



Gilbertstone Primary School

January 2026 Newsletter



Welcome back to the Spring Term!

Happy New Year and a very warm welcome back to all our children, families, and staff. I hope you enjoyed a restful break and had the chance to spend time with loved ones. As we begin the new term, we are excited for the learning, opportunities, and experiences ahead.

This term is always a wonderful time for children to make fresh starts, set new goals, and continue growing in confidence. Our staff are ready to support them every step of the way.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We look forward to seeing you at our February Parents' Evening and sharing your child's successes.

Fantastic news!

We're delighted to share that **ABM**, our new catering provider has been awarded a **5 star rating** following a recent inspection by the local **Environmental Health Officer (EHO)**.

A 5 star rating is the **highest score** in the UK Food Hygiene Rating Scheme and reflects **excellent standards** across all areas of food safety. This means:

- Food is handled safely and hygienically
- Our kitchen and facilities are clean, well maintained, and well organised
- Effective measures are in place to prevent pests
- Robust food safety management systems are followed every day
- Staff are well trained, knowledgeable and committed to high standards. This top rating shows our continued commitment to ensuring a safe, clean, and high quality food environment for all children. Well done and Thank you to Daniel and the team!

School meals

Our catering company, ABM Catering will be attending the evenings and on hand to offer some advice about our school meals provision, what is on offer and they may even have some tasty samples to hand out!

Did you know that your child may be entitled to **Free School Meals**? Even if you're not sure, it's always worth checking with the **school office**, as many families discover they qualify without realising it. The process is quick and confidential, and if eligible, your child will benefit every day.

We're proud to offer a **nutritious, varied, and exciting school menu**, with healthy options that the children love.

Our kitchen team works hard to provide balanced meals that fuel learning, support wellbeing, and introduce pupils to new foods in a positive way.

If your child is entitled to Free School Meals, please take advantage of this fantastic support — it ensures they receive a wholesome, freshly prepared meal each day.

Parents Evenings

Parents evenings are taking place next week on **Tuesday 3 February and Thursday 5 February**. If you haven't booked your appointment yet you can do this via the school website or call the school office for some help.

Year 5 Projects

Year 5 have produced some amazing projects all about the ocean! They look fabulous in our school foyer. So much hard work and creativity has gone in to their projects, thank you to parents who have supported at home!



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

Dates for your diary... so far!

Date	Event
Tuesday 3 February	Parents Evening 3.30pm - 6.00pm
Thursday 5 February	Parents Evening 3.30pm - 6.00pm
Friday 13 February	Break up for Half Term
Monday 23 February	Children return to school
Wednesday 25 February	Year 5 Ancient Greece Workshop
Thursday 26 February	Rec & Year 1 Animal Workshop
Friday 13 March	Year 6 Strictly Ballroom Workshop
Tuesday 17 March	Year 4 Multiplication Check meeting for parents 8.50am
Thursday 19 March	Year 3 Egyptian Workshop
Friday 27 March	Break up for Easter holidays
Monday 13 April	Children return to school
Tuesday 21 April	Year 5 Gurdwara Trip
Thursday 30 April	Year 1 Chinese Lion Dance Workshop
Thursday 30 April	Year 2 Black Country Museum Trip
Thursday 5 March	World Book Day
Monday 4 May	School Closed Bank Holiday
Wednesday 6 May	Year 2 Morris Dancing Workshop
Thursday 7 May	School Closed for Voting Day
Friday 22 May	Break up for Whitsun holiday
Monday 1 June	Children return to school
Wednesday 17 June	Year 5 Sound of the musicals workshop
Thursday 18 June	Year 3 trip to Bosworth
Thursday 2 July	Year 6 trip to Umberslade
Tuesday 14 July	Year 6 Prom 5.00pm - 6.30pm
Friday 17 July	Year 6 Leavers Assembly 8.50am
Friday 17 July	Break up for Summer Holidays
Monday 20 July	Training Day



Parking in the local area

We have recently received a growing number of concerns from local residents and members of our school community regarding unsafe parking and poor driving behaviour outside the school gates.

We fully appreciate that drop-off and pick-up times are extremely busy, and that space in the surrounding area can be limited. However, we kindly ask all parents and carers to be mindful of the safety of others - particularly the children who use these routes every day.

Please avoid stopping on zig-zag lines, blocking driveways, mounting pavements, or parking in a way that reduces visibility for pedestrians. Even small lapses in judgement can create significant risks during these busy periods. We appreciate that most of our families do park safely and would appeal to those who cause an issue to please think of others.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Young Voices

A huge well done to our school choir, who represented us brilliantly at Young Voices at the BP Pulse Arena! Their performance was fantastic, and they behaved beautifully throughout the event — the children are a real credit to the school.

Our sincere thanks go to Mrs Kane for her hard work and dedication in preparing the choir, and to all the staff who supported the trip. Also, thank you to our parents for supporting this event! We are incredibly proud of everyone involved, congratulations!

Marble Jar Awards

Well done to all of the classes who have filled their marble jars and enjoyed their chosen reward! 5I & 4K have enjoyed a non uniform day, 3C had a parachute session, 4S were very creative with their art session and 3P chose to have extra play (good choice!). We look forward to lots more classes filling their jars and enjoying a treat very soon.

