

St Matthew's Bloxam C of E Primary School

"Let Your
Light Shine"

NEWSLETTER

Friday 19th December 2025 Issue 15

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MESSAGE FROM MRS TIMSON



As we come to the end of the autumn term, I would like to take a moment to reflect on what has been a truly lovely couple of weeks. Our school has been filled with the spirit of Christmas as we enjoyed wonderful Nativity performances, a beautiful carol concert, and our visit to church, all of which showcased the confidence, talent and enthusiasm of our children.

This week we were also delighted to hear the children involved in Rocksteady perform at their termly concert. Their commitment, teamwork and musical skills were clear to see, and we are incredibly proud of their achievements.

I would like to thank all parents and carers for your continued support throughout the longest term of the school year. Your encouragement and partnership make a real difference to our school community. On behalf of all the staff, I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in January.

Best Wishes

Anita Timson

Headteacher



Diary Dates

Friday 19th
December

**School Closes for
Christmas break**

**Monday 5th January
2026**

**Teacher Training Day
School Closed**

**Tuesday 6th January
2026**

**School re-opens for
Spring Term**

**Monday 12th January
Year 4 Swimming**



THEATRE TRIPS



The children have had a very busy and exciting week across the school. KS2 delighted families and friends with a wonderful Carol Concert. The children loved their festive parties with Father Christmas visiting as well! Our Reception and KS1 children enjoyed a special trip to see The Gingerbread Man and KS2 were treated to a brilliant panto-nativity called Not Getting Inn! It has been a joyful week full of memorable experiences and festive fun for everyone.



We wish you all a happy holiday and a very happy New Year!

Mrs Francis

ATTENDANCE



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

This week's whole school attendance is **91.1%**

This is below the target set by Warwickshire Attendance 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

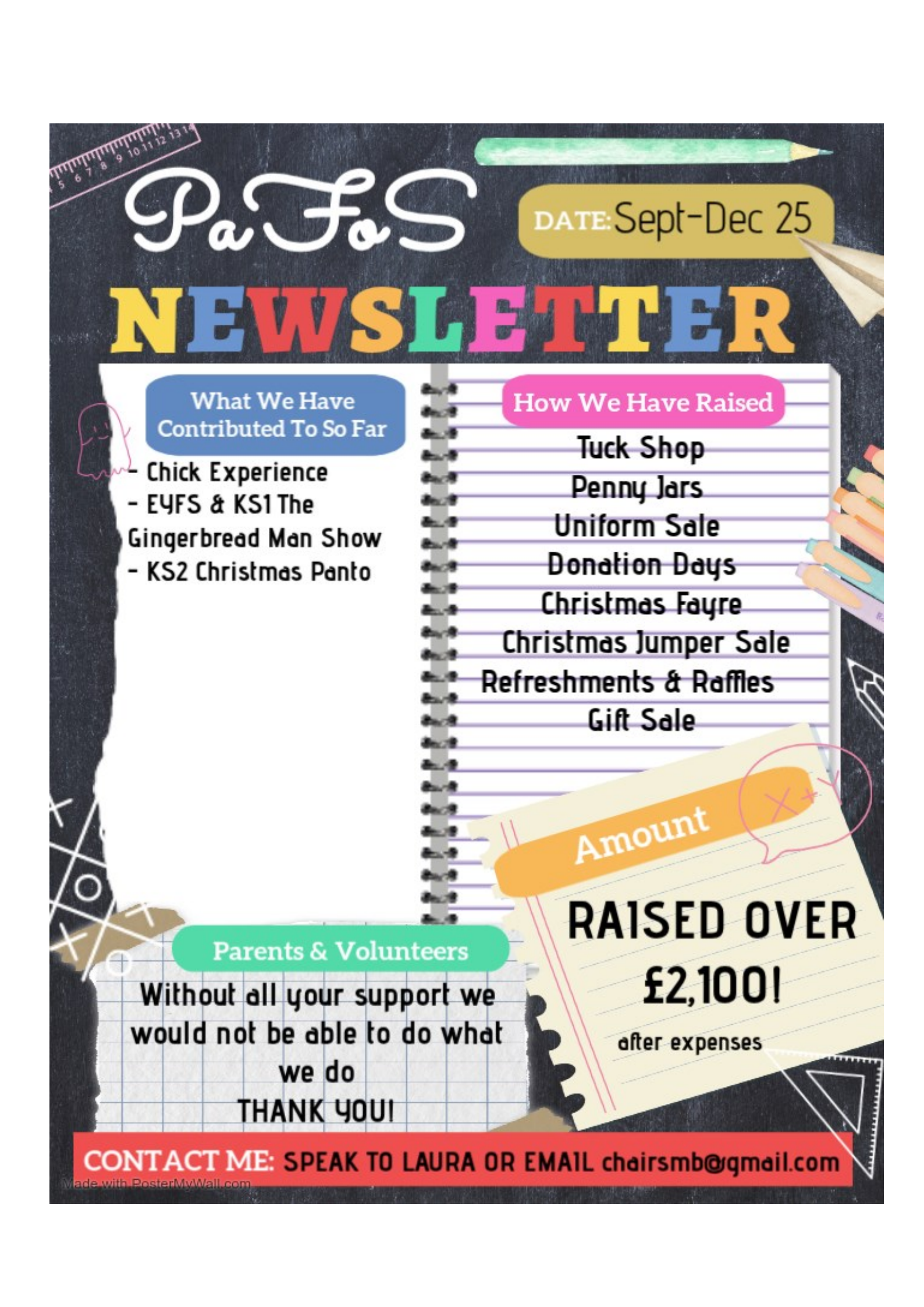
<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too>

[-ill-for-school/https://www.pharmacy2u.co.uk/](https://www.pharmacy2u.co.uk/)

This week's Family Information Service Newsletter - Tuesday 16th December 2025

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-8831389?e=04fcebfe0>



PaFaS

DATE: Sept-Dec 25

NEWSLETTER

What We Have Contributed To So Far

- Chick Experience
- EYFS & KS1 The Gingerbread Man Show
- KS2 Christmas Panto

How We Have Raised

Tuck Shop
Penny Jars
Uniform Sale
Donation Days
Christmas Fayre
Christmas Jumper Sale
Refreshments & Raffles
Gift Sale

Parents & Volunteers

Without all your support we
would not be able to do what
we do
THANK YOU!

Amount

**RAISED OVER
£2,100!**

after expenses

CONTACT ME: SPEAK TO LAURA OR EMAIL chairsemb@gmail.com

Please join us for St Matthews Bloxam's

PAFOS MEETING

MID JANUARY DATE TBC



WE ARE IN DESPERATE NEED OF VOLUNTEERS!

We will be talking about the success that was our Christmas Fayre and Santas Grotto, we will also be thinking about new ideas and events that we could do in the new year.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

PLEASE CONTACT PTA CO-CHAIR LAURA ON WHATSAPP OR AT
SECRETARY-PAFOS@LIVE.CO.UK

We are excited to see you there!



TLG make
lunch
Rugby

**Make Lunch Christmas
holiday sessions**

Tuesday 30th December

12 noon – 2pm

St Oswald's Church

Delicious food and family fun

Friday 2nd January

11am – 1pm



Please book using the Survey link

<http://bit.ly/3WKfn2p>

or scan the QR code:



Department
for Education

Festive Fun

RUGBY
Art Gallery
& Museum

Geeky Greetings Cards

Saturday 15th November

10.00am - 11.00am - Ages 6+

11.30am - 12.30pm - Ages 10+

1.00pm - 2.00pm - Ages 14+

Create unique holiday cards with a geeky twist in these sessions with STEM goes Wild. Add electric circuits and UV effects for a festive glow.

Tickets are £10 per person - booking essential.

Macrame Santa and Angel Workshops (16+)

Saturday 29 November

10.00am - 11.00am - Santa

1.30pm - 3.30pm - Angel

Step by step instructions from Sally of 'Knot so Simple' to create what is needed to make a Santa or an Angel decoration. Each person will be given a kit with everything they need.

£25 per workshop - booking essential.

Festive Meet and Greet with Waffle the Wonder Dog!

Friday 2nd January 2026

5 minute time slots between 1.45 - 3.45

FREE but booking essential.

Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Relaxed Hour

Monday 22nd December

10.30 - 11.30

FREE session for neurodivergent children, where young visitors who would benefit from a more relaxed environment can enjoy and explore our space. With a festive craft.

Get festive at our regular family and community sessions.

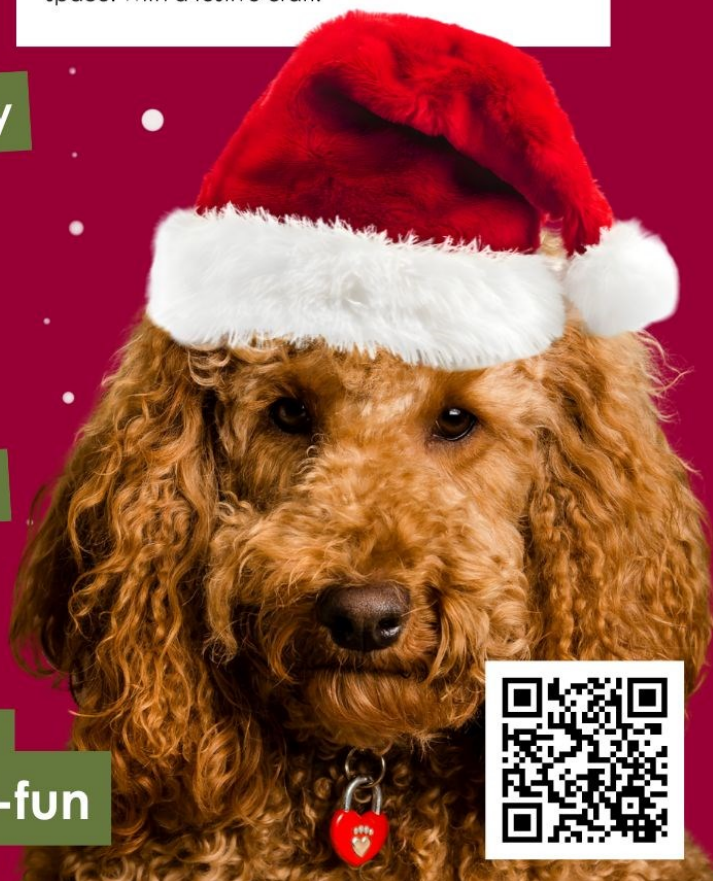
All of our activities over December will be filled with festive fun. Including Mini Explorers and Mini Makers for children aged 2-5, Express Art Group, and The Good Times Craft for adults with dementia and their carers.

... and enjoy our FREE festive hunt

Children will enjoy exploring the art gallery and museum searching out festive clues, with a chance to win a prize!

Scan the QR code to find out more or visit

www.ragm.co.uk/festive-fun





Mental Health in Schools Team Tips For Wellness



Setting Future Goals

Setting goals helps you stay focused, motivated, and positive. They give you something to look forward to and remind you that *you're in charge* of your own journey. It's normal to feel a bit nervous when you think about the future, but looking forward can actually *help* your mental health. Looking to the future helps to build confidence, can give you direction and encourages optimism. Thinking about what's ahead reminds you that good things can still happen — even when times feel tough.

Our Top Tips For Setting Goals:

1. Start Small

Big dreams start with small steps. Pick one thing you'd like to improve—like sleeping better or spending more time outdoors.

2. Make It Realistic

Choose goals that feel *possible*, not perfect. For example, "I'll talk to a friend once a week" is easier than "I'll never feel lonely again."

3. Be Kind to Yourself

Progress takes time! Celebrate small wins and don't be hard on yourself if things don't go perfectly.

4. Write It Down

Keep a journal or use your phone to track how you're doing. Seeing your progress boosts confidence!

5. Ask for Support

You don't have to do it alone. Talk to someone you trust — a friend, teacher or family member— about your goals.

6. Balance Is Key

Make time for fun, rest, and creativity. Mental health goals should make life *feel better*, not busier.



*More information
about goal-setting!*

In Coventry and Warwickshire, for any urgent mental health concerns, contact the Children and Young People's Mental Health Crisis support 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.



Jess is running the

LONDON MARATHON 2026



please donate if you can

for The Myton Hospices

JESS IS HOPING TO RAISE
£5000 IN MEMORY OF HER
MUM, LOUISE YOUNG, WHO
PASSED AWAY IN MARCH
2021, JUST 3 WEEKS AFTER
HER CANCER DIAGNOSIS.

**SHE WANTS TO RAISE THIS
MONEY FOR THE INCREDIBLE
CHARITY THAT SUPPORTED HER
AND HER FAMILY MOST,
THROUGH SUCH A DIFFICULT
TIME!**



In aid of

myton
hospice

**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.



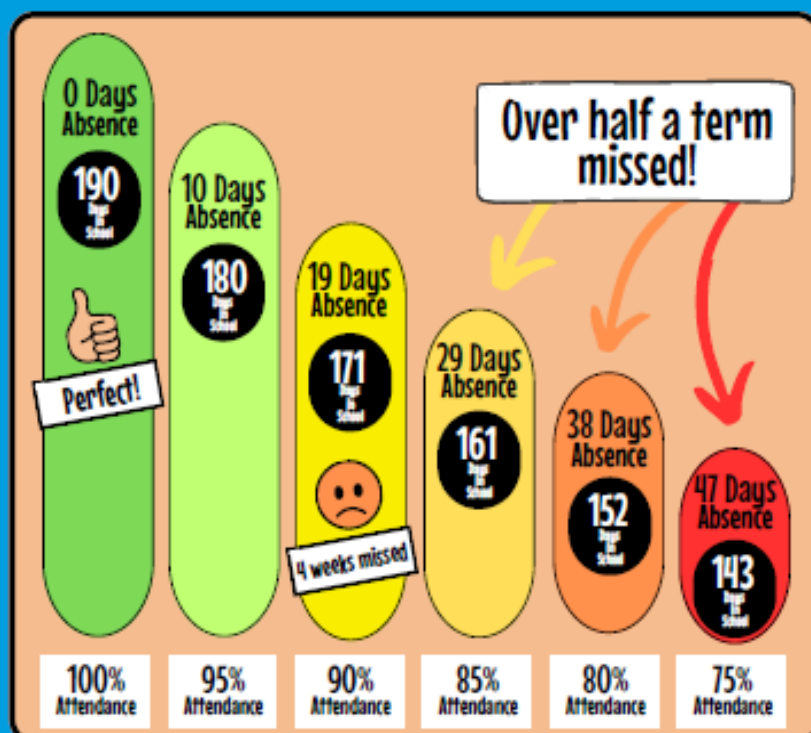
Building Confidence

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



Eat Well, move *More*



Swap sugary drinks for water or milk.



Check portion sizes and give children **smaller** plates.



Make exercise fun with **active games**.



Walk, cycle or scoot for short journeys.



Warwickshire
County Council

For help to stay healthy go to:
www.warwickshire.gov.uk/eatwellmovemore

Age Restrictions for Social Media Platforms

13

is the minimum age for account holders on these social media sites and apps.



X (formerly Twitter)



Facebook



Instagram



Pinterest



Messenger



TikTok



Discord



Snapchat



Twitch



Yubo



Reddit



YouTube



BeReal



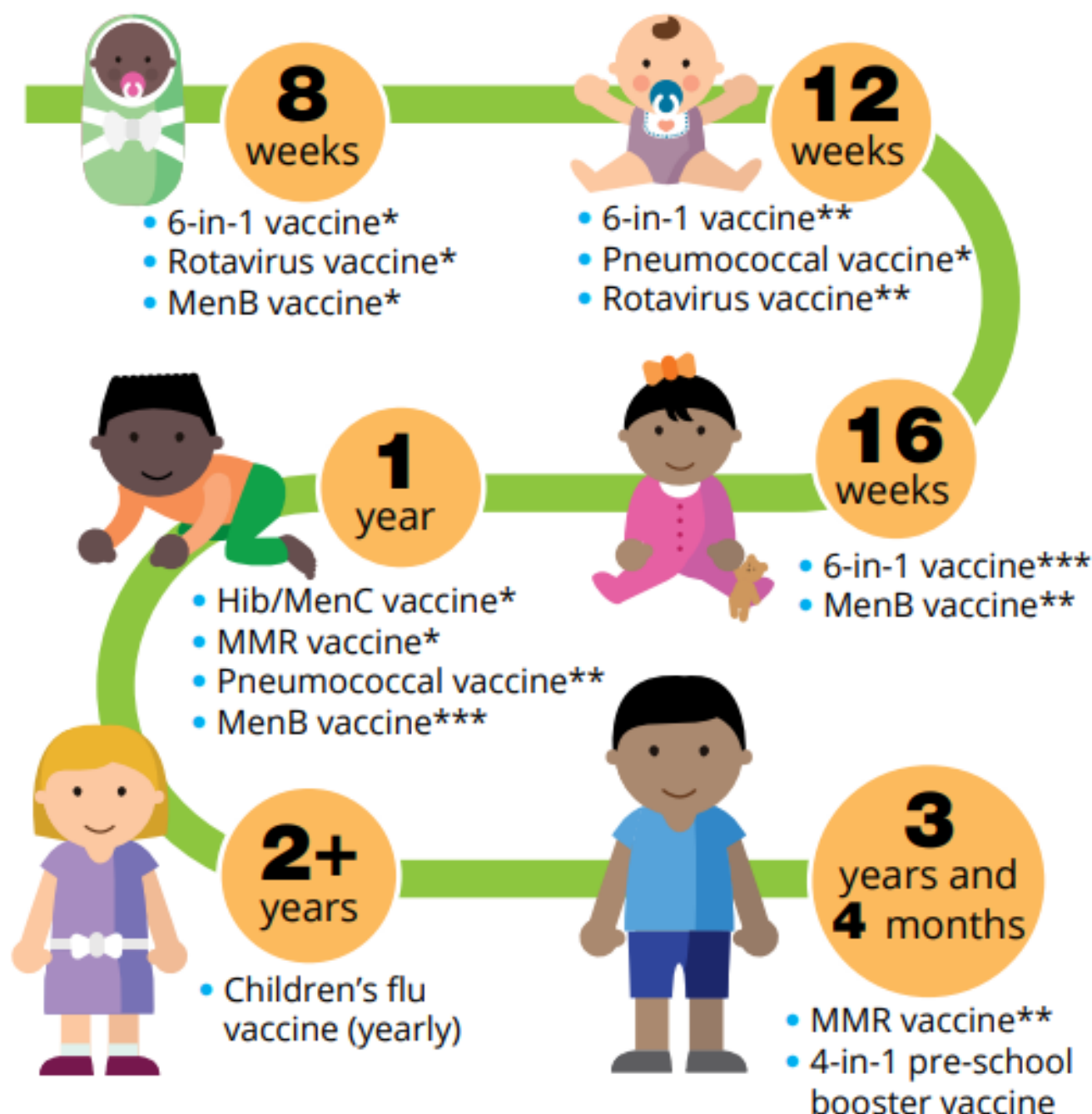
WhatsApp



Disclaimer: This resource/information is not intended to encourage social media use and we cannot accept any responsibility for pupils that sign up to social media sites after using this resource/information. Please note that age restrictions for social media platforms may vary depending on the laws and regulations in your location.



Your child's vaccine schedule



* first dose, **second dose, *** third dose

6-in-1 protects against diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, polio, Hib and hepatitis B

4-in-1 protects against diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough and polio

**Follow your child's vaccine schedule
to protect them against illnesses**

**Stick this
timeline up as a
useful reminder**



- Childhood illnesses like measles and whooping cough are rising
- These illnesses can make children very sick, leading to hospital stays or lifelong problems
- If your child is not vaccinated, they are not protected
- It's important that vaccines are given on time for the best protection. Some need booster doses later too
- Check your child's red book or speak to your GP practice to see if they have missed any
- You can still catch up on most missed vaccines
- All the childhood vaccinations are free. As children grow up, they will be offered more vaccine appointments, right up until they are teenagers. Some vaccines are offered at school
- Vaccinations offered by the NHS are thoroughly tested to assess how safe and effective they are. All medicines can cause side effects, but vaccines are among the very safest.
- Research from around the world shows that immunisation is the safest way to protect our children's health

Are your child's vaccines up to date?
Book now at their GP practice