medication signing into school and a medication administration form filling out by family.

Thank you.



## **Absences**

If your child is absent from school, it is important that you contact school and report your child's absence otherwise it will be recorded as unauthorised.

## **DIABETES TESTING**

Ladywood Primary School are working with the community research team from Salford Royal Hospital to offer testing for type 1 diabetes antibodies prior to any diabetes symptoms, which will allow children to be treated sooner preventing further complications. The testing involves a finger prick blood test, which will be carried out in school hours on 11th May. Results will be sent directly to the parent/ guardian via text message/ email within 6-12 weeks. If such antibodies are found the child will be referred to Alder Hey Children's Hospital for further testing, treatment and support. Follow this link for further information <https://www.elsadiabetes.nhs.uk/>

Please follow this link to consent your child to the study <https://www.elsadiabetes.nhs.uk/> . The consent process will take approximately 10 minutes and you will receive a confirmation email once it is fully complete. Please note the consent portal will close at midnight on 4th May.

If you have any questions or require support completing the informed consent form don't hesitate to contact the community research team on [community.research@nca.nhs.uk](mailto:community.research@nca.nhs.uk)

# Attendance Awareness for Families

Ladywood is committed to promoting and maintaining high levels of attendance and punctuality, to ensure the best outcomes for all our children.

It is therefore a Parent's/Carer's responsibility to:

- Ensure your child is in school by 9:30 am and picked up no earlier than 2:30 pm unless you have an appointment (please arrange appointments outside school hours where possible)
- Report absences by 8:30 am and provide medical evidence when required
- Provide the setting with more than 1 emergency contact number

## Authorised Absence Includes:

- Illness and medical/dental appointments (please make school aware of these in advance)
- Religious observance for 1 day
- Other possible 'exceptional circumstances' where the Head may grant term-time holiday. However if this is unauthorised due to attendance then a fine may be incurred.

**Leave of Absence** MUST be completed at least 2 weeks prior to a holiday or this will be considered UNAUTHORISED. We cannot complete this paperwork after the trip has occurred.

**Unauthorised Absence** could incur a Penalty Notice and fines starting from £80 up to £160. Further unauthorised absence could lead to Legal Action.

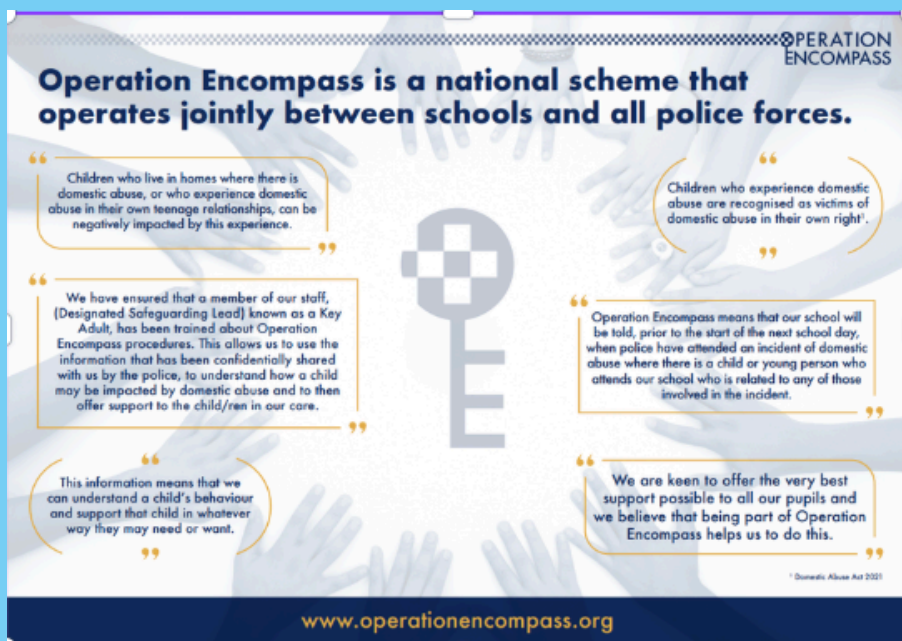
**Unexplained Absence** - where any pupil we expect to attend school does not attend, or stops attending, without reason, the school will:

- Day 1 and/or Day 2: Contact parents/carers by telephone to confirm a pupil's absence
- Day 3: If a pupil is still absent, and we have been unable to contact a parent/carers, a home visit will be completed.

If your child's attendance falls below 90% you may be notified in writing.

If your child's attendance falls below 80% you may be offered an attendance review meeting to discuss any support required.

We endeavour to support all our children in having a positive attendance. Should you require any further support please do not hesitate to contact school and we would be happy to work with yourselves to improve attendance.



**Operation Encompass is a national scheme that operates jointly between schools and all police forces.**

OPERATION ENCOMPASS

Children who live in homes where there is domestic abuse, or who experience domestic abuse in their own teenage relationships, can be negatively impacted by this experience.

Children who experience domestic abuse are recognised as victims of domestic abuse in their own right.

We have ensured that a member of our staff, (Designated Safeguarding Lead) known as a Key Adult, has been trained about Operation Encompass procedures. This allows us to use the information that has been confidentially shared with us by the police, to understand how a child may be impacted by domestic abuse and to then offer support to the child/ren in our care.

Operation Encompass means that our school will be told, prior to the start of the next school day, when police have attended an incident of domestic abuse where there is a child or young person who attends our school who is related to any of those involved in the incident.

This information means that we can understand a child's behaviour and support that child in whatever way they may need or want.

We are keen to offer the very best support possible to all our pupils and we believe that being part of Operation Encompass helps us to do this.

[www.operationencompass.org](http://www.operationencompass.org)

© Domestic Abuse Act 2021

## Operation Encompass

Ladywood School is in partnership with Bolton Safeguarding Board and Greater Manchester Police in a project called "Bolton Encompass". The project is designed to provide support for children who may be impacted on by domestic violence. Information from Encompass will be shared with school who will ensure that appropriate supportive strategies are put in place.

To access the Operation Encompass website, please click on the link below:  
<https://www.operationencompass.org/>



September 2025							October 2025							November 2025										
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	
36	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	40			1	2	3	4	5	44							1	2
37	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	41	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	45	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
38	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	42	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	46	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
39	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	43	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	47	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
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December 2025							January 2026							February 2026									
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49	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1				1	2	3	4	5							1
50	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	2	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	6	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
51	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	3	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	7	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
52	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	4	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	8	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
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March 2026							April 2026							May 2026										
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	
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10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	15	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	19	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
11	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
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14	30	31																						

June 2026							July 2026							August 2026										
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23	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	27			1	2	3	4	5	31							1	2
24	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	28	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	32	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
25	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	29	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	33	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
26	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	30	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	34	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
27	29	30						31	27	28	29	30	31			35	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
															36	31								

The dates that are shaded in Gold are the days children and young people are not in school.

The dates written in Red are Bank Holidays



Woodbridge Trust Holiday List 2026-2027

September 2026							October 2026							November 2026									
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
36		1	2	3	4	5	6	40				1	2	3	4	44							1
37	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	41	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	45	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
38	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	42	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	46	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
39	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	43	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	47	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
40	28	29	30					44	26	27	28	29	30	31	48	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
															49	30							

December 2026							January 2027							February 2027									
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
49		1	2	3	4	5	6	53					1	2	3	5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
50	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	1	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	6	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
51	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	2	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	7	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
52	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	3	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	8	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
53	28	29	30	31				4	25	26	27	28	29	30	31								

March 2027							April 2027							May 2027										
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9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	13				1	2	3	4	17							1	2
10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	18	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
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12	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	16	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	20	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
13	29	30	31					17	26	27	28	29	30			21	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
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June 2027							July 2027							August 2027									
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22		1	2	3	4	5	6	26				1	2	3	4	30							1
23	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	27	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	31	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
24	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	28	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	32	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
25	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	29	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	33	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
26	28	29	30					30	26	27	28	29	30	31	34	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
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