The Ewyas Herald

Friday 2nd October 2026
Issue 3

Dear Parents and Carers

A key aim of Ewyas Harold is to ensure that every child feels they 'belong' and are a valued member of our school community. Being in school regularly plays a vital part in this. Every day brings opportunities to learn, build friendships, develop confidence and share experiences with classmates and staff.

Even relatively small amounts of absence can add up. Over a school year of around 190 days:

- 95% attendance means approximately 9½ days of school missed
- 90% attendance means approximately 19 days missed, almost four school weeks
- 85% attendance means approximately 28½ days missed, nearly six school weeks

When children are absent, they do not just miss individual lessons. They can miss important steps in a sequence of learning, opportunities to practise and consolidate new skills, conversations with teachers, and the everyday experiences that help them feel connected to their class.

We fully understand and agree that there are times when children are genuinely too unwell to attend and the right place is to be at home to get better. We also know that sometimes circumstances can be challenging. If attendance is becoming difficult for any reason, please talk to us as early as possible. There may be ways in which we can help.

In a small school, every child really does matter and every child is noticed when they are not here. Thank you for working with us to give our children the best possible opportunity to learn, belong and thrive.

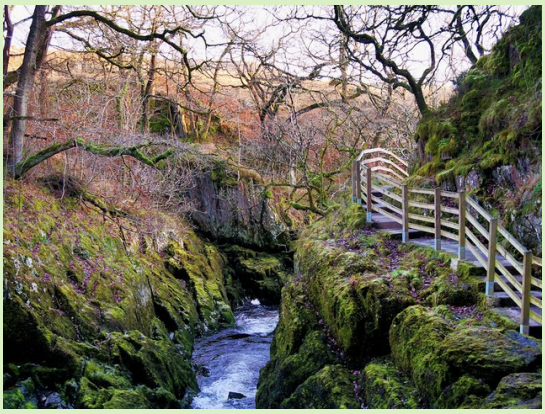
Mr Foster

Dear Parents, Carers and members of our community,

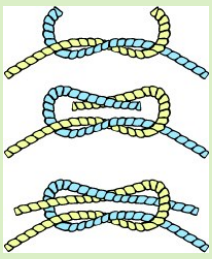
Hello all!

Summer now feels like a distant memory, and the new school year is well underway. With new changes upon Ewyas Harold, I wanted to take the opportunity to reflect on my own time at our wonderful primary school. With the Year 6 pupils currently on their residential trip, I thought it would be the perfect time to reflect on some of my own experiences.

As a child, outdoor activities never really suited me. My close friends and family will know that I am not a fan of getting my hands dirty, bad weather or, for that matter, cold nights' sleep! If I am honest, the thought of Dolygaer at the time filled me with dread.



However, to my surprise, it became one of the most enriching experiences I had during my time at Ewyas Harold. I particularly remember enjoying gorge walking – a complete surprise for someone who does not enjoy getting their hair wet! In fact, my parents still remind me that I told them Dolygaer was better than our own family holidays!



Experiences like this are what a school focused on enrichment should be all about: challenging pupils to push themselves out of their comfort zones, learning new skills that stay with them (I still remember how to tie a reef knot!), and developing the resilience and humour to see the light in difficult situations.

I hope the Year 6 pupils have enjoyed their trip and, perhaps, discovered something about themselves that they didn't expect!

Thank you,

Eve Jones

Find this newsletter and lots of other useful information on our school website: www.ewyasharoldprimaryschool.co.uk/

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Congratulations to the following children who were awarded Star and Value certificates in assembly

	Last Week		This Week	
Pre-school			Alfie	Raya
Dulas	Imogen	Astrid	Phoebe	Luana
Monnow	Leala	Jonty	Freddie E	Billie
Wye	Harper	Ellie	Lily P	Atlas

Wonderful increases this week and our table looks so great. Two classes over the target we aspire to, and the other two classes very close. LOOK AT THE OVERALL! 0.01% away from target. Keep up the good work everyone.

Our target for the year is 97%

Percentage attendance with authorised and unauthorised absences for each class for the year to date		Unauthorised Absences
Class Dulas	97.53% ⇩	1.24%
Class Monnow	97.09% ⇧	0.0%
Class Severn	96.79% ⇧	1.49%
Class Wye	96.70% ⇧	1.54%
Total Percentage	96.99% ⇧	1.16%

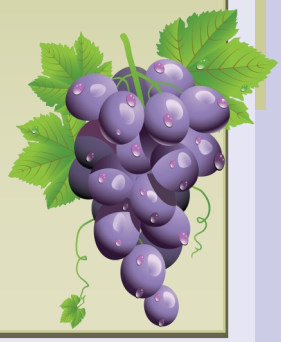
NUTELLA

Nutella contains nuts and as a 'Nut Free' school we ask that parents refrain from putting Nutella in sandwiches for school please.

GRAPES

Key safety rules:

- Cut lengthwise, never width wise: slicing a grape across the middle leaves a round disc shape that is still the exact size of a child's windpipe and can form a tight seal. Cutting lengthwise changes the shape and allows air to pass if the piece gets stuck.
- No fixed cut-off age: There is no exact age to stop cutting grapes. Continue cutting them if you child eats quickly, gets easily distracted or excited while eating, or does not always sit still to chew properly.



Diary

OCT	7th	AM	Yr R vision screening
	8th	2:30	Harvest Festival in church - all welcome
	14th		Open day for prospective parents and pupils
	16th	AM	Whole school nasal flu vaccination
	~~19th & 20th~~		~~Bikeability for Yr5 pupils~~ Rescheduled for December
	26th-30th		Half term week
NOV	2nd		Back to school
	5th, 6th, 9th, 10th & 11th	3:00-4:15	Book fair in school
	9th & 11th	3:30-5:30	Parents Evenings
Dec	7th & 8th		Yr5 Bikeability
	11th	9:00	Rock Steady concert
	17th		Last day of term (Thursday)