



Gilbertstone Primary School



September 2025
Newsletter

What a lovely start to the new school year!

As we settle into the new academic year, it's been a joy to see our school community come alive with energy, kindness, and a real commitment to learning. A special welcome to all our new families, especially our new Reception families - your children have settled in beautifully and are already becoming part of the Gilbertstone family. Across the school, we've been impressed by the positive behaviour and attitudes to learning shown by our pupils. It's clear that everyone is ready to make this year a successful one. Our dedicated staff have been working incredibly hard to create exciting, engaging learning experiences, and it's been wonderful to see the impact already.

Here are just a few highlights from this term so far:

- **Skills Builder Challenge Day:** Pupils became detectives for the day, investigating a thrilling crime scene to uncover who stole the chocolate!
- **Year 6 WWII History Workshop:** A hands-on experience that brought history to life and deepened understanding of this important era.
- **Year 3 Volcano Projects:** Stunning models and research are now proudly on display in school - come and take a look!

We're proud of how our children are embracing new challenges and showing resilience, creativity, and teamwork. It's shaping up to be a fantastic year, and we're excited for all that's still to come.

Thank you for your continued support, and here's to a brilliant autumn term ahead! *Mrs O'Reilly*

Harvest Festival

As usual, we are looking to do a Harvest Festival collection in school. We will be donating our collection to Birmingham Sifa Fireside Charity who are a charity that are based in Birmingham City Centre and support the homeless. We would really appreciate any donations that we could collect for the mission.



The following items are the most useful for them -

Instant coffee, baked beans, fruit squash, instant snacks (i.e pot noodles) tinned vegetables, tinned meat or fish, tinned soup, sugar, cereal, chocolate, biscuits, crisps, soft drinks and any non perishable snacks.

Please can they start being sent in to school after **Monday 6 October**

The Charity are so very grateful for your support and the help that you are giving to some of our most vulnerable Birmingham residents. Thank you so much.

We are incredibly grateful to 'Leo's Legacy Foundation' who have given us the opportunity to install a Bleed Control Cabinet. This is located on the outside of the school fence on the corner of Brindle Close and Clay Lane. This act of support reflects our commitment not only to the safety of pupils but also to the wider community. With knife crime increasingly affecting younger children, the presence of this life-saving resource is more important than ever.

Leo's Legacy was founded in memory of 12-year-old Leo, who was fatally stabbed. Leo's fundraiser was launched just two days after his tragic loss. Their goal was to create something meaningful to ensure that what happened to Leo would never happen to another child. With guidance from The Daniel Baird Foundation, a GoFundMe campaign was started. Thanks to the generosity of their supporters, they raised £24,760, which has enabled the installation of 37 publicly accessible bleed control cabinets across the region.



Dates for your diary... so far!

Please note these dates are always subject to change and it is not a definitive list. Thank you!

Date	Event
Wednesday 24 September	Year 4 Samba Workshop
Thursday 25 September	Year 1P Reading Workshop 8.45am
Tuesday 30 September	Year 1W Reading Workshop 8.45am
Wednesday 1 October	Reception Reading Meeting 8.50am
Tuesday 7 October	Year 2D Spelling Workshop 8.45am
Thursday 9 October	Year 2L Spelling Workshop 8.45am
Monday 13 October	Walk around for prospective Reception 3.45pm
Tuesday 14 October	School photos
Tuesday 14 October	Parents Evening 3.30pm - 6.00pm
Wednesday 15 October	Year 2 Class Assembly 8.50am
Thursday 16 October	Parents Evening 3.30pm - 6.00pm
Tuesday 21 October	Halloween Disco Years 1/2
Friday 24 October	Break up for half term
Monday 3 November	Children return to school
Monday 6 October	Year 4,5,6
Monday 10 November	Walk around for prospective Reception 3.45pm
Tuesday 11 November	Year 5 trip to Think Tank
Wednesday 12 November	Year 2 African Drumming Workshop
Tuesday 25 November	Flu Vaccinations Rec-Y6
Thursday 27 November	Year 4 trip to Cadbury World
Monday 1 December	3P to visit Church
Monday 2 December	3C to visit Church
Wednesday 17 December	Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper day
Thursday 18 December	Party day and Christmas disco
Friday 19 December	Break up for Christmas
Monday 5 January	School closed for training day
Tuesday 6 January	School closed for training day
Wednesday 7 January	Children return to school



We will update you more in the October newsletter but we are just letting you know that Mrs Draper will be retiring at October half term after many years at Gilbertstone!



Car Parking

We're asking for your continued support to ensure the safety of our pupils, families, and staff during drop-off and pick-up times.

Unfortunately, we've received reports of unsafe and illegal parking outside the school, including U-turns and vehicles blocking the caretaker's house entrance, an emergency access point. We understand mornings can be hectic, but please consider using a **Park and Stride** approach - parking a short distance away and walking the rest. It helps reduce congestion and keeps everyone safe. Let's work together to maintain a safe and welcoming environment for all.

Marble Jar rewards

Well done to the following classes who have already earned their first marble jar awards - 2D, 3C, 5I, 6M & 6S. All of the classes chose to have a non school uniform day as their reward. Well done to all of the children for filling their jars already!



Volcano Projects

Year 3 have produced some fabulous Volcano projects! Thank you to the parents who have supported their children with their marvellous creations. They are all on display in our foyer area for all to admire. Well done Year 3!

