



Birchensale Middle School

BELONG MOTIVATE SUCCEED RESILIENT

<https://www.birchensale.worcs.sch.uk/>

Newsletter July 11th 2025



Welcome TO

Hello to everyone,

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to all our families.
I'm Mrs Phelan, my role here at Birchensale is the Assistant Associate Headteacher for Inclusion and Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Coordinator (SENDCO).

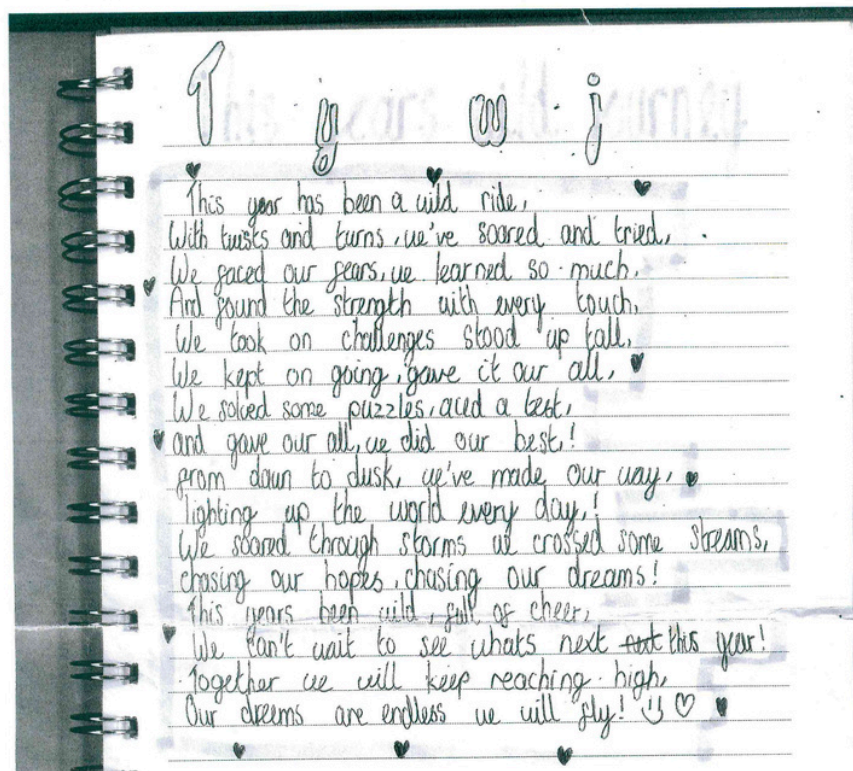
A bit about myself, I have been teaching for 18 years in schools in the West Midlands and my background is in PE, SEND, and as a Senior Leader. I also love sport, especially netball and football.

Here at Birchensale Middle School, I will be working closely with pupils, staff, families and external professionals to ensure that individual pupil needs are identified and met within the school. Through an inclusive approach I want to see all pupils thrive both academically and personally. I really look forward to building strong partnership's with you all to support your child's journey with us.

I will be holding two SENDCo drop ins on
Wednesday 10th September,
9am to 10am and 2pm to 3pm, more information will be sent out at the start of September.

Thank you for such a warm welcome during my first weeks here, I'm really looking forward to the new academic year.

Mrs Phelan



A Poem Worth Sharing

We were truly impressed by a beautiful poem written by one of our talented pupils. The words are heartfelt, the writing is inspiring, and we couldn't resist sharing it with you. It's a wonderful example of creativity and expression that deserves to be celebrated.

A polite reminder about parking

We have been made aware that some parents have been parking in the residents-only car park on Cedar Road. We kindly ask all parents and carers to park considerately and responsibly when dropping off or collecting children.

Please ensure that you:

- Do not park in residents-only car parks
- Do not block driveways
- Do not park on double yellow lines
- Avoid parking on bends, as this can reduce visibility and pose a risk to pedestrians and children

Let's work together to keep our community safe and respectful for everyone. Thank you for your cooperation.



SUMMER READING CHALLENGE



Join in 21 June – 30 September!

There are two ways you can take part:

You can take part in person at your local library. The library will give you a special sticker poster and other special incentive and help you find books to read for your Challenge.

Alternatively, take part online by clicking on the image and following the link.. Set a reading goal and log your books on your profile. When you reach your goal you will unlock a limited-edition online badge and certificate!

The in-person and online Challenges are separate. Physical incentives like medals are only available via the library, for those taking part in person.

Exciting Changes at Birchensale Kitchen! 🍴✨



From September our amazing kitchen team will have a brand-new look—and so does the dining experience!

Welcome to Birchensale Kitchen, where lunchtimes just got a whole lot more exciting! With a fresh new menu, bright and welcoming uniforms, and a beautifully redecorated dining hall featuring brand-new tables and chairs, we're serving up more than just great food—we're serving smiles!

Michelle, Emily, Nicole, Claire and Simone can't wait to welcome you and serve up something delicious!





Home/School Family Support in the summer holidays.

Some families may require support over the summer holidays, our home/school family support worker Justine Fitzer will be working over the summer to provide support if needed.

Justine has worked in the area for over eighteen years. She knows the journey of being a parent can take its twists and turns, and sometimes, we all need a little help along the way, that is what she is here for. If she can't help you, she will know somebody who can.

Justine's role is to work closely with children and families who may be experiencing difficulties. She listens and appreciates parent/carers issues and can offer suggestions and advice for individuals and families.

She can work with and support families during key school transitions including newcomers and moving to middle school. She works with families who are going through difficult times including relationship breakdown, bereavement and mental health issues. In consultation with parents/carers she can support children on a 1:1 basis (in school or in their home) or in a group, listening and working with them in different ways on managing their emotions, developing social skills and building their confidence

The following is a list of things Justine can help you with, however if you need support for something not on this list, you can still reach out

- Bereavement, grief and loss
- Transition to new school
- Change in family circumstance
- Attendance & Friendships
- Behaviour
- Parenting
- Self-esteem
- Confidence
- Mental health
- Relationship breakdown
- Anxiety and Trauma

Justine can be contacted through through Birchensale school, or alternatively you can contact her directly on:

Mobile: 07809330825

Email: jfitzer@batchley.worcs.sch.uk

If she is unavailable, please leave a message and she will get back to you as soon as possible.

Summer Events across Redditch 2025

Arrow Valley Country Park www.redditchbc.gov.uk/events

Event	Date & Time	Location
Green Fair	Sat 14 June, 11am - 7pm	Arrow Valley Country Park, Battens Dr, B98 0LJ

The Boathouse Café <https://rubiconleisure.co.uk>

Event	Date & Time	Location
Water Activities - Swan Pedalos, Sport Pedalos, Kayaks, Paddle Boards, Row Boats	Daily, 10am - 7.30pm	Arrow Valley Country Park
Murder Mystery Night	Fri 21 June	Battens Dr, B98 0LJ
Sounds on the Grounds	Fri 2 August	

Forge Mill Needle Museum www.forgemill.org.uk

Event	Date(s)	Location
Step Back In Time Weekend	Sat 14 & Sun 15 June	Forge Mill
80s Night in the Cloisters	Sat 5 July	Needle Museum,
Teddy Bears' Picnic	Wed 9 July & Fri 11 July	Needle Mill Ln, B98 8HY
Titanic Exhibition	Sat 19 July - Sat 30 August	
Outdoor Theatre: Big Bad Wolf	Sun 31 August	

Abbey Stadium <https://rubiconleisure.co.uk>

Event	Date(s)	Location
Learn to Swim Crash Course (ages 4 - 10)	Mon 4 - Fri 8 August	Abbey Stadium, Birmingham Rd, B97 6EJ
Stroke Clinics (ages 8+)	Mon 4 - Fri 15 August	
Learn to Swim Crash Course (ages 4 - 10)	Mon 11 - Fri 15 August	

Pitcheroak Golf Course <https://rubiconleisure.co.uk>

Event	Date	Location
Beer Festival	Sun 24 August	Pitcheroak Golf Course, Plymouth Rd, B97 4PB

Reimagine Redditch www.reimagineredditch.org/whats-on

Event	Date & Time	Location
Bee Creative: Miracle of the Bees	19 - 22 July	Former Farm Foods, Kingfisher Centre (Lower Ground Floor)
Love Woodrow: Making Day	Sat 16 Aug, 2 - 4pm	Woodrow Community Centre

Redditch BID <https://redditchbid.co.uk/whats-on>

Event	Date & Time	Location
Redditch Summer Fest 2025	Sat 5 July, 1 - 9pm	12 Market Place, B98 8AA

All details were correct at the time of printing. Some activities may require pre-booking.

For help & support, please visit www.redditchbc.gov.uk/working-together



Family Fun & Support
Worcestershire

SUMMER HOLS Sorted!

FIND **WHAT'S ON** IN WORCESTERSHIRE!



U5's

- FREE events
- Stay & Play
- Messy & Sensory Play
- Outdoor Play
- And more....



5-16yrs

- FREE events
- Outdoor activities
- Arts, Sports & Music
- Teen socials & classes
- And more....



Whole Family!

- FREE events
- Family Fun days
- Family shows
- Family Festivals
- And more...

familyfunandsupport.com

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county council

BEST START
WORCESTERSHIRE

Free Unity Hub Sessions Bringing Support and Self-Defence to Woodrow



This summer, Redditch residents are being offered a lifeline of support, advice, and personal safety—all for free. From 21st July to 25th August, the Unity Hub Sessions will be running every Monday and Wednesday at 1pm at the community centre opposite the Liabry Woodrow Centre.

These drop-in sessions provide a relaxed and welcoming space where anyone can come along, have a brew, and speak to someone who will listen. Whether you're looking for emotional

support, practical advice, or simply a friendly face, the Unity Hub team is here to help signpost you to the right services. In addition, every Friday during this period will feature a Free Self-Defence session for the whole family. These sessions are open to all, though children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. It's a fantastic opportunity to boost your confidence, learn valuable safety skills, and connect with your local community in a proactive, empowering way. The programme is delivered

in partnership with Redditch Borough Council, Public Health, and Redditch Police SNT, as part of the wider #Droptheknife campaign. Whether you're seeking guidance, companionship, or practical self-defence training, the Unity Hub Sessions are a vital community initiative not to be missed.

For more information, visit www.redditchselfdefence.co.uk or pmar2711@yahoo.co.uk or 07500 693452

Redditch Self Defence Association

LOCATION: BEHIND THE OLD NEEDLE FACTORY, BRITTEN STREET, B97 6HD

	9:30am	10:30am	11am	1pm	6pm	6:30pm	7pm	7:15pm
MON			FREE OPEN TRAINING	DROP IN SESSION WEST MERCA POLICE WOODROW COMMUNITY CENTRE			TEENS BOXING	
TUE								AIKIDO
WED			FREE OPEN TRAINING	DROP IN SESSION WEST MERCA POLICE WOODROW COMMUNITY CENTRE	FREE FAMILY BOXING			PRIVATE HIRE LONEWOLFPT
THUR							OVER 40s FIGHT CLUB	
FRI			FREE OPEN TRAINING			FREE FAMILY SELF DEFENCE WOODROW COMMUNITY CENTRE		
SAT	AKI GOSHIN JUTSU	WOMEN & GIRLS BOXING	FREE TEENS SELF DEFENCE					

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Keeping Your Child Safe: Key Safeguarding

Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility. If you have any concerns about a child's safety or wellbeing, here are key contacts that can help:

- **School** - Your first point of contact. Speak to the designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) if you have any concerns, Mr Kearns and Mrs Pugh.
- **CEOP** (Child Exploitation and Online Protection) - For concerns about online safety, grooming, or exploitation. Report at www.ceop.police.uk
- **NSPCC** - Provides confidential support and advice on all safeguarding issues. Call 0808 800 5000 or visit <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/>
- **Kooth** - Free, anonymous online mental health support for young people. Visit www.kooth.com
- **Police** - If a child is in immediate danger, call 999. For non-emergencies, call 101.

me, you, us
safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

Meet your safeguarding team



Sarah Pugh
Designated Safeguarding
Lead



Teresa Dawson
Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Pete Clifton
Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Emma James
Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead

Dates for your diary

July 15th - Sports awards evening

July 17th - Year 8 leavers party

July 18th - School finishes for summer

September 3rd - School reopens for pupils

October 2nd - Open evening

October 23rd - School photographs

October 24th - Last day of half term

