

St Matthew's Bloxam C of E Primary School

"Let Your
Light Shine"

NEWSLETTER

Friday 16th October 2026 Issue 07

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YEAR 1

We want to take a moment to share just how proud Miss Whitell, Miss Hughes, and Mrs Franklin are of the wonderful start the children have made to Year 1. Their enthusiasm and eagerness to learn have truly been remarkable, and it has been delightful to witness their progress over the past few weeks!

English

The Bee Who Spoke. This enchanting story has sparked much enthusiasm and creativity among the children, and they have produced some fantastic pieces of writing inspired by the text. It has been great to see their effort and enthusiasm in English lessons.

Maths

The children in Year 1 have been learning about place value. Specifically, we are focusing on numbers from 0 to 10. They have learnt how to recognise numbers, find more and less, count on and back and to order numbers. Alongside our maths lessons, the children have accessed practical activities which deepen their learning.

Science

We have been learning about seasonal changes. The children have been on an autumn walk and spotted signs of autumn. They also learned what happens in each season.

Geography

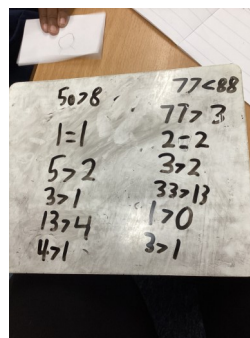
The children learned about cold and hot places around the world. We were able to name the four countries in the United Kingdom.

Wider curriculum

In art, we have been learning about the Rugby artist Anna Lorimer. The children have been inspired by her artwork and have learnt about primary and secondary colours. They have also looked at different painting techniques. In computing, the children have been learning all about technology and how to stay safe online.

From mastering new phonics sounds to exploring numbers in exciting ways, the children have been embracing all aspects of their learning. It is heartening to see their confidence grow as they engage with various activities and collaborate with their peers. Each day brings new achievements, and we are thrilled by their enthusiasm!

Miss Hughes & Mrs Whitell



Diary Dates

Monday 19th October

Year 4 Swimming

PaFoS Meeting – 2pm

Everyone Welcome

Parent/Carer Evening

3:30pm - 6pm

Wednesday 21st October

Parent/Carer Evening

3:30pm - 6pm

Friday 23rd October

Mrs Jones' Last Day

Non-Uniform for
donations for PaFoS
Christmas Fayre

School closes for half
term

Monday 2nd November

School closed for
Teacher Training Day

Tuesday 3rd November

School reopens for
Autumn Term 2

Please see our School
Website for school diary
dates

YEAR 1



A Fond Farewell to Mrs Claire Jones

At the end of this half term, we will be saying goodbye to Mrs Claire Jones, who will be leaving SMB for pastures new. Her final day with us will be Friday 23rd October.

Whilst we are excited for Mrs Jones as she begins a new chapter, we are very sad to see her leave. She has made a valued contribution to our school and will be greatly missed by pupils, staff and families alike.

On behalf of the whole school community, I would like to thank Mrs Jones for all she has done and wish her every success and happiness for the future.

Mrs Timson

YEAR 6 PARENTS/CARERS

APPLYING FOR A SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACE

The application process is now open to submit your application for their secondary school place.

The deadline to apply for a secondary school place is **31 October 2026**

If you miss this deadline, you are much less likely to get offered a place at a preferred school because you will be allocated a place after everyone who applied on time.

This deadline applies to all families, even if your child is sitting the 11+ exam. You still need to submit an application for your chosen secondary schools.

Please visit <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/applying-secondary-school-place> for more guidance on how to submit your application by the 31st October deadline.

This week's Family Information Service Newsletter - Tuesday 13th October 2026

The Family Information Service (FIS) provides free, impartial advice on a variety of services and useful information.

They produce a weekly newsletter. Please use link below to access the newsletter.

<https://mailchi.mp/warwickshire/family-information-service-newsletter-1219204-96fqcdqpps-8834638?e=04fcebfe0>

NON UNIFORM DATES

23.10.26 - in exchange for donations for the Christmas Fayre

13.11.26 -our school will be raising money for Children In Need by coming in non-uniform and we will be completing a Drumba challenge!

ATTENDANCE

Our whole school attendance target is **95%**

This week's whole school attendance is **94.3%**

This is below the target set by Warwickshire Admissions Service.

School starts at **8.50am**, arriving after this time may affect your child's attendance mark.

Can we ask that if your child is not well enough to attend school that we have a **specific reason** and **not 'unwell'** as we need to state a reason in the attendance records.

Please can medical appointments be made for after school.

We also require proof of appointments that are made during school time.

Please follow the attached links for useful information

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

<https://www.pharmacy2u.co.uk/>





Mental Health Support Team
in Schools



Dimensions tool



Free online personalised self-care
information & support for adults and
children in Coventry & Warwickshire

Tips For Wellness

Being Brave

We can show bravery in lots of different ways, such as recognising that we feel a certain way (e.g., sad, anxious), asking someone for help when we need it and trying new things, even if we feel scared!

Feeling scared is often a sign that we are doing something challenging and it is completely normal to feel this way. Even though it can feel uncomfortable, being brave and facing these difficulties can also help us to learn and grow (both physically and emotionally). This can mean we need to step outside our comfort zone at times to be able to overcome challenges, but it is important to remember that being brave does not mean we have to cope alone.

Our Tips for Being Brave:

1. **Set yourself a goal to try something new.** Create a plan to break your goal down into smaller, more achievable steps! This can help your goal to feel less overwhelming.
2. **Take chances and make mistakes!** Sometimes it is helpful to fail, so you can practise being brave. Try something you have been wanting to try and take that chance to move out of your comfort zone. You might even find that it wasn't as bad as you thought it would be.
3. Practise **positive self-talk** to help develop your bravery. Repeat these sentences to yourself or out loud - 'I can do hard things'; 'I try my best'; 'I can enjoy challenge'. You might want to write positive statements on post-it notes and stick them around your mirror so you can remind yourself of them every day!
4. **Ask for help** when you need it from someone you trust. Taking the step to talk to someone is one of the bravest things you can do!
5. **Strike a power pose!** Standing up tall with your feet apart, your head held high and with your hands on your hips can help make you feel more confident and ready to take on a challenge. What pose makes you feel more confident?



*Follow the QR code for activities to
support the theme 'being brave'!*

In Coventry and Warwickshire, for any urgent mental health concerns, contact the RISE Crisis Helpline available 24/7, by calling NHS 111. Alternatively, call 999 or visit A&E in an emergency, for example if medical attention is required.

MHST are available to support you and your school throughout the school year including term time and school holidays.

Please contact your school's Mental Health Lead for information and advice.

PENNY WARS

UPDATE



Finish date next
Wednesday 21st

5 days left to collect
as much change as you can!



The tables have all swapped around
after this week's count!



First place
only a few £ difference is

Year 3



Year 6

have flown to
second place



Year 4

are going strong
in third place



Can **Nursery** creep through
into the top 3?





Please join us for

St Matthew's Bloxam Primary

PAFOS MEETING



Monday 19th October
@ 2:00pm

In the
dining hall



We will be planning our upcoming
Christmas Fayre and other festive events,
we will also be thinking about any new ideas
and events in the new year

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

You don't have to be a member of the PTA to come along
but we would love some more volunteers



Any questions please speak to Laura or email
secretary-pafos@live.co.uk

We are excited to see you there!

FRIDAY 23RD OCTOBER

PaFos

NON-UNIFORM DAY

Children can wear non-uniform in exchange
for a donation for the Tombola at our

Christmas Fayre.

THE THEME IS

“Christmas Party”

WE WELCOME ANY:



BOTTLED
DRINK ITEMS



CHRISTMAS
THEMED
CHOCOLATES/
SWEETS



BISCUITS,
CAKES AND
FAMILY
SNACKS



ANY ALCOHOL MUST BE
HANDED TO A MEMBER OF STAFF.

Thank you
FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

PaFos



St Matthew's Bloxam
Primary

PTA

Are asking local
businesses for a
raffle donation

RAFFLE

to go towards their
school Christmas Fayre
in November.

If you are able to help out
we would very much appreciate it

In return we are happy to
advertise your business



RUGBY
Art Gallery
& Museum

NIGHT AT YOUR MUSEUM OUT OF THIS WORLD

FRIDAY 23 OCTOBER | FROM 5.30PM

Adults and Children £4.50 | Under 2's FREE



Find out more at www.ragm.co.uk





easyfundraising



RAISE FREE DONATIONS

for our school!



Parents and Friends of
St Matthew's Bloxam School - Rugby

Every time you shop online,
you can help us raise **FREE** donations
at no extra cost to you!

8,000+ online retailers will
give us a free donation when
you shop with them!



Booking.com

ebay

M&S

Dunelm

Argos

TUI

currys

JOHN
LEWIS



Etsy

TESCO

compare
themarket

JUST EAT

8,000+
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retailers



Get started today!

Scan the QR code to support us
when you shop online.



Download the
easyfundraising App



GET IT ON
Google Play



Download on the
App Store

Excellent



3,945 reviews on

★ Trustpilot

PaFoS

FUNDRAISING

MAKING A DIFFERENCE TOGETHER

THIS YEAR, PaFoS HAVE RAISED

£3,747.49

Thank you to everyone who has supported, donated and taken part – we couldn't do it without you!

DO YOU KNOW WHERE THAT MONEY GOES?

- ✓ A £200 contribution per class towards Coaches and trips. This reduces the amount parents/carers pay.
- ✓ Year 6 SATs Breakfast
- ✓ 10% of the cost of the Year 6 residential
- ✓ Early Years and KS1 Christmas Show
- ✓ Chick Hatching Experience
- ✓ Birds of Prey Experience
- ✓ Animal Encounter Experience
- ✓ Bobbys Fitness class for Lighthouse
- ✓ Bouncy Castle for the whole school
- ✓ New gazebos for the school to use during the sunnier days

FUNDS RAISED THROUGH:

- ✓ Class Wars
- ✓ Grotto & Christmas Fayre
- ✓ Nativity & Carol Concert Refreshments
- ✓ Fabolous Females
- ✓ Easter Tombola
- ✓ Year 3 and 4 Spring Show Refreshments
- ✓ Break The Rules
- ✓ Men Behaving Dadly
- ✓ Summer Fayre
- ✓ Sports Day Refreshments
- ✓ Year 5 and 6 Summer Show Refreshment
- ✓ Pre-Loved Uniform
- ✓ Book Sales
- ✓ Tuck Shop
- ✓ Non-Uniform Days
- ✓ Easy Fundraising

WHY IT MATTERS

Every pound we raise goes straight back into our school to support the children, enhance their learning and create extra special experiences they'll remember forever.

THANK YOU!

Your support makes such a big difference.

COMING SOON...

We have already agreed to the next Christmas show for EYFS and KS1!

**TOGETHER WE CAN
ACHIEVE MORE!**



THANK YOU FOR BEING PART OF OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY!

Protect your child from flu

The School Immunisation Team need your correct contact details



Have your email address or mobile phone number changed within the last year? If so, please get in touch with your team:

Coventry schools:

✉ bewise.immunise@covwarkpt.nhs.uk

☎ 02476 961422

North Warwickshire schools:

✉ NorthImms@covwarkpt.nhs.uk

☎ 02476 321550

South Warwickshire schools:

✉ SouthImms@covwarkpt.nhs.uk

☎ 01926 353899

Turn your daily shopping into everyday magic for us with easyfundraising

You shop, brands donate to us. It won't cost you any extra!



 easyfundraising

Help us make a difference when you shop.
Visit www.easyfundraising.org.uk



- 1 Visit www.easyfundraising.org.uk
- 2 Sign up and search for us
- 3 Your favourite brands donate to us whenever you shop with them

Shop with 8,000+ brands including:

Booking.com

ebay

M&S

GROUPON



TUI

JOHN
LEWIS



Viking

ASOS



Uber Eats

Did you know you can raise FREE donations for Parents and Friends of St Matthew's Bloxam School - Rugby EVERY time you shop online. Just use easyfundraising! Over 8,000 brands will donate, including all the big names like eBay, John Lewis & Partners, Argos, ASOS, Expedia, M&S, Just Eat, Uswitch and many more! It costs you NOTHING!

Visit: https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stmatthewsbloxam/?utm_source=whatsapp&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=pmc&utm_content=wa-1

Please do take a look at the website/app and share with friends and family. The more supporters we have, the more we can provide to enhance the experience for all children at SMB.

ARE YOU ON OUR

SMB Class WhatsApp

Keep up to date on class
information, important dates
and other school messages
to join speak to Laura or
email

secretary-pafos@live.co.uk

**IF YOUR CHILD IS
FEELING UNDER
THE WEATHER,**

**IT CAN BE HARD
TO KNOW IF YOU
SHOULD SEND
THEM TO SCHOOL
OR NOT.**



**UNLESS THEY HAVE A
TEMPERATURE OF
38 DEGREES OR ABOVE,
THEY'RE USUALLY
GOOD TO GO.**



**SEARCH NHS SCHOOL
ILLNESS GUIDANCE.**

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**



HM Government



School Attendance

Every day counts...



Good attendance helps with...



Academic Achievement

Regular attendance helps children keep up with the curriculum and perform better academically.



Social Skills

Attending school regularly helps children develop friendships, social skills and learning how to interact with others.



Routine & Responsibility

Good attendance teaches the importance of commitment, routine, and responsibility, which are all valuable life skills.



Focus & Engagement

Children who attend school regularly are more likely to stay engaged in their learning and develop a positive attitude towards education.



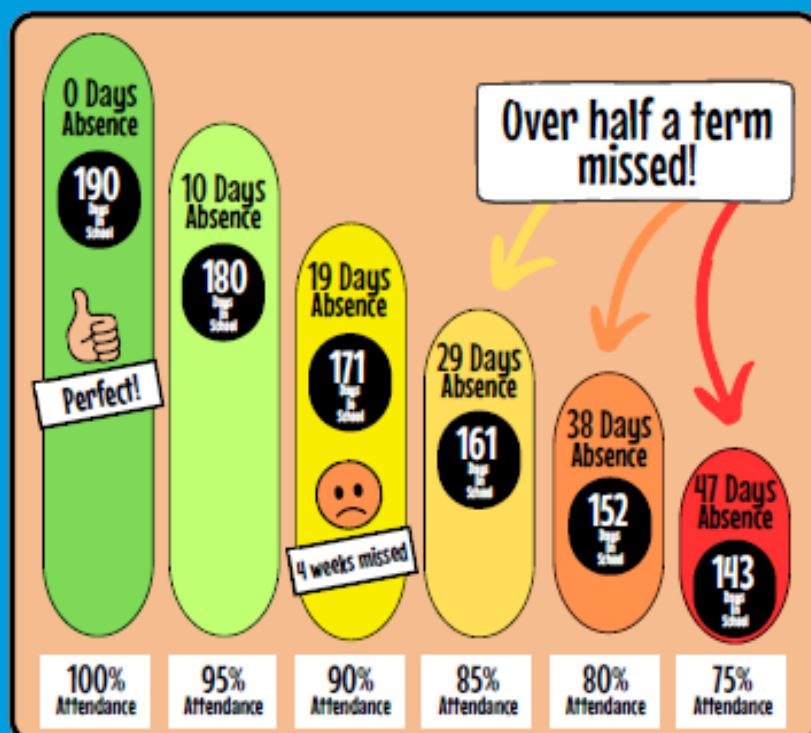
Building Confidence

Regular attendance can boost a child's self-esteem and confidence, as they see their progress and achievements over time.



Enhanced Learning Opportunities

School provides not just academic instruction, but also extra-curricular activities and enrichment opportunities.



Having 90% over 5 school years, is half a school year's work missed!

Did you know there are...

- 365 Days in a Year
- 190 School Days
- 175 Non School Days

Silly School Education

