



Oldbury Park
Primary School

Oldbury Observer - Spring Term Edition

8

Mr Irving's Comment

In the last fortnight we have had opportunity to share an insight into teaching and learning at Oldbury Park with several external partners. Our Early Years provision has been reviewed by the CRST Director of Early Years along with Amanda King MBE (Early Years consultant), we have been visited by an accredited expert Maths Lead from the GLOW Maths Hub and our School Improvement Partner has conducted a review of teaching and learning across the school. Each of these reviews have highlighted that our aims are clear, our efforts consistent and impactful. The calm atmosphere in our classrooms, the pride our children take in their work and consistency in our approaches to teaching and learning were noted by our visitors. My thanks to the staff and children for their investment and effort in our school and to you, our families, for supporting our shared aims.

A number of weeks ago our Kindness Champions led an assembly to teach our pupils the importance of our three powerful words that help us 'Stop. Help. Report.' Please do take the time to talk to your children about the importance of reporting any concerns to a member of staff as early as possible - they may choose to approach one of their 'trusted adults' or use their 'talking peg' to get help. Thank you for making World Book Day a success – it was brilliant to see so many inventive costumes and imaginatively decorated potatoes! Have a lovely weekend.

Mobile Phones

Many of our pupils in Year 5 and Year 6 have access to mobile phones. Only Year 6 children are permitted to have phones on the school site (which are not used during the school day). We are aware that many of our pupils use phones frequently at home. Having a mobile phone is a very big responsibility often very difficult for primary age children to manage. Using texts, apps and social media well is incredibly challenging, and many children do not yet have the skill or confidence to manage this. Misjudged messages can harm friendships, damage reputations and can, left unchecked, develop into bullying. We encourage all parents to consider the burden that mobile phones put on the health of their

children. As a minimum parental duty, parents should be carefully monitoring their children's use of their phones or devices to protect them, and others, from harm. You may find this guidance from the NSPCC useful [Children and technology: Age-appropriate usage advice | NSPCC](#)

SEND White Paper – a message from the CRST Director of Education

We want to reassure all parents, and carers across Central Region Schools Trust following the release of the SEND White Paper. Moments of national policy change can naturally prompt questions, but our commitment remains steady: every child in our care deserves the right support, at the right time, delivered with dignity and ambition. Across CRST, our distinctive culture is built on inclusion, collaboration, and the belief that every learner can thrive. This culture will continue to guide our response as we review the proposals in detail. We welcome the White Paper's focus on consistency and early intervention, and we will work closely with families to understand what the changes may mean in practice. Parents and carers are essential partners in shaping the best possible provision for children with SEND. Your insight, advocacy, and lived experience help us make thoughtful decisions, and we will continue to involve you openly as the national picture becomes clearer. Our schools will maintain regular communication and ensure that any developments are shared promptly and transparently. All governors will also be provided with this information to ensure a consistent and informed approach across our Trust. Thank you for your continued trust in us. Together, we will ensure that every child in our community feels known, supported, and able to flourish.

Ian Mellor

Director of Education

The Week Ahead

Thursday 12th March Y1 Cluster Multi Sports event at the Uni - details sent by text on Friday.

Thursday 12th March - Year 4 History Trip (Please see letter)

Friday 13th March- Year 2 to University- PE

School Dates

Wednesday 18th March - 5pm in main hall - Year 6 SATs information briefing (30 mins)

Friday 20th March - Comic relief: non-uniform day for a small donation

Monday 23rd March - 2.45-3.10pm Spring Parade for KS1. Letter and details to follow next week.

Tuesday 21st April- Year 2 to The Commandery (TBC)

Term Dates

Academic Year 2025 to 2026

Term dates Academic Year 2025 to 2026		
Holiday	School closes on	School re-opens on
Autumn Term	Not Applicable	Monday 1 September 2025
Autumn mid-term	Friday 24 October 2025	Monday 3 November 2025
Christmas	Friday 19 December 2025	Monday 5 January 2026
Spring mid-term	Friday 13 February 2026	Monday 23 February 2026
Easter	Friday 27 March 2026	Monday 13 April 2026
Summer mid-term	Friday 22 May 2026	Monday 1 June 2026
End of summer term	Monday 20 July 2026	Not Applicable

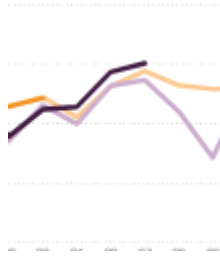
Academic Year 2026 to 2027

Term Dates for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools for the academic year 2026 to 2027.

Holiday	School closes on	School re-opens on
Autumn Term	Not applicable	Tuesday 1 September 2026
Autumn mid-term	Friday 23 October 2026	Monday 2 November 2026
Christmas	Friday 18 December 2026	Monday 4 January 2027
Spring mid-term	Friday 12 February 2027	Monday 22 February 2027
Easter	Thursday 25 March 2027	Monday 12 April 2027
Summer mid-term	Friday 28 May 2027	Monday 7 June 2027
End of summer term	Wednesday 21 July 2027	Not applicable

Attendance - IMPORTANT for ALL Families

I'm delighted to say that this week has we have achieved our highest school wide attendance for some time. The sun and warmer weather has arrived and each day only a few children have been absent from school: some for medical appointments and some who have unfortunately been too poorly to attend school. The image below shows an upward trend after understandable winter illnesses. (the dark line is our current attendance and the orange national attendance in the last academic year). We are nearly 1% better off (in attendance terms this is a significant gain) compared to the same time last year and we are now aiming to maintain this improvement through to the end of the year.



SPRING PARADE



Monday 23rd March 2026

Reception, Y1 and Y2 2.45-3.10pm

Children are invited to wear a "Spring Hat" to celebrate the arrival of spring!

Parents are invited to arrive on the KS1 playground at 2.40pm ready for a 2.45pm start. The children will sing you some songs and then parade around the playground. We hope you can join us.

For safety we will then take the children back inside before dismissing them out of their usual doors.

Year 3 and Year 4

This year we are inviting Y3 and 4 children to make a hat and join the Spring Parade if they would like to. They can listen to the songs and join in the parade being watched by Reception, Y1 and Y2 parents.

Reception

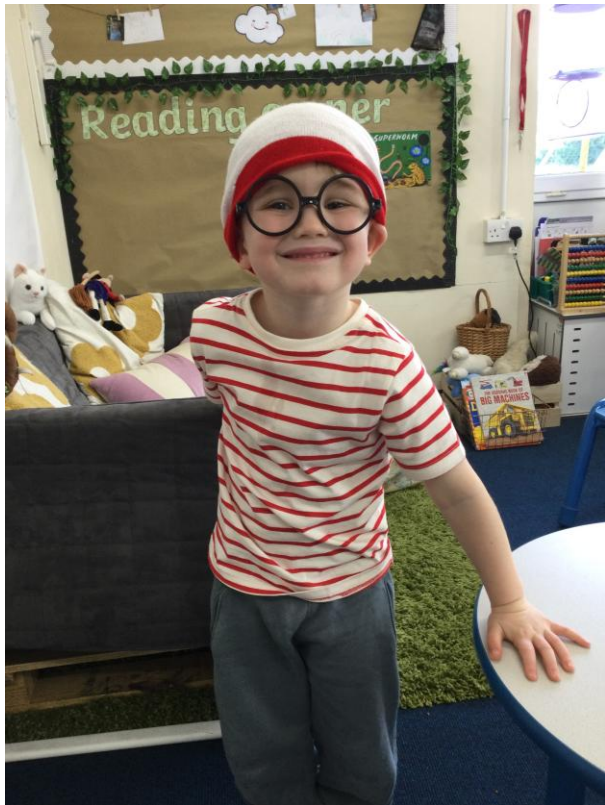
What an amazing effort from all the children in Reception for World Book Day! The costumes were fantastic and we had a beautiful selection of books which the children shared with each other. Thank you for your efforts to help our day feel so special.

It was lovely to hear the children talking so positively about reading. Lots of comments were made about how children love reading with their grown-ups at home, sharing books with friends, and visiting local libraries. Carriage class also visited the school library, which was a really nice thing to do.

During the day, the children used their phonics skills to write speech bubbles to put alongside their photographs, saying who they were. We were really impressed as there were definitely some tricky character names to sound out!















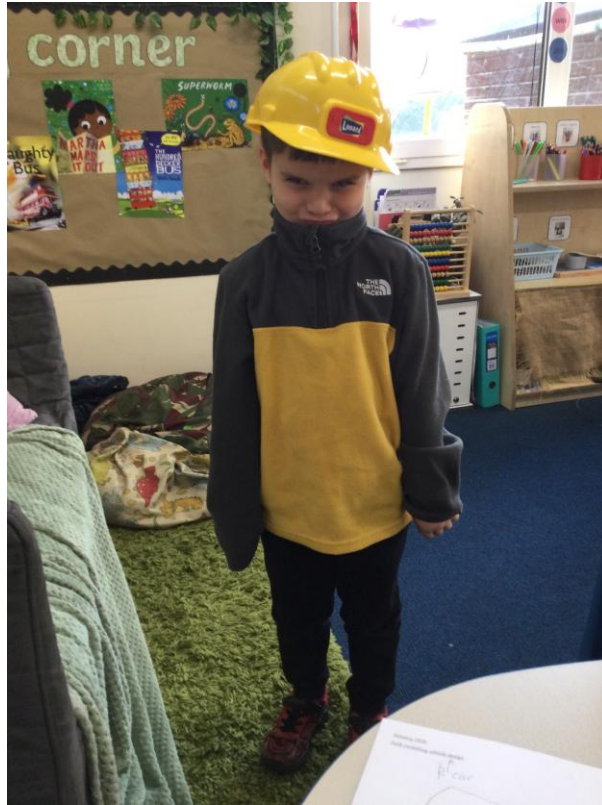


















World Book Day!
Thursday 5th March

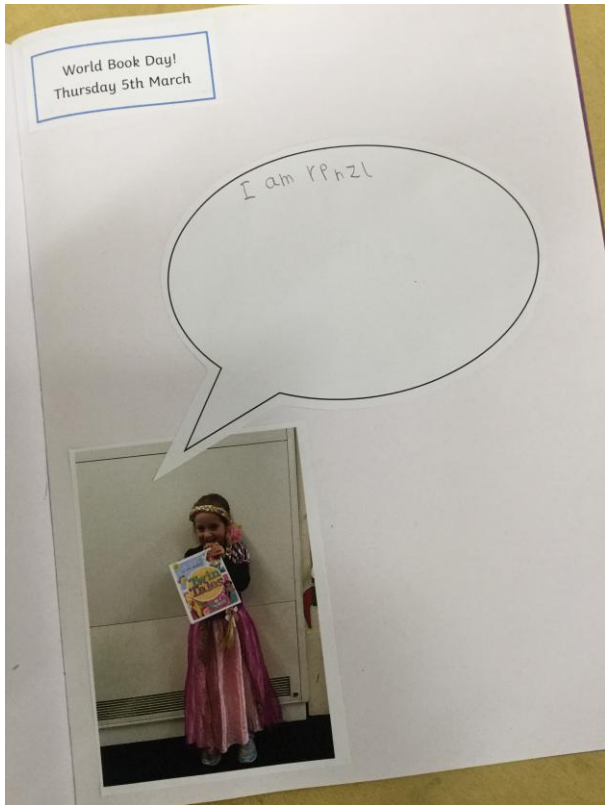
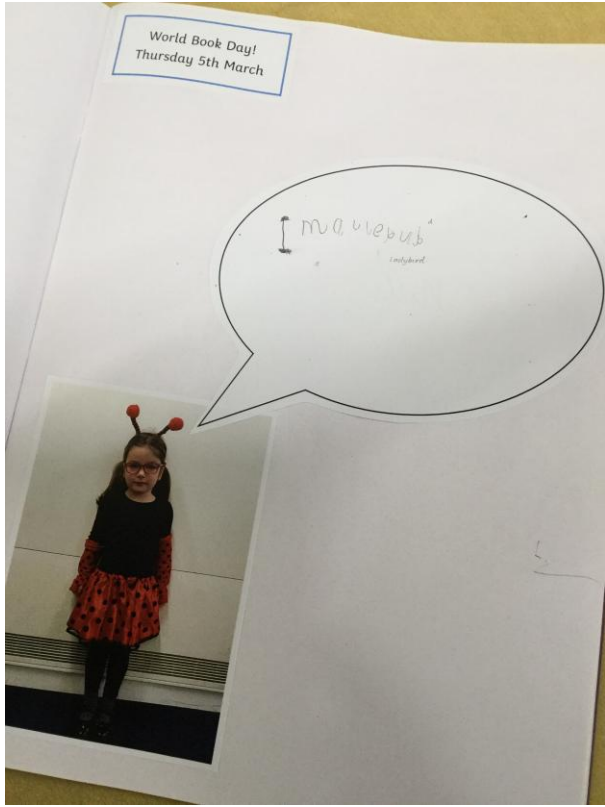
I am a
bunny
I can hop



World Book Day!
Thursday 5th March

I am a pet





World Book Day!
Thursday 5th March

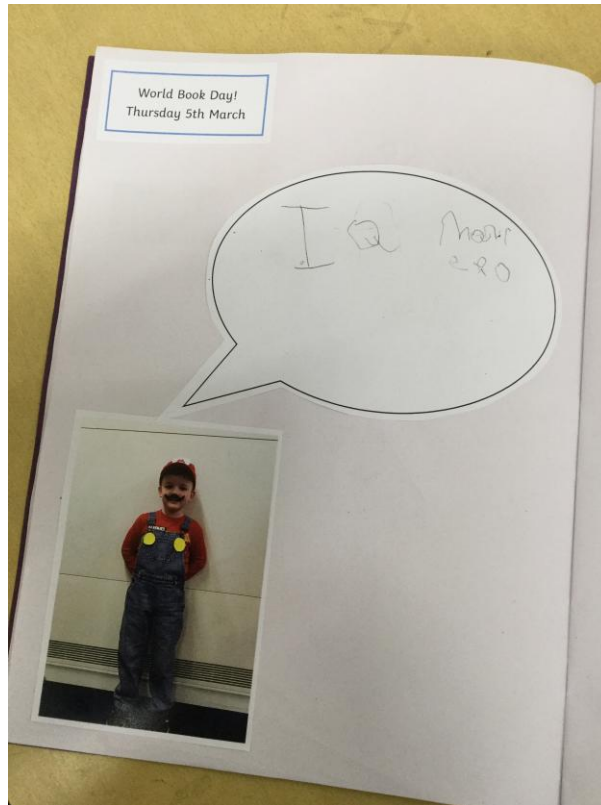
I am
Jant



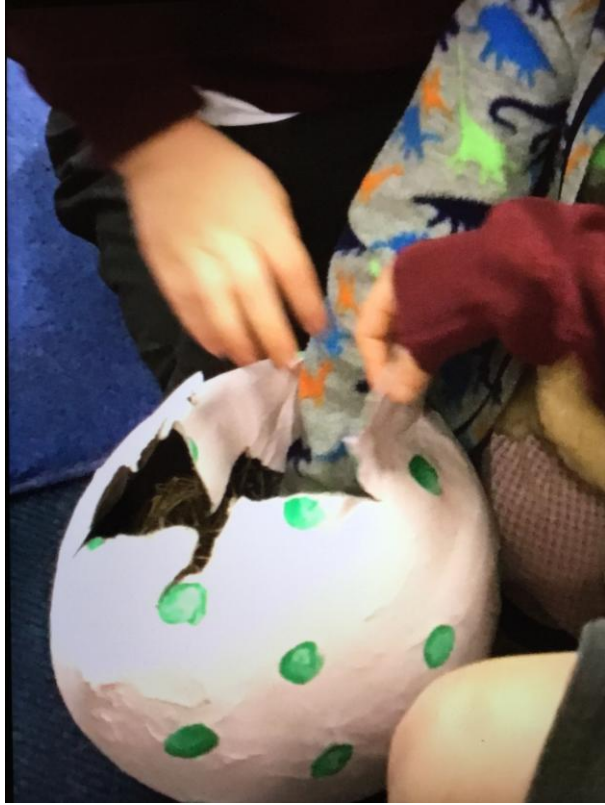
World Book Day!
Thursday 5th March

I am
Sam





As we came into school on Monday morning, our Odd Eggs had hatched! The children noticed that there were footprints leading out to the outdoor area, but no crocodile. Investigations took place, checking and measuring the footprints, and the children looked for clues outside. Eventually, a little baby crocodile (teddy!) was found safe and sound. Well done, Reception!





Year 1

Wow - what a fun World Book Day we have had. Thank you for all the amazing costumes, the children looked fantastic.











Year 2

Year 2 visited St Johns Library to meet author/illustrator Petr Horáček. Pupils listened attentively to his stories and watched demonstrations of how illustrations are created. Miss Jones has brought the illustrations back to school! They behaved brilliantly for the whole session and were very excited to see his work. The children were also pleased to receive a new book to keep from the World Book Day book selection. Ask your child which part they enjoyed most — and if possible, visit your local library together this week!











Year 3

In Maths, we have continued to develop our understanding of key concepts.

- KIRFs: We are focusing on our 4 times table, so please continue practising this at home on TTRS.
- We explored tenths as decimals, helping children understand the link between fractions and decimals.
- The children worked on mixed fraction and tenths reasoning questions, explaining their thinking carefully.
- Later in the week, we moved on to equivalent fractions, beginning with exploratory activities before recording our learning in books.

English

In English, we have been developing our grammar knowledge and applying it to our writing.

- We practised writing in the first person in preparation for diary writing.
- The children began drafting their diary entries, focusing on structure and detail.

- We worked on using the present perfect tense accurately in sentences and in our writing openings.
- Grammar and spelling sessions have continued throughout the week.
- We also enjoyed a special World Book Day activity to celebrate reading.

Reading

We had a fantastic time celebrating World Book Day this week. The children enjoyed taking part in special reading activities and sharing their love of books with one another. It was wonderful to see their enthusiasm for stories and characters, and the day helped to reinforce the importance of reading for pleasure.





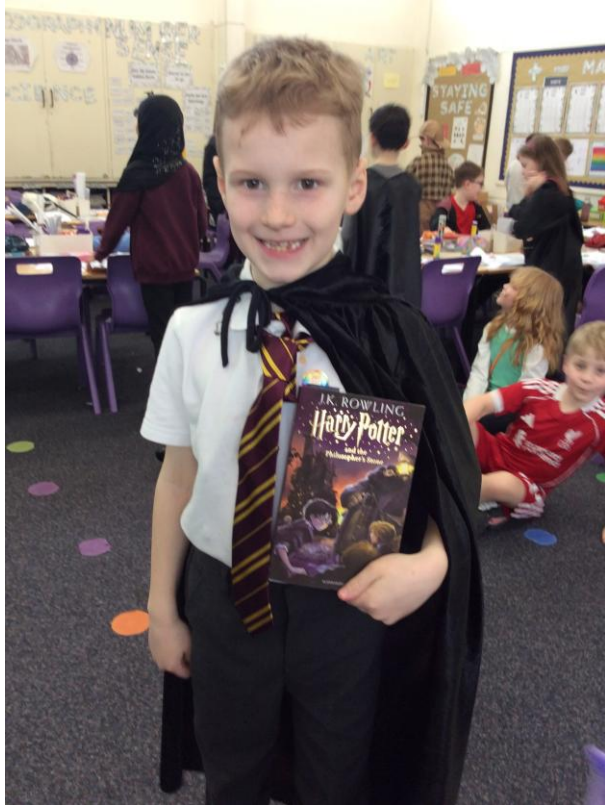




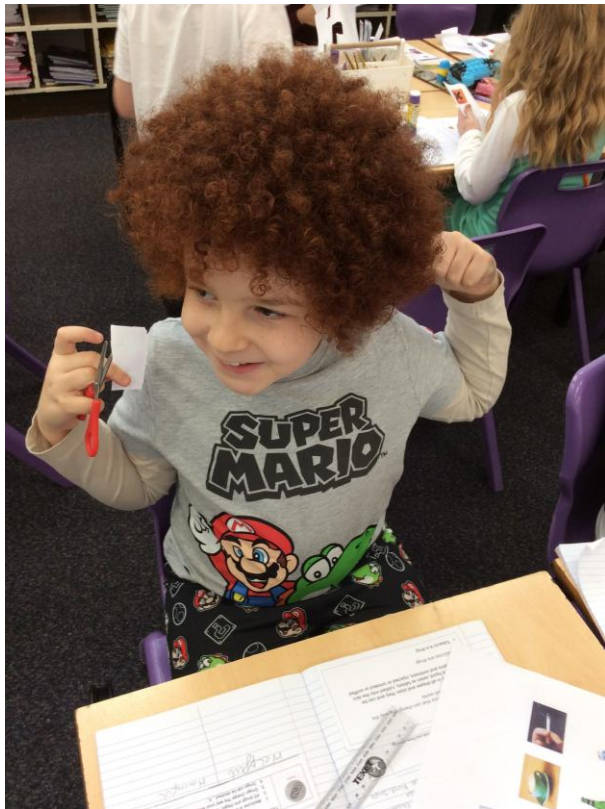














































Year 4

World Book Day:

Thank you all for making a great effort on World Book Day. You can see some of the incredible efforts below in the photos, it was a pleasure welcoming the children into the classroom on Thursday.

We completed some activities based on some well-known stories throughout the day and talked with each other about our costumes and books that inspired them.

TTRS:

Thank you to those of you who supported the children at our Times Table event last Thursday, it was wonderful to see so many people.

Hopefully, you have received the letters and other information via text which you may not have been given on the day.

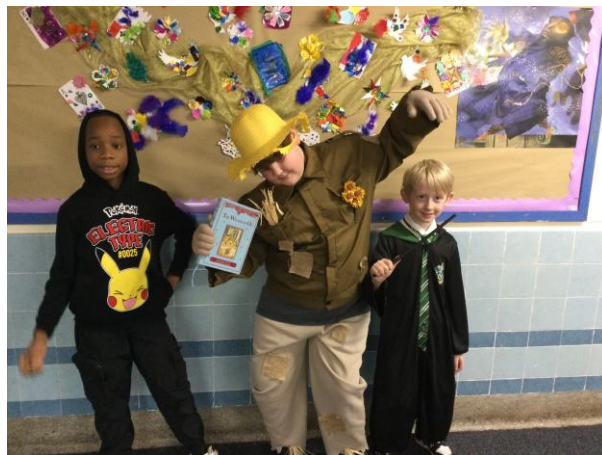
Now is the time to support the children in the learning of their times tables, this knowledge plays an incredibly large part of their future maths careers.

TTRS recommend 3 minutes a day to help the children learn the times tables they need. A consistent and frequent approach will allow the children to become confident and accurate.









Year 5

Last Thursday, Year 5 visited Bishop's Wood for a day of learning all about the Anglo Saxon way of life. This forms part of our History topic where the children have been comparing their way of life with that of the Mayan era. The children thoroughly enjoyed the day and took part in a range of activities such as den building, wool weaving, and broach and clay pot making. The children also learnt how the Anglo Saxons would have made a fire for cooking and to keep warm whilst hunting, and they were able to sit inside an Anglo Saxon house and were excited to ask questions about the way of life. The children all engaged well with the day and represented Oldbury Park with pride.

This week, we also had a visit from the Sea Cadets. The children learnt what it's like to be a cadet, the uniform they wore and how it can be made into a career. They also then conducted an experiment to see if they could make a boat out of tin foil that floated when filled with marbles!













Year 6

What a wonderfully thoughtful week it's been at Oldbury Park! In Maths, we've been getting hands-on, mastering the art of measuring and drawing angles with real precision. Our geography work has really sparked some brilliant debates, too, as we've explored the complex issue of deforestation from a variety of viewpoints – it's so important to see all sides! And in English, our adventure into 'Journey to the River Sea' has seen us making some fantastic first impressions of the characters, expertly justifying our thoughts with compelling evidence from the text. It's been wonderful to watch everyone's insights grow!

It was also great to see so many characters on World Book Day. Thank you for supporting the children with this. As part of our day, we took part in a trust wide competition creating characters and bookmarks for various suggested book title ideas.

MAB

This week we have been exploring **rhyming words through *The Gruffalo*** and using them to help create our own imaginative stories. The children worked really hard and we are very proud of the creativity and confidence they showed in their writing, and illustrations.

We had a fantastic **World Book Day**, and everyone looked amazing in their costumes while celebrating their love of books and stories. We finished the week at **Forest School**, where the dry weather allowed for lots of collaborative play, problem-solving and teamwork as the children explored and learned together outdoors.









Contact Us



If you wish to get in touch with the school, please use the following details:

Oldbury Park Primary School

Oldbury Road Worcester WR2 6AA

01905 424878

office@oldburypark.worcs.sch.uk <http://www.oldburypark.worcs.sch.uk/>

Phase email addresses:

For ALL parents, we have set up a new way of contacting Phase Leaders. These email addresses are SOLELY for classroom, pastoral and academic enquiries and NOT for general enquiries which should still come through the office@ email address.

Children in Reception eyfparents@oldburypark.crst.org.uk (Miss Molloy)

Children in Years 1 & 2 KS1parents@oldburypark.crst.org.uk (Mrs Marks)

Children in Years 3 & 4 LKS2parents@oldburypark.crst.org.uk (Miss Moule)

Children in Years 5 & 6 UKS2parents@oldburypark.crst.org.uk (Mr Williams)

SENDco Enquiries office@oldburypark.crst.org.uk (FAO: Miss Miller)