

# St Matthew's Bloxam C of E Primary School

**"Let Your  
Light Shine"**

## NEWSLETTER

Friday 21st November 2025 Issue 11

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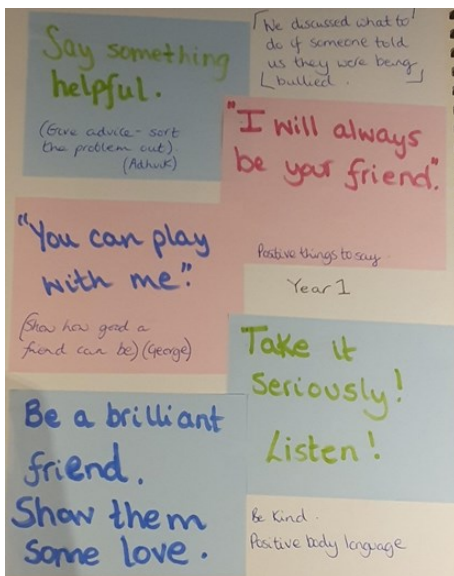
Website: [www.st-matthewsbloxam.co.uk](http://www.st-matthewsbloxam.co.uk)



### PSHE & Anti-Bullying Week

This week, our school took part in Anti-Bullying Week, with a special focus on the theme **"Power for Good."** We began with a whole-school assembly to introduce the message of using our actions and voices positively, and throughout the week pupils took part in lessons exploring the different roles people can play in bullying situations. Alongside this, every year group has been working on the *Celebrating Difference* puzzle piece from Jigsaw, helping us all understand and value what makes each of us unique. It has been a thoughtful and empowering week, reminding us how we can all use our power to make our school a kinder, safer place.

Miss Cartledge



#### Year 2 Class Kindness agreement.

We will be kind.

We will be honest.

We will include people in our games.

We will tell an adult if there is something wrong.

We will help people if they are hurt.

We will use kind words.

We will be respectful to each other.



#### Diary Dates

Monday 24th November

Year 5 Swimming

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Tuesday 25th November

After school Cricket Club  
3:20pm – 4:20pm

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Thursday 27th November

After School Football Club  
3:20pm – 4.20pm

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Friday 28th November

Year 5 class assembly  
9am—parents/carers  
welcome

Non-uniform day in  
exchange for an item for  
PaFos Christmas Fayre  
tombola



## BUILDING BLOX

If you would like to book your child in for Building Blox next half term, please complete the below Microsoft form.

Current places are not reserved and your place does not automatically continue into the following term.

Please note, you will not receive an email confirmation of your request. If there is an issue with fulfilling your request, Mrs Hartwell will contact you via email. When you receive an invoice for your booking, this must be paid in advance before the new half term starts to secure your place.

**New bookings cannot be made if you have any outstanding invoices still to be paid.**

**The deadline for requests is Thursday 27th November at 3pm.**

<https://forms.office.com/e/sHABPzsWRB>

## ATTENDANCE



Our whole school attendance target is **95.5%**

This week's whole school attendance is **96.5%**

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/>

## **This week's Family Information Service Newsletter - Tuesday 18th November 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-1219204-96fqcdqqps-8831086?e=04fcebfe0>



PAFOS



# NON-UNIFORM DONATION DAY

On Friday 28th November your child/children can come to school in Non-Uniform in exchange for an item for our Christmas Tombola.

PaFoS would be grateful for any unopened bottles (drinks), christmas treats (biscuits, chocolates) random tombola items or unwanted new gifts.

Please note, any alcohol must be handed to a member of staff or handed to the office by an adult.



Thank you!





# **PRESALE TOKENS**



**SMB XMAS FAYRE  
MON 8TH DECEMBER**

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**YOU WILL BE ABLE TO PAY ON  
STALLS USING CASH OR  
TOKENS.**

**HOWEVER, THIS YEAR WE ARE  
GOING TO DO A PRESALE, TO  
HELP THINGS RUN SMOOTHLY  
AT THE FAYRE.**

**PLEASE DO USE THIS  
OPPORTUNITY TO BUY YOUR  
TOKENS IN ADVANCE.  
EACH TICKET IT WORTH 50P**

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**THE PRESALE WILL TAKE PLACE ON  
THE PLAYGROUND OR IN THE  
CONSERVATORY, IMMEDIATELY  
BEFORE SCHOOL ON THE MORNINGS  
OF 24TH-28TH NOVEMBER.**

# **SANTA NEEDS YOU!**

***MONDAY 8TH DECEMBER***  
**SMB CHRISTMAS FAYRE**



**HO HO HO Santa Here!**

**Hello you lovely people, please can you spare some time to  
help me and my elves set up or run a stall at the Christmas  
Fayre?**

**Even if its just for 30 minutes.**

**Your help would be much appreciated!**

**Please speak to Laura or email [secretary-pafos@live.co.uk](mailto:secretary-pafos@live.co.uk)**

**Thank you!**



BISCUITS

Drinks

**PaFoS  
Tuck Shop  
\*THURSDAYS\*  
after school  
in the  
conservatory**

All items are priced

2 for 50p

50p

£1

Cash and card machine  
available

Sweets

Crisps





## Mental Health in Schools Team Tips For Wellness



### Winter Wellness

It is important to focus on our wellness during the colder months. Winter is a time where our bodies may start to crave the same warmth and comfort we had during the summer months. We might associate winter with the winter blues, but we need to try and create some space for self-care and slow down to nourish our physical and mental health! Sometimes we might feel the winter blues because of the lack of sun and vitamin D we are getting. This is why our mental wellbeing should be a big focus during these months, and we should find creative ways to stay on track, keep up motivation, and look after ourselves.

#### Our Top Tips For Winter Wellness:

1. Wrap up warm and lay down with a blanket and a hot drink.
2. Do some **fun activities outside** in the natural sunlight such as going for walks or seeing friends (you might need to wrap up warm for this!) Even on cold days, fresh air and natural light boosts our mood.
3. **Stay active** – try indoor exercises to help get your body moving during the colder months. You could keep your energy up by dancing, swimming, or practising yoga. You could also find an exercise video online for you to do at home!
4. You might even want to go to your local café and read a book in the daytime or have a warm relaxing bath when you're home after a cold day.
5. **Keep up your routines**- getting up in the morning is harder in winter when it's cold and dark. Shorter days also make it tempting to sleep more, but consistent sleep helps your mind feel balanced.
6. **Eat well and stay hydrated** — good nutrition fuels your brain and body.
7. **Talk about how you're feeling** — sharing your thoughts can help if you're feeling low or stressed.

**Remember to always make time for yourself at the end of a long day!**

*Scan the QR code for more ideas  
about how to keep well in Winter:*



**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



# 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.

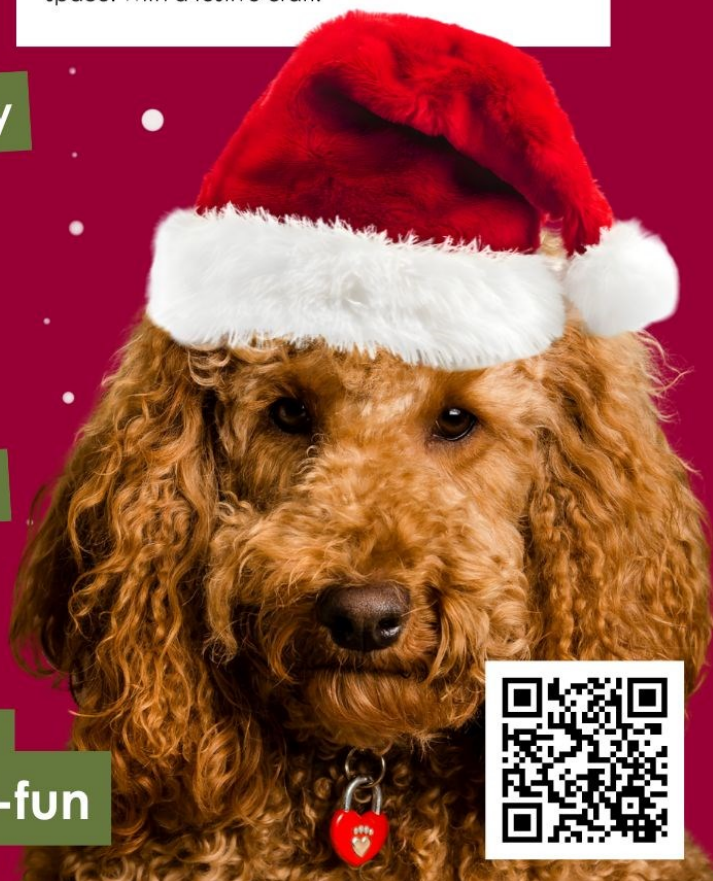
All of our activities over December will be filled with festive fun. Including Mini Explorers and Mini Makers for children aged 2-5, Express Art Group, and The Good Times Craft for adults with dementia and their carers.

## ... 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](http://www.ragm.co.uk/festive-fun)**





**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.



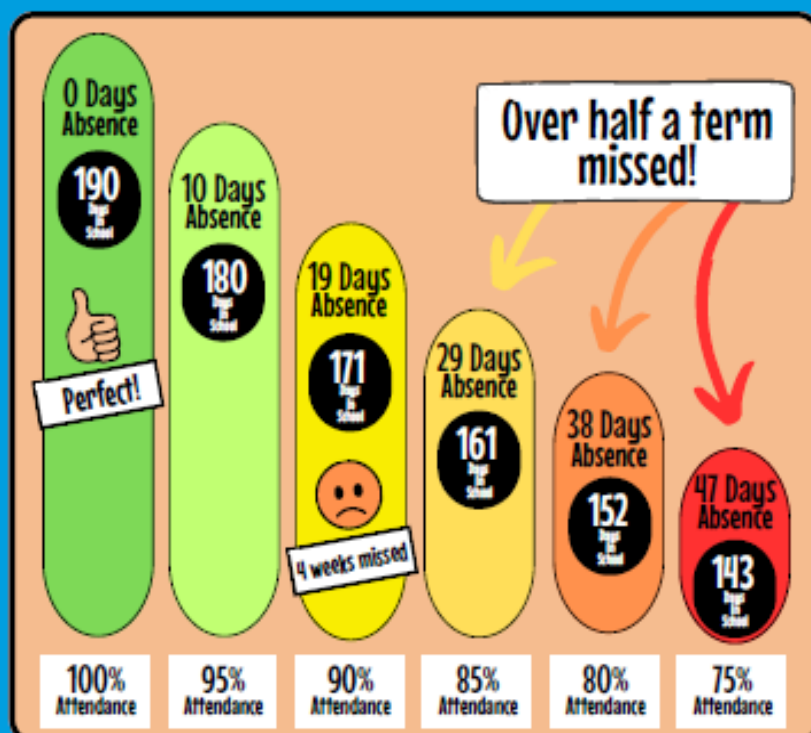
### Building Confidence

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](http://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



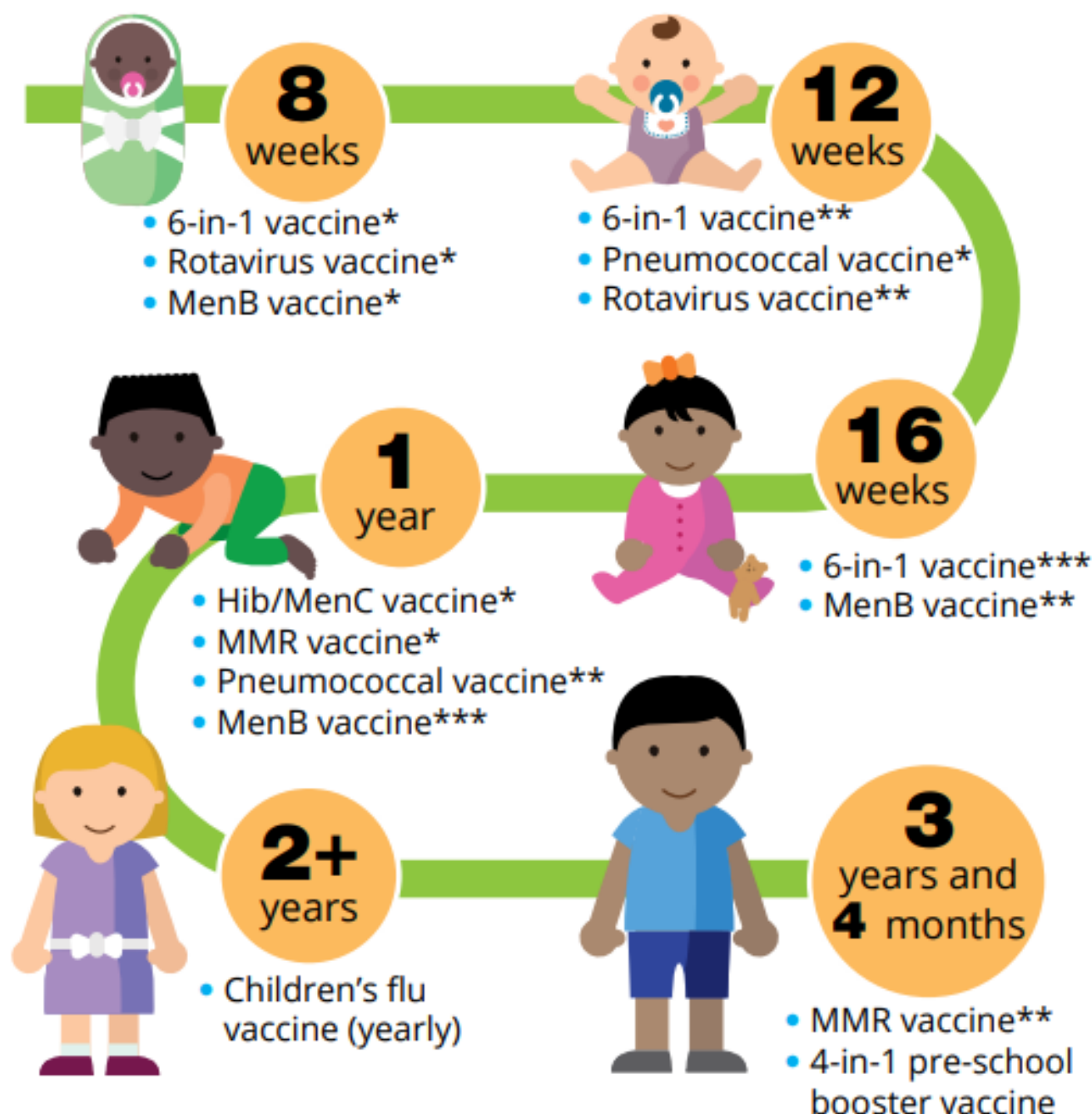
WhatsApp



**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**