

St Matthew's Bloxam C of E Primary School

**"Let Your
Light Shine"**

NEWSLETTER

Friday 14th November 2025 Issue 10

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We love to play in Early Years!

In Reception and Nursery, play is at the heart of everything we do! When children play, they're not just playing – they are learning, exploring, imagining and growing. Through play, the children develop important skills including talking, sharing, problem-solving and thinking creatively. The children love role-playing, being creative, exploring outside, reading, writing, playing games, building and lots more!

In Early Years, we have been learning all about festivals and celebrations this term, we have celebrated Diwali, bonfire night and thought about the people in wars during our minute silence for Remembrance Day.

The Early Years Team



Diary Dates

Monday 17th November

Year 5 Swimming

Tuesday 18th November

**Whole School Flu
Immunisations**

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

Thursday 20th November

**After School Football Club
3:20pm – 4.20pm**

Friday 21st November

**Year 4 Celebration
assembly 9am—parents/
carers welcome**



EARLY YEARS



ATTENDANCE



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

This week's whole school attendance is **98.3%**

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/>

This week's Family Information Service Newsletter - Tuesday 11th 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-8831017?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!



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



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

Thank you!

It's (nearly) Christmas!

PaFoS, St. Matthew Bloxam's PTA is in need of raffle donations for our Christmas Fayre.

If you have a business, or are employed by a company that is able to donate a raffle prize, voucher or gift, we would be extremely grateful.

In return we will advertise your business on our social media, and at the Fayre.

If you can help, please email 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



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



Mental Health in Schools Team Tips For Wellness



Motivation

Motivation is what helps you start and keep going with your goals, this may be linked to school, hobbies or life stuff. It is the 'why' behind what you are doing. Motivation can help you to finish a task or practise a new skill, it can make learning and playing more fun and help you to feel proud when you have done something great.

Sometimes it can be difficult to find motivation to begin an activity. To help with this, think about what is your 'why'. Ask yourself what goal matters to you and connect with what excites or inspires you.

Our Top Tips For Motivation:

1. **Set small and clear goals:** Break big tasks into bite-sized steps. Ensure you celebrate each smaller win along the way.
2. **Create a routine that works for you:** Having a plan for your day can help to keep you on track and reduce potential stress.
3. **Remain positive:** If you are finding an activity difficult, remember to be kind to yourself. If something is hard, say, 'I am learning' instead of 'I can't do it'.
4. **Ask for help:** It is ok to ask family, friends or teachers for some help when you get stuck.
5. **Motivational matching activity:** Write some goals down on individual pieces of paper e.g., 'to finish my homework' and some motivational reasons down on another piece of paper e.g., 'to help me learn new things'. Spread the paper around upside down. Take turns flipping them over to match a goal with a motivational reason. When a pair is found, have a conversation about why that motivation may help to achieve the goal. Consider any barriers to achieving the goal and plan how you could overcome them.

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.



Chess in Schools and Communities is delighted to offer a series of **free online chess webinars**, running weekly from 18 November to 11 December. The sessions are aimed at children in Years 4–8, but **anyone is welcome to join**.

There are three levels of webinar to choose from: beginner, intermediate and advanced. To join the beginner webinar, children need only know the basic rules of chess. Parents can choose which level their child should attend. Each level will be repeated twice a week for ease of attendance. Alongside the webinars, children will have the opportunity to learn through [ChessKid](#), a safe platform designed for primary school children.

At the end of the webinar series, some participants will be invited to attend a series of ten online masterclasses starting in January 2026. Places will be awarded on the basis of attendance of webinars and completion of weekly homework tasks on ChessKid.

Parents who want their child to take part in the webinars should follow [this link](#) and complete the registration form. We would be very grateful if you could forward this information to anyone you think might be interested.

Thank for your help in encouraging children to take advantage of these free chess lessons.

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.

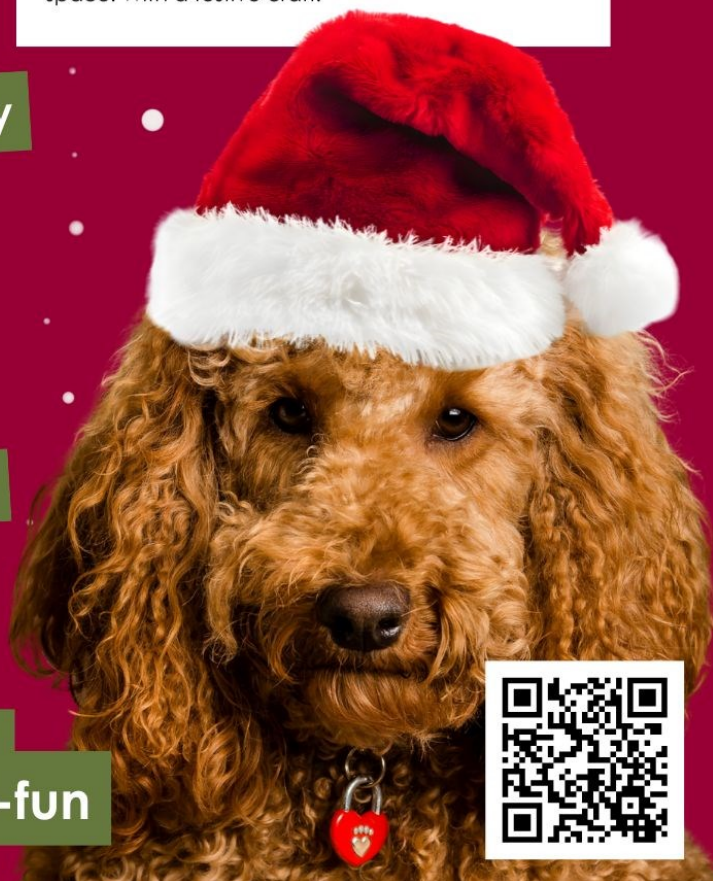
All of our activities over December will be filled with festive fun. Including Mini Explorers and Mini Makers for children aged 2-5, Express Art Group, and The Good Times Craft for adults with dementia and their carers.

... 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



**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.



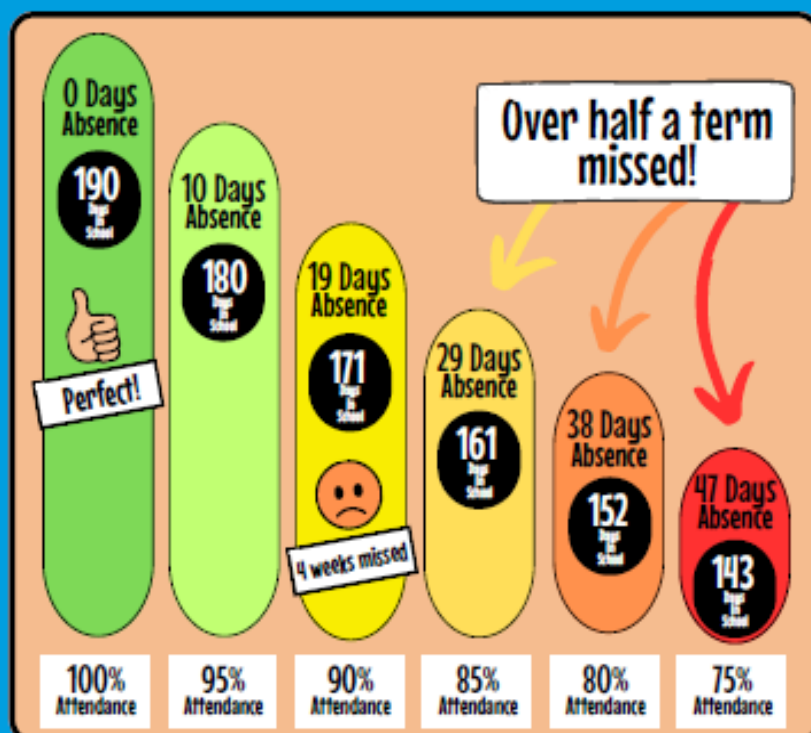
Building Confidence

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



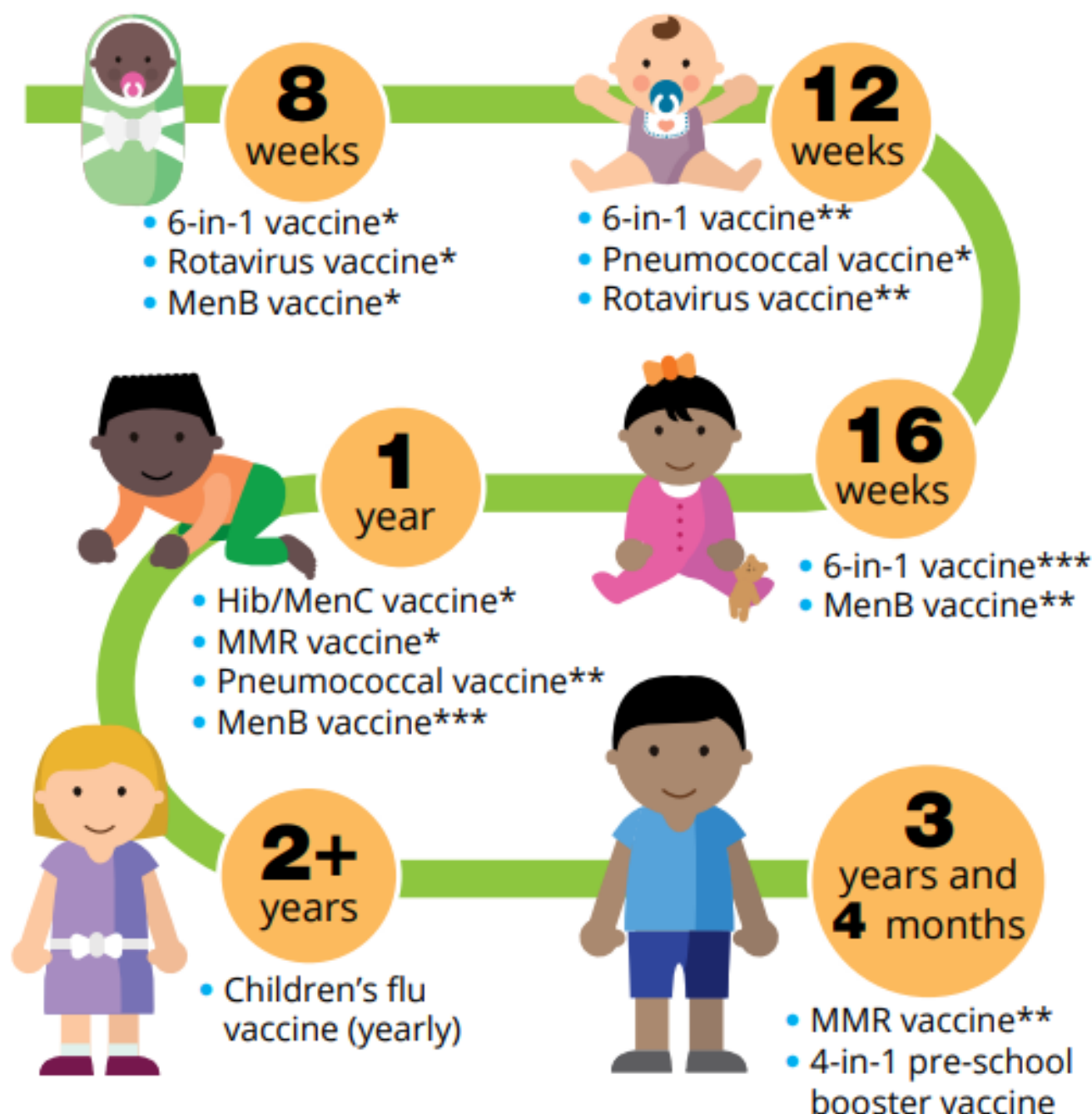
WhatsApp



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