

St Matthew's Bloxam C of E Primary School

9. Newsletter - Friday 6th November

Spotlight on Year 2

We want to take a moment to share just how proud Miss Margrie, Miss Deiko and Mrs Stock are of the positive start the children have made to Year 2. Their love for learning has brought many rewards, and we have witnessed so much progress already.

English

The Barnabus Project. This story, full of suspense and adventure, really captured their imaginations and enthusiasm for English. The created some incredible characters, and expanded noun phrases before writing their very own narrative. They should be incredibly proud of the stories they created. This term, we have started off by creating firework drawings ready to write setting descriptions.

Maths

In Maths, the children have been learning about place value and, addition and subtraction. We have been focusing on numbers up to 100, identifying tens and ones, more and less than a given amount and adding/ subtracting 2-digit numbers. They have been practising skills using concrete resources to help them consolidate and see the maths happening.

Science

We have been learning about animals including humans. Year 2 explored the life cycles of different animals, sequenced them and then wrote a scientific report explaining the life cycles. They then moved onto learning about what humans need to survive. We conducted an investigation into the effect exercise has on our bodies. This term, we have begun exploring materials and their properties. We went on a material hunt around school.

Geography

In Geography, we have been learning about our local area and school. We began by exploring maps, what is a map and how do we use them. The children then took pictures of locations around the school in order to create their own maps.

Wider Curriculum

In art, we have been learning about Vincent Van Gogh. The children created their own sunflower paintings inspired by Vincent Van Gogh. In music, the children have been really getting into the groove of singing and dancing. It has been lovely seeing their confidence grow! Well done to year 2 for their enthusiasm, achievements and positive start to the year. We can’t wait to see what else they achieve!








Tens
Ones
11+47=58



Diary Dates



- Monday 9th - Wednesday 11th November: Years 1-6 iSingPOP workshops
- Thursday 12th November: Years 1, 2 and 3 iSingPOP concert at St Oswald's Church 2pm
- Thursday 12th November: Years 4, 5 and 6 iSingPOP concert at St Oswald's Church 4pm
- Friday 13th November: Children in Need Day - non-uniform for a monetary donation
- Friday 20th November: Nursery and Reception classes parent/carer stay and play morning

- Friday 27th November: Year 3 class assembly 9am
- Monday 30th November: PaFoS Christmas Fayre 3.15pm
- Wednesday 2nd December: Rocksteady Concert 2.30pm
- Thursday 3rd December: Year 5 Space Camp sleepover
- Tuesday 8th December: Nursery and Reception Nativity Play 1.30pm
- Wednesday 9th December: Nursery and Reception Nativity Play 9.15am
- Thursday 10th December: Years 1 and 2 Nativity Play 1.30pm
- Friday 11th December: Years 1 and 2 Nativity Play 9.15am
- Friday 11th December: Christmas Jumper Day - monetary donations for Save The Children
- Wednesday 16th December: KS2 Carol Concert 9.15am
- Wednesday 16th December: School Christmas Dinner
- Wednesday 16th December: KS2 trip to the pantomime at Temple Speech Rooms
- Thursday 17th December: Years 1-6 Christmas Service at St Oswald's Church 10.45am
- Friday 18th December: School closes for the Christmas break 3.20pm
- Monday 4th January: Teacher Training Day - school closed to children
- Tuesday 5th January: School reopens for the Spring term

iSingPOP Workshops and Concert Next Week



On Thursday 12th November children from years 1-6 will be taking part in daily workshops with iSingPOP to learn songs connected with our Christian Value this term of love and compassion. On Thursday at 2pm there will be a concert for families of children in Years 1, 2 and 3 and another concert for families of children in Years 4, 5 and 6.

There will be refreshments for parents available from 2.45pm for parents/carers of both concerts.

A letter went home before half term with more information and a form to complete.

If you have not already completed the form, please follow the links and let us know the important information we require.

Children in Years 1, 2 and 3

Children in Years 4, 5 and 6

Attendance



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

This week's whole school attendance is 99%! AMAZING!

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.

Is your child too ill for school?

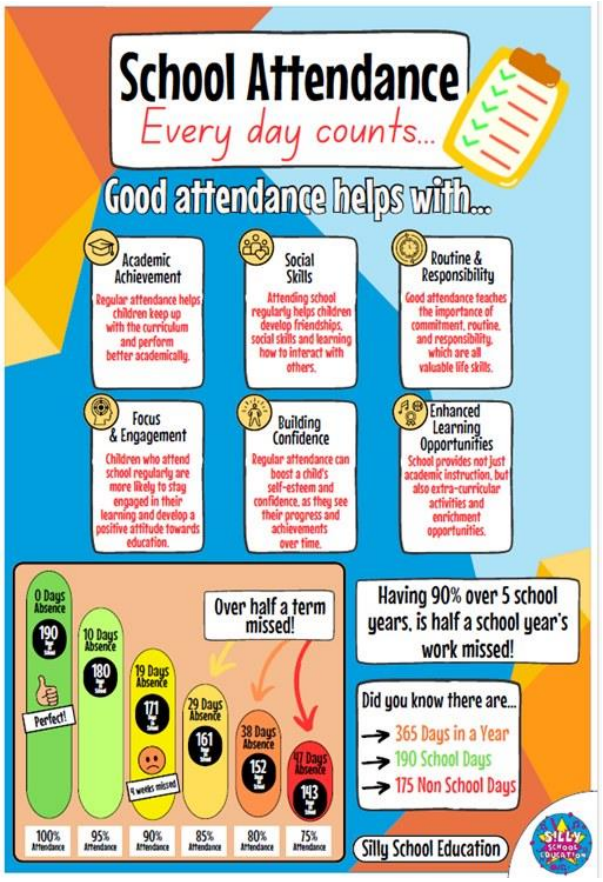
Good school attendance helps children and young people make the most of their learning, maintain friendships and feel connected to school life.

As part of a national Department for Education campaign, parents and carers are encouraged to check NHS guidance before keeping a child off school due to illness. The guidance covers common childhood illnesses, including coughs, colds, ear infections, chickenpox and tummy bugs, and explains when children should stay at home and when they can continue attending school safely.

A number of useful resources, including NHS guidance and a short video for families, are available using the links below.

- NHS: Is my child too ill for school?
- Illness absence and staying healthy video


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.
HM Government
NHS
MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.


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.
0 Days Absence
190
Perfect!
10 Days Absence
180
19 Days Absence
171
4 weeks missed
29 Days Absence
161
38 Days Absence
152
47 Days Absence
143
Over half a term missed!
100% Attendance
95% Attendance
90% Attendance
85% Attendance
80% Attendance
75% Attendance
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

Family Information Service (FIS) Newsletter - Tuesday 3rd November

This week's Family Information Service Newsletter - Tuesday 20th 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.

FIS Newsletter

Reception and Nursery Open Evening - Wednesday 18th November



PaFoS News (Parents and Friends of School)




PENNY WARS
RESULTS!
Firstly a massive thank you to everyone who contributed, the support means so much
We've raised an amazing
£441.99!
Which is our biggest amount so far with this fundraiser
This year's winners and reigning champions is
Year 6
Who raised £109.73 for their class
Well done to everyone and we hope you like your thank you treats
From PaFoS


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 the market
JUST EAT
8,000+ online 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


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


Christmas Fayre
&
Santa's Grotto
Monday 30th November
3:15 - 5:15
Lucky Tree
TOMBOLA
Tombola
Gifts
Eldridge's
Eldridge's
Class Crafts
POPCORN
Popcorn
Hot Chocolate Station
& Lots of fun games and prizes to be won


THANK YOU FOR YOUR GROTTO BOOKINGS
SANTA IS VERY EXCITED TO SEE YOU ALL!


Are you having a clear out before Christmas?
PaFoS is holding a
Toy Drive
9th - 12th November
Drop off
conservatory at am school run
We are looking for new or gently used:
Toys
Costumes
Books
Arts and crafts
Thank you

Community News



Image Open ClipArt-Vectors, Public Domain,
https://pixabay.com/en/circle-community-hands-holding-159252/



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
Mind and Body

Just as we look after our physical health, it's important to look after our mental health. In fact, the two are closely connected!

Most of us will know what it's like to feel worried, stressed or low from time to time. We might be affected by our relationships with friends and classmates or things we see on the news, and we might feel worried about school or our home lives (this is understandable!) Recognising how our mind health and physical health work together can keep us mentally healthy.

Our Tips for looking after your Mind and Body:

To ensure a healthy mind and body, why not try some of the activities below? Can you choose one from each category?

1. **Physical**- healthy eating with plenty of water, time away from technology and get fresh air where you can, regular exercise every day (e.g., walk to school or get off the bus a stop earlier, dance, or stretch), a consistent sleep schedule (children aged 6-12 years should aim for 9-12 hours sleep per night, adolescents should aim for 8-10 hours).
2. **Social**- spend quality time with friends and family, connect with others in person (as well as online), join a club or community group, reach out to others and don't be afraid to ask for help or offer support.
3. **Practical**- keep a daily routine to create structure and stability, use checklists to act as reminders and to hold yourself accountable, get ready for the day each morning, set yourself small and achievable goals to stay motivated.
4. **Emotional**- develop supportive friendships, write down three good things from your day, take time to do something relaxing every day, practise self-kindness (e.g., treat yourself how you would treat a friend!)

Scan the QR code for more ideas around keeping a healthy mind and body.

#ThanksKids recognises the efforts and kindness of children and young people, and thanks them with personalised #NHSStars certificates. If you know a child or young person that deserves recognition for going above and beyond, don't wait, nominate! **thankskids@covwarkpt.nhs.uk.**

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.