



# BUILDWAS ACADEMY

Acting Head of School: Mr J Millington  
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[www.buildwasacademy.com](http://www.buildwasacademy.com)

Executive Principal: Mr S Tilley

17<sup>th</sup> March 2023

## Message from the Head of School:

Dear Families,

Firstly, I would like to apologise for the disruption over the last two weeks. Sometimes these things are beyond our control. The decision to close Willow class on Tuesday was the correct one as temperatures were low and got lower throughout the day. The age of the main building served us well and this part of the school didn't start to cool off until the afternoon – the Victorians knew how to build well insulated buildings 😊. A question was asked why we couldn't accommodate Willow class in the main school, the short answer is that the school isn't big enough to move two classes into the hall and learning would be disrupted as a result. We worked very closely with the National Grid who offered to install a generator, but it was considered to be a health and safety risk to install due to location of the electricity meter.

We spend Tuesday without power and the teachers had to really think out of the box and go 'old school' with the delivery of lessons. The response from the children was fantastic, I was so proud how they all adapted to the situation that we found ourselves in. I don't go a week now without thinking how wonderful the children are at Buildwas, they are a real credit to you 😊

## In other news:

In my letter last week, I spoke about ensuring that you let us know about dinner options. As you know Tuesday was a cold dinner day and I had many complaints from the children that they didn't like the filling in the sandwich. This was down to lack of response about dinner options through the MCAS app and we simply had to guess the amount of different sandwich options for the children coming through. Despite asking there were lots of families who didn't share lunch options with us.

This week I have talked to the children (and adults) about our school values which are:

**“A small school with a huge heart.”**

Happiness  
Enabling  
Aspire  
Resilience  
Trust





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Between now and next term, I really want to promote these values, so they are a part of all aspects of Buildwas life from policy to the classroom. If you would like to know more about our school values, please click on this link <https://www.buildwasacademy.com/about-us/values-and-ethos/>

### **Buildwas Rocks:**

This week, **Beech Class** has been very busy. We've carried on our fantastic work based on the book 'Major Glad, Major Dizzy' and have written some brilliant sentences using conjunctions, adjectives, and some of us have even used similes! In maths, some of us have worked incredibly hard learning our numbers to 50 and some of us have worked amazingly hard comparing and solving problems involving lengths. We've also enjoyed joining in with some amazing science activities for British Science Week. On Monday we used our knowledge of 3D shapes to build structures using spaghetti and playdoh! It was so tricky to build shapes that would stand up and not fall over! We found that the most shapes to build with were triangular prisms and pyramids! On Thursday and Friday, we worked hard in groups to use our knowledge to build the strongest bridge out of paper. We used amazing communication skills, teamwork, and engineering skills to build some fantastic bridges. We decided that paper was strongest to build with when it was folded. It's safe to say we have all really enjoyed being scientists this week!

On Monday the children in **Oak Class** created algorithms to make a turtle draw a square on the computer! We are coming up to the end of our coding topic and I think we may have some future game designers in the class! Next week and the week after, the children will be really showing us what they are capable of as they use all the skills that they have learnt in this topic to design and create their own programme. If families want to see their children's IT work, they save all their classwork on Purple Mash and can add to it or talk it through with you at home, I hope that you will be as impressed as I was!

On Tuesday we had a very different day as we went completely off grid due to the power cut and lack of wifi. It was a wonderful opportunity to really look deeply into our non fiction topic books. All the children researched a new fact and communicated these to their classmates through posters and verbal presentations. The teachers learnt a few new facts about the Indus valley and the water cycle from the children too.

This week in **Holly Class**, we have been looking at our DT project in more detail – we are very excited to design and make our own animals linked to our evolution project!  
During Science week, we have learnt more about adaptations and how long it takes for these adaptations to happen. We have also explored forces, which has been one of our favourite science topics this academic year. We investigated how surfaces are affected by friction and carried out a series of predictions and tests!





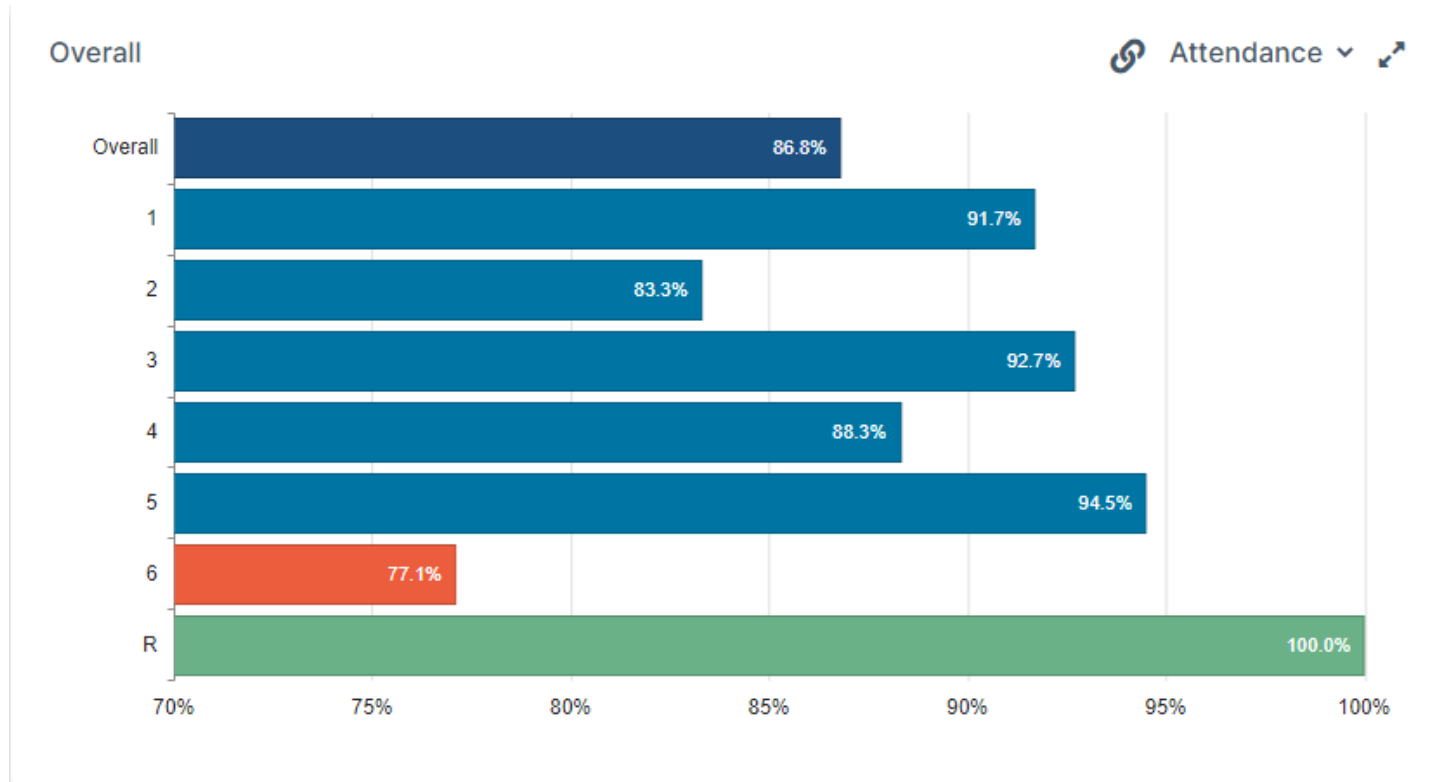
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This week our attendance looks like this:



Have a lovely weekend and have a happy Mother's Day on Sunday!

Take care,

Mr Millington

