

St Matthew's Bloxam C of E Primary School

**"Let Your
Light Shine"**

NEWSLETTER

Friday 5th December 2025 Issue 13

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YEAR 5 SPACE CAMP

What a fantastic space camp last night! Year 5 really did a good job at representing our school to our visitor, LA7E at night, and asked some really thoughtful and creative questions. We started our night by setting up our sleeping spaces and had a great array of various beds and cushions and then moved on to some arts and craft activities. The children made galaxies with pastels and planets with paints. We then had our talk and went outside to explore the night's sky before the much anticipated hide and seek in the dark! Some great hiding places were found (particularly Miss Blackaby's!) and then we got into our beds with snacks and hot chocolate to watch Wall-E. All in all, a very enjoyable experience and we hope year 5 had the best time for what was some of their first ever sleepovers!

Miss Blackaby



Diary Dates

Monday 8th December

**Reception & Year 6
Heights and Weights**

Year 5 Swimming

**PaFoS Christmas Fayre
3:15pm**

Tuesday 9th December

**Nursery & Reception
Nativity Play -1:30pm**

**Wednesday 10th
December**

**Nursery & Reception
Nativity Play -9:30am**

**Year 1 & Year 2 Nativity
Play- 1:30pm**

Thursday 11th December

**Year 1 & Year 2 Nativity
Play- 9:30am**

After School Football Club

3:20pm - 4.20pm

Friday 12th December

**Christmas Jumper Day
please bring a monetary
donation for Save the
Children**

CONGRATULATIONS

At the weekend, Jorjia-Jayne took part in the South West Festival Feis Irish Dancing Competition and wow—she was absolutely amazing! We are all so proud of her hard work, talent and determination.

Here are her fantastic results:

- 1st - U9 Beginner Reel
- 1st - U9 Beginner Light Jig
- 1st - U10 Beginners Single Jig
- 1st - U7 Beginner Slip Jig
- 6th - U8 Beginner Hornpipe
- 4th - U7 Beginner Premier Heavy
- 4th - U9 Beginner Treble Reel
- 1st - U8 Primary Premier Reel
Championship

Thanks to these brilliant achievements, Jorjia-Jayne now moves up to Intermediate level in her Championship and to Primary level in all her soft shoes dances.

What an incredible achievement—well done, Jorjia-Jayne!



ATTENDANCE



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

This week's whole school attendance is **95.3%**



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 2nd 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-8831243?
e=04fcebfe0](https://mailchi.mp/warwickshire/family-information-service-newsletter-8831243?e=04fcebfe0)



CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day is back!

On Friday 12th December everyone in school can wear their Christmas Jumper or non school uniform.

This is in exchange for a monetary donation for Save the Children.



Save the Children

Important Dates leading up to Christmas



Monday 8th December - 3.15pm PaFoS Christmas Fayre

Tuesday 9th December – 1.30pm Nursery & Reception Nativity Play

Tuesday 9th December –2.00pm Choir & Worship group going to Knox Court for Christmas service

Wednesday 10th December - 9.30am Nursery & Reception Nativity Play

Wednesday 10th December - 1.30pm Year 1 & 2 Nativity Play

Thursday 11th December - 9.30am Year 1 & 2 Nativity Play

Friday 12th December - Christmas Jumper Day

Monday 15th December – AM Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 trip to Macready Theatre to see 'The Gingerbread Man'

Tuesday 16th December – 9am Years 3,4,5 & 6 Carol Concert

Wednesday 17th December –AM Years 3,4,5,& 6 trip to The Temple Speech Rooms to see 'Not Getting Inn'

Wednesday 17th December - School Christmas Lunch

Thursday 18th December - 9.30am Years 1,2,3,4,5 & 6 Christmas Service at St Oswald's Church

Friday 19th December– School closes for the Christmas break



CHRISTMAS

FAYRE & SANTA'S GROTTO

MONDAY 8th DECEMBER 3:15-5:15

RAFFLE . TOMBOLA . REFRESHMENTS, HOTDOGS
CLASS CRAFTS . POCKET MONEY STALL &
LOTS OF FUN GAMES AND PRIZES TO BE WON

Santa's HELPER WANTED

DECEMBER 8TH

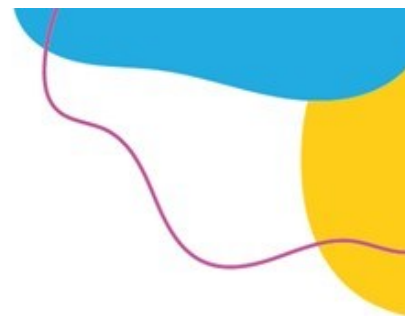
FROM 2PM

**Volunteers
needed for
the Christmas
Fayre**





Mental Health in Schools Team Tips For Wellness



Sleep

Our bodies need sleep and rest to help us function every day. When we are sleeping, it gives our brain and body time to repair and regenerate, re-energise and improve our motivation. We also need sleep to be able to process information, problem solve, learn new things and concentrate (you might notice you find it particularly difficult to focus at school after a bad night's sleep!) Sleep also benefits our mental wellbeing, by helping us to regulate our emotions and mood.

It is important to find time for our brain to completely 'switch off' and rest, to take some time out of our busy day to stop, take a break and do something that promotes our wellbeing!

Our tips for improving sleep:

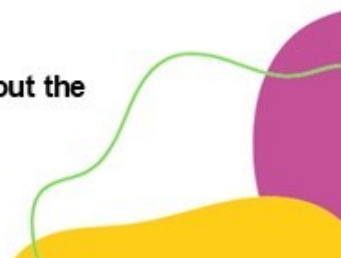
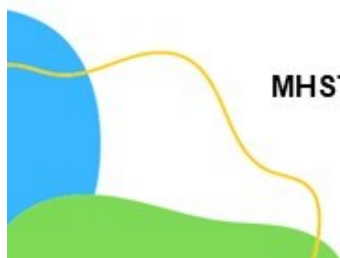
1. **Maintain a regular sleep schedule** – this includes going to bed around the same time every night, as well as waking up at a similar time every morning (even on weekends!) Sleeping in later than normal can disrupt the body's circadian rhythm, which can lead to more tiredness.
2. **Create a calming environment** - dim the lights an hour before bed. Keep the room dark, if possible, try using an eye mask or black out blinds. A cool bedroom and slight drop in body temperature can help us to go to sleep.
3. **Reduce electronics** – using electrical devices before bedtime is one of the main reasons we have sleep difficulties. The light exposure on the screens can trick our brain into thinking it is still daytime, which stops our body from being able to wind down and feel tired! Turn devices on night mode or leave outside your bedroom to limit temptation.
4. **Minimise daytime naps** – napping during the day can make it harder to fall asleep at night, they also break up sleep (which means lower quality sleep and fewer benefits).
5. **Complete homework after school** – getting stuck into homework tasks before bed can delay tiredness, as our brains are busy trying to concentrate! Try to do activities that relax you before bed, to help you switch off from schoolwork.
6. **Spend time relaxing** – you may want to have a shower or run a warm bath, listen to calming music, read a book, journal or keep a diary from the day, stretch, meditate, or spend time with a pet.
7. Scan the QR code for more helpful information and **sleep tips!**



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.



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.

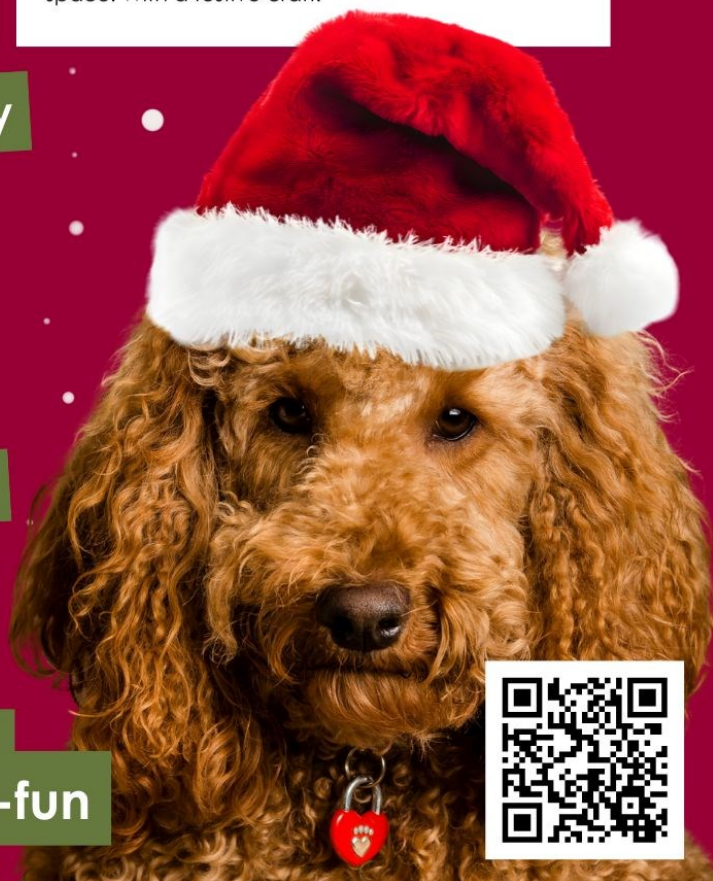
All of our activities over December will be filled with festive fun. Including Mini Explorers and Mini Makers for children aged 2-5, Express Art Group, and The Good Times Craft for adults with dementia and their carers.

... 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





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.



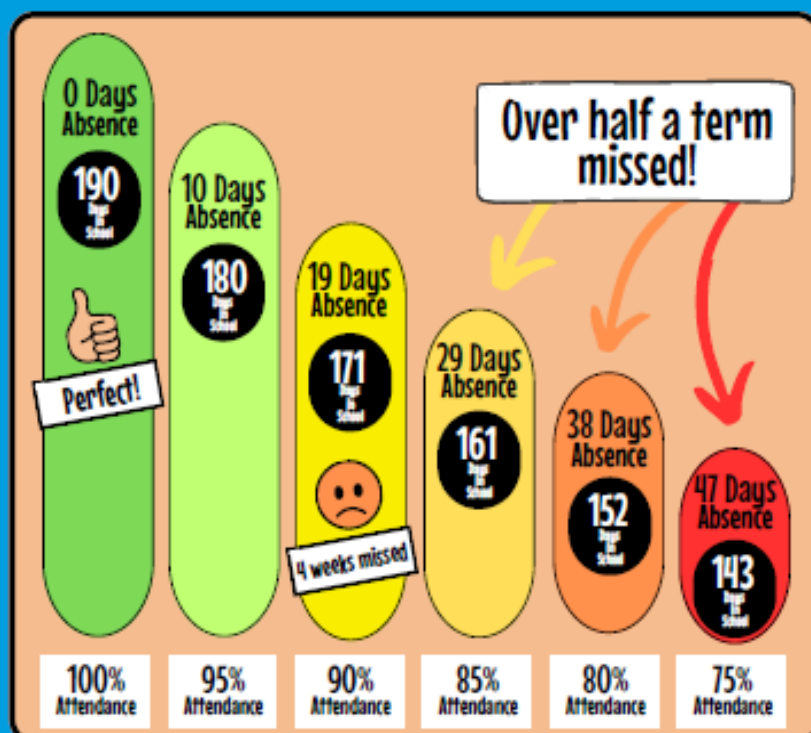
Building Confidence

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



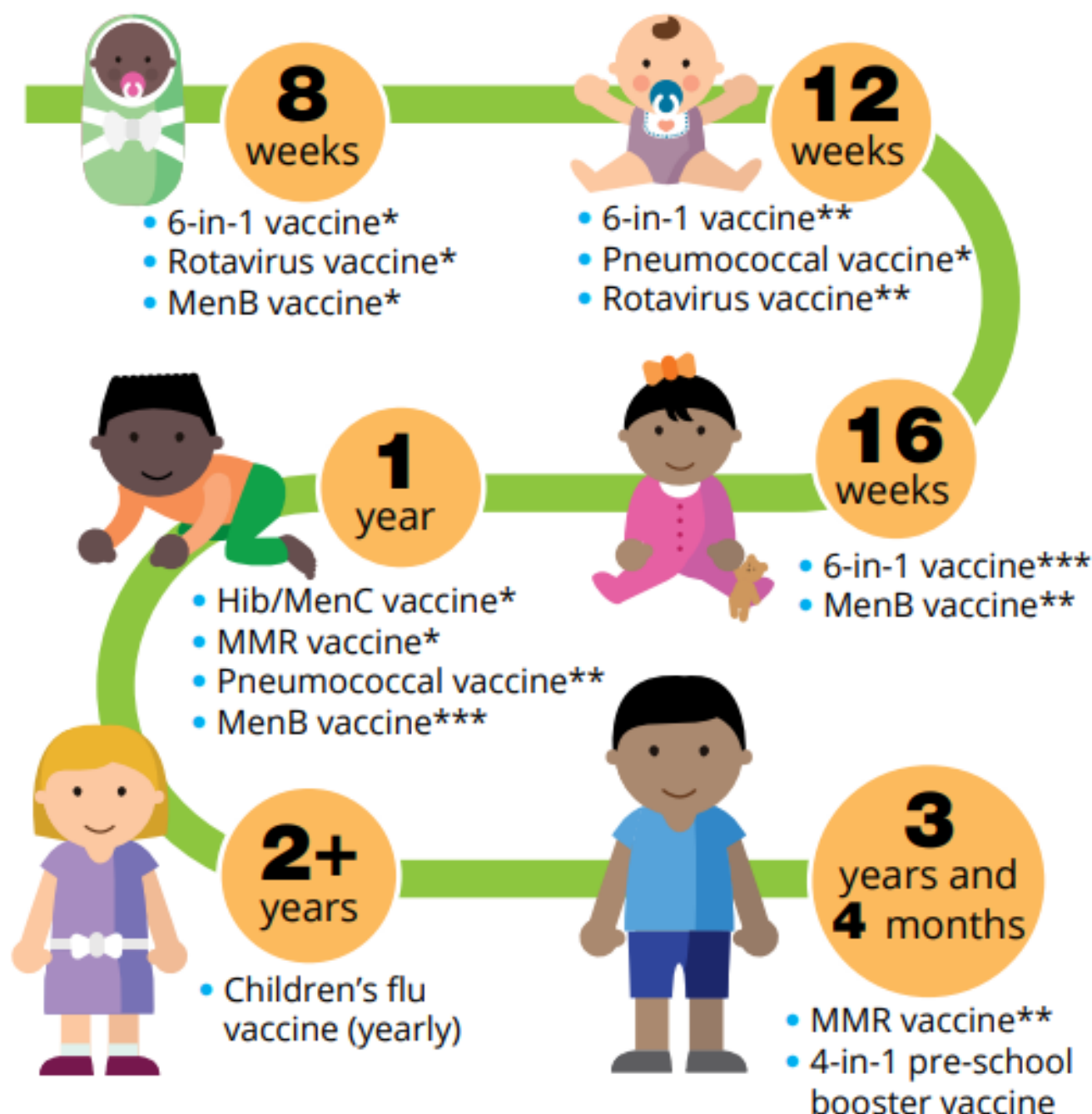
WhatsApp



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