



## ♥ Value for February ♥

### Love

Valentine's Day Tuesday 14th February - While popular culture makes you believe that Valentine's Day is only for love-struck couples, it's a day of love, and that love can be for anyone. Thus, all kinds of love should be celebrated; whether it is for your parents, your siblings or your children.

## 🎉 Upcoming Events At Catshill First School and Nursery 🎉

We wanted to make you aware that Catshill First School and Nursery will be supporting the following events which all take place before Easter. With the cost of living rises in mind, we wanted to give you plenty of advance notice.

**Friday 17th February - NSPCC Numbers Day.** Dress in maths theme clothes (or own clothes) with a suggested voluntary contribution of 50p for the NSPCC if wanted

**Friday 3rd March - World Book Day.** Dress as a book character (or own clothes) no contribution asked

**Friday 17th March - Comic Relief.** Children may wear own clothes with a suggested voluntary contribution of 50p for Comic Relief if wanted

**Tuesday 21st March - World Down Syndrome Day.** Children may wear funky and bright socks with a suggested voluntary contribution of 50p for Down's Syndrome Association if wanted

For our charity collections, we wish to make it very clear that any contributions are voluntary and no child will miss out if they don't donate. Families with more than one child may wish to donate as a group. Children are welcome to wear their own clothes for any events where dressing up is encouraged and all children will be included in the activities whether they are in costume or not.

## 📚 Catshill Children's Choice 📚

This half term we will have £50 to spend on new books. Please vote for your top three favourite books from the list below. The top few books that receive the most votes will be purchased for our library. The winners will be announced in our newsletter and shared with everyone in school.

**[Please click here to vote](#)**

**Happy voting!**



## ✂️ Reception PE ✂️

Reception have really been testing their core and upper body strength in PE this week! It is important for children to build core and upper body strength as this helps them to sit without feeling uncomfortable. It also helps them to write as they begin to use mark making materials. See this blog for 50 screen free gross motor skills ideas <https://www.yourtherapysource.com/.../gross-motor-skills-and.../>



## 🏠 School Council 🏠

Valentine's Day Teddy Bear Raffle finished today and raised a massive £234.00. The winners will be picked shortly, and there are 3 prizes per class - fingers crossed.

Thank you all for your continued support.



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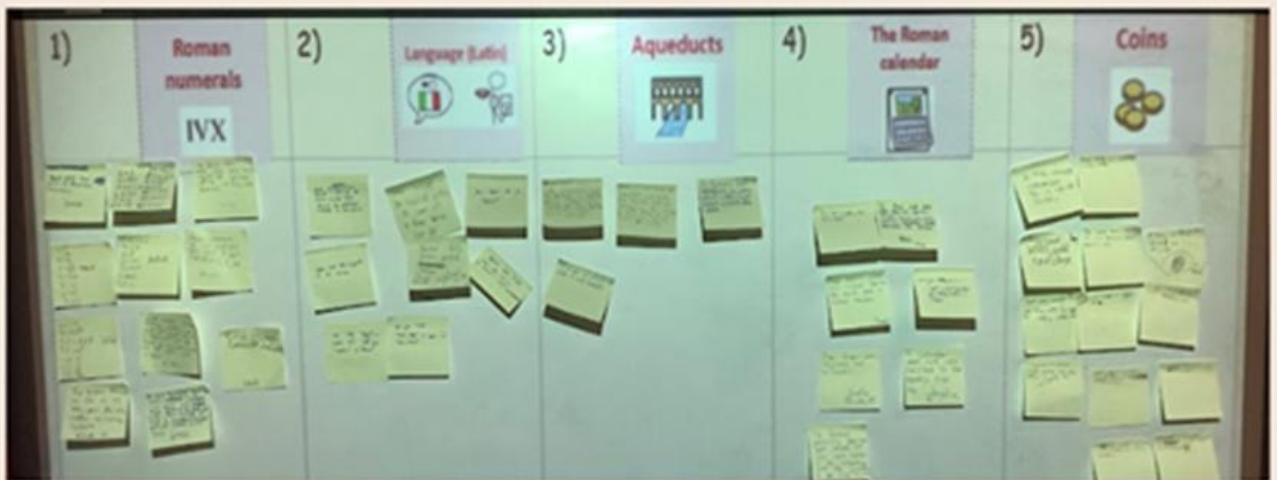


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## 🏺 Year 4 History 🏺 The Romans



*In our history lesson, we explored different elements of the Roman legacy. We researched the Latin language, Roman coins, Roman numerals, the Roman calendar and aqueducts.*

### 👁️ Conjunctivitis 👁️

We have had an outbreak of conjunctivitis in school, resulting in a number of children being off with red, itchy, sore eyes. The rules around conjunctivitis have now changed and children do not need to stay off school, it is recommended that you seek eye drops from your nearest chemist or speak to your Doctor. Prompt treatment and good hand hygiene helps to prevent the spread.

Please follow this [link](#) for more information from the NHS website.

### 📌 Head Lice 📌

We have had a few reported cases of head lice in the school. Can parents and carers please remain vigilant and follow our '[Head Lice to Dead Lice](#)' information.

Thank you



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## Science - Year 1R

1R learnt the difference between absorbent and non absorbent materials this week, and got to test them out over Mrs Lawrence's head!



Thank you Mrs Lawrence for being such a good sport!

## Reporting A Child's Absence

Can all pupil absences, please be reported to the admin office, so that we can record your child's absence accordingly on the register.

phone - 01527 872913, option 2 (from 8.15am)

leave a voicemail - 01527 872913, option 1

text - 07786 132612

Epraise - Admin

Email - [office@catshillfirst.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:office@catshillfirst.worcs.sch.uk)

**Can you please state reason/symptoms for absence when phoning, messaging, or texting the office.**

Thank you



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## Internet Safety Day

This week our KS1 and KS2 children learned about staying safe when using the internet in our Assembly on Tuesday for Internet Safety Day.

## Half Term Library Activities



**Regular Activities**

**Bromsgrove Library**

**Tuesday** Active Tots 10am - 10:30am  
**Wednesday** Stay and Play\* 10am - 12pm  
**Thursday** Bounce and Rhyme 10am - 10:30am  
**Friday** Storytrain 10am - 10:45am  
**Saturday** Alternates between LEGO or Boardgames\* 10:30am - 3:30pm

**Catshill Library**

**Monday** Bounce and Rhyme 10am - 10:30am  
**Tuesday** Bedtime Stories\* 5:30pm  
**1st Saturday of the month** Story and Craft\* 10am  
**2nd Saturday of the month** LEGO morning\* 10am  
**3rd Saturday of the month** Board Games\* 10am  
**4th Saturday of the month** Sat 'dough'day\* 10am  
**5th Saturday of the month** LEGO morning\* 10am

**Rubery Library**

**Monday** Bounce and Rhyme 10:30am - 11am  
**Thursday** Read and Rhyme 10am - 10:30am  
**Saturday** Alternates between LEGO or Children's games\* 11am - 1pm

To book onto these sessions please phone 01905 822722 or speak to a member of staff

All events with \* do not need to be booked

**Half Term Activities**

**Bromsgrove Library**

**Monday 20th February** 2:30pm  
**Under the CD**  
Join us for 1,2,3 Do the Shark then make your own CD fish to take home  
**This event is £1 and will need to be booked**

**Catshill Library**

**Thursday 23rd February** 3:30pm  
**Under the CD**  
Join us for 1,2,3 Do the Shark then make your own CD fish to take home  
**This event is £1 and will need to be booked**

**Rubery Library**

**Thursday 20th February** 2:30pm  
**Under the CD**  
Join us for 1,2,3 Do the Shark then make your own CD fish to take home  
**This event is £1 and will need to be booked**

Our regular events for these 3 libraries will run as normal during this week

To book please phone 01905 822722 or speak to a member of staff

For latest updates visit Worcestershire Libraries at [www.worcestershire.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/libraries)

worcestershire county council

## Hartlebury Castle

### Family Activities – Space Week!

Tuesday 21st February to Friday 24th February

Fancy some February holiday fun that's out of this world? You're in luck, Space Week is coming to Hartlebury Castle! Get hands-on with crafts, decorate your own fantastic wooden rocket, and embrace your inner astronaut as you take off around the castle and grounds to complete the family trail.



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## 📌 Reminders and Dates for your Diaries 📌

- ★ **After School Club - Football Skills KS2 Girls** - An Epraise was sent out earlier this week inviting KS2 girls to this event, running after half term for 5 weeks. Closing date is Monday 13th February, and spaces are limited, so you will be notified in due course if your child has a place.
- ★ **After School Club - Coding 3S** - An Epraise was sent out earlier this week inviting 3S to this event, running after half term for 5 weeks. Closing date is Monday 13th February, and spaces are limited, so you will be notified in due course if your child has a place
- ★ **After School Club - Football Skills KS2 Boys** - An Epraise was sent out earlier this week inviting KS2 boys to this event, running after half term for 5 weeks. Closing date is Monday 13th February, and spaces are limited, so you will be notified in due course if your child has a place
- ★ **After School Club - Ball Skills Year 1** - An Epraise was sent out earlier this week inviting Year 1 pupils to this event, running after half term for 5 weeks. Closing date is Monday 13th February, and spaces are limited, so you will be notified in due course if your child has a place.
- ★ **3S Cornet Concert Friday 17th February at 3.00pm** - to the parents of 3S, as you know the children have been learning the cornet and their lessons will soon be coming to an end. Therefore we would like to invite you to a small performance where the children can showcase what they have learnt. The performance will be Friday 17th February at 3pm in the school hall, access via the glass corridor, we do hope you can make it.
- ★ **3B Cornet Lessons** - An epraise has been sent out regarding your child learning the cornet after ½ term, can you please complete the link sent to you, to agree to your child learning and looking after their cornet.
- ★ **Free School Meals Vouchers** - If you are entitled to FSM's the voucher for the half term period will be issued next week, via your Epraise, please remember to check your spam. Unfortunately Nursery children are not entitled to these vouchers.

Thank you for your co-operation

## 📌 Activities - Spring 1 2023 📌

Spring 1 2023	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Nursery		Forest School (am)	PE (pm)		PE (am)
RM			PE (am)	Forest School (pm)	
RTY			PE (am)		Forest School (am)
Year 1	Forest School (1R pm)	PE (am)	Forest School (1P pm)		
Year 2		PE (pm)		PE (am) Ball Skills (pm)	
Year 3	PE (pm) Football Skills Girls (pm)	Football Skills Boys (pm)	PE (am)		Cornet (3S) Forest Schools (3B)
Year 4	Football Skills Girls (pm)	PE (am) Swimming (am) Football Skills Boys (pm)		PE (pm)	Cornet Continued (4J/4F)

\*Please note that there may be some flexibility.



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## **Car Park - Important Notice**





The car park at Catshill First School and Nursery is for use by school staff only. The only exception to this rule is when access is required to the disabled parking space.

**Children must NOT be on the school car park at ANY time.**

All Access to the school premises must be via the pedestrian footpath and NOT through the car park.

Please note the signage on the gate requesting that it is kept closed at all times.  
This is for the children's safety.

### Things to remember

- ★ W/C 13th February 2023 is week 3 for our dinner menu. You can find the menu on our website  
<https://www.catshillfirst.co.uk/our-school-day/> 
- ★ Please send all dinner money to school on a Monday 
- ★ Children should come to school on PE days wearing school uniform, they will change into PE kit as part of the session. For Forest School or Forest Fun sessions, children should come to school wearing their appropriate Forest School clothing and footwear for these activities. 
- ★ Log on to Rising Stars to access your child's online reading books. 

### Term dates

- ★ *Here and on time at five to nine.*
- ★ *School collection times*  
*Reception 3.20pm*  
*KS1 (year 1 and 2) 3.20pm*  
*KS2 (year 3 and 4) 3.25pm*
- ★ *This term ends on Friday 17th February.*
- ★ *Please find 2022/2023 term dates [here](#)*
- ★ *Please find 2023/2024 term dates [here](#)*
- ★ *Please do not book holidays in term time.*
- ★ *Spring Term 2 for the children starts on Monday 27th February 2023.*



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