

St Matthew's Bloxam C of E Primary School

**"Let Your
Light Shine"**

NEWSLETTER

Friday 17th October 2025 Issue 7

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Year 2

What a fabulous start the children have made to Year 2! Miss Cartledge and Mrs Stock are so proud of all of them and the fantastic progress they have made so far.

Maths

The children in Year 2 have been learning about place value, partitioning numbers flexibly and learning how to count in 3s have been a highlight. They recently started to learn about addition and subtraction, building on their knowledge from Year 1.

English

The Day the Crayons Quit has been our favourite text so far this year. The children have produced some fantastic pieces of writing. The glue sticks in our class must have listened to the story as they left us a letter to say they quit too! Luckily, the children wrote some very persuasive letters and the glue sticks returned! We have been so impressed with the reading in class too. Lots of the children have been accessing the library too!

Science

We have been learning about animals including humans. We wrote a message in a bottle to say what we would need to survive on a desert island, found out about human and animal life cycles. We found out lots about the chicks, we enjoyed looking after them and of course giving them a cuddle! We have also carried out investigations linked to healthy living.

Geography

We have been learning how to create a simple map with a key. We created maps of school, our route to school and carried out fieldwork around school. We have learnt how to use a compass and give simple directions.

Wider curriculum

In art, we have been learning about Vincent Van Gogh, making tints and shades with watercolours and we created our own versions of Van Gogh's sunflowers painting. We have enjoyed coding in computing, lots of singing in music lessons and learning about what makes us special in PSHE. In PE, we have been practising basketball, football and tennis skills, we loved taking part in Drumba too!

Thank you Year 2 for a wonderful first half term! We can't wait to see what else the children achieve and enjoy this year!

Miss Cartledge

Diary Dates

Monday 20th October

Year 5 Swimming

Police Junior Academy all week for Year 6

Parent/Carer meetings with teachers 3:15pm -

Wednesday 22nd October

Whole School Black History Day

Parent/Carer meetings with teachers 3:15pm

Thursday 23rd October

Football After School Club

3:20pm – 4.20pm

Friday 24th October

Non Uniform for PaFoS Christmas Fayre

Year 6 Police Junior Academy Passing Out Parade 2:15pm Parents/Carers welcome

School Closed for Half Term

Monday 3rd November

School reopens for Autumn 2 term

YEAR 2



PIC•COLLAGE

RUGBY FOODBANK DONATION

A big thank you to everyone who brought in a donation for Rugby Foodbank. We were delighted with the amount collected!

Best Wishes

Mrs Timson



PURPLE MASH

**purple
mash**

Do you know, the children can access purple mash and play games and code at home?

They will need their welearn email address and password (the same ones we use at school.) and access through <https://welearn365.com/>

YEAR 6 PARENTS/CARERS

APPLYING FOR A SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACE

The application process is now open to submit your application for their secondary school place.

The deadline to apply for a secondary school place is **31st October 2025**

If you miss this deadline, you are much less likely to get offered a place at a preferred school because you will be allocated a place after everyone who applied on time.

This deadline applies to all families, even if your child is sitting the 11+ exam. You still need to submit an application for your chosen secondary schools.

Please visit <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/applying-secondary-school-place> for more guidance on how to submit your application by the **31st October deadline**.

YEAR 6

There is no class assembly on 24.10.25. at 9am.

Instead Year 6 will be having their

Police Junior Academy Passing Out Parade at 2:15pm.

All parents & carers are very welcome to attend.



ATTENDANCE



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

This week's whole school attendance is **97.2%**



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 7th October 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-8830705?e=04fcebfe0>



PAFOS



NON-UNIFORM

DONATION DAY

On Friday 24th October your child/children can come to school in Non-Uniform in exchange for a £1 or a donation for our Christmas Fayre.

PaFoS would be grateful for any unopened bottled items (pop, wine, shampoo, shower gel, etc) 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!



Please join us for St Matthews Bloxam's

PAFOS MEETING

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD



6:30 PM

VENUE TO BE CONFIRMED

Refreshments will be provided!

We will be discussing the upcoming christmas fayre
and looking for new ideas

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

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

We are excited to see you there!

Book Santa's Grotto

Letters will be going out soon to book your spaces to see Santa at our Christmas Fayre on Monday 8th December.

Your child/children can get a chance to have a photo with Santa and receive a gift from him.

There will be limited spaces and time slots so make sure you hand in your forms and the correct money as fast as you can.



It's (nearly) Christmas!

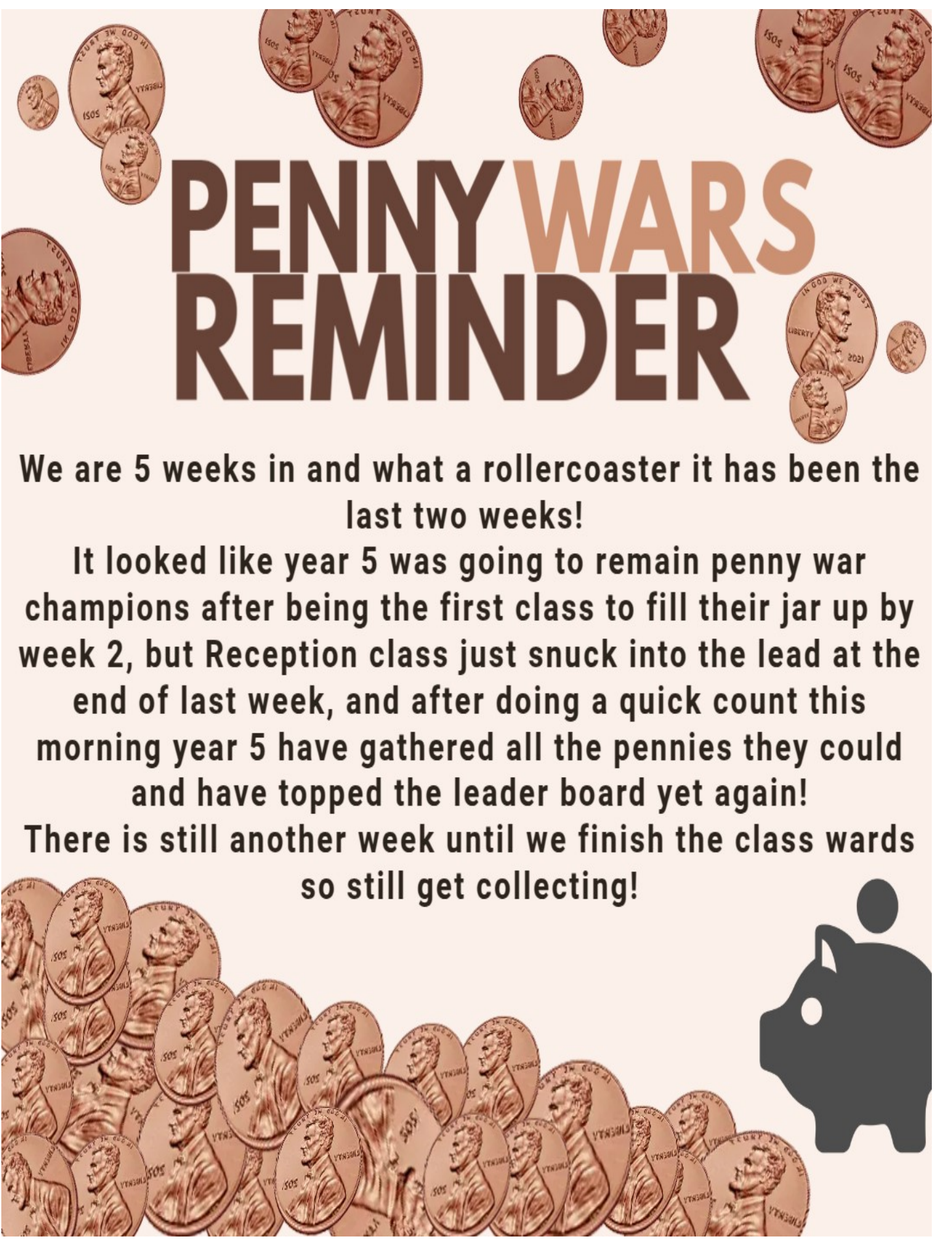
PaFoS, St. Matthew Bloxam's PTA is in need of raffle donations for our Christmas Fayre.

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

The image features a decorative border of US pennies. At the top, several pennies are scattered across the width of the page. At the bottom, a large, dense pile of pennies is shown, overlapping each other. On the right side, there is a small graphic of a piggy bank with a coin being inserted into its slot.

PENNY WARS **REMINDER**

We are 5 weeks in and what a rollercoaster it has been the last two weeks!

It looked like year 5 was going to remain penny war champions after being the first class to fill their jar up by week 2, but Reception class just snuck into the lead at the end of last week, and after doing a quick count this morning year 5 have gathered all the pennies they could and have topped the leader board yet again!

There is still another week until we finish the class wards so still get collecting!

PaFoS PRE-LOVED UNIFORM SALE

PaFoS Sale of pre-loved school uniform

Thursday 23rd October from 3pm!

PaFoS will be selling pre-loved logo and plain Jumpers, Cardigans, Trousers, Skirts, Shorts, Pinafore and Summer Dresses in sizes 4 to 15 years

All items just £1 each



All proceeds go towards providing additional activities and equipment to enhance and enrich the children's learning experiences and opportunities.



Mental Health in Schools Team

Tips For Wellness



Thoughtfulness

Being thoughtful is when you consider, or think about, how your actions and words will affect other people's feelings. Taking the time to make ourselves aware of the needs and feelings of others and then taking action to help them is great for our mental health; it helps reduce stress, improve friendships and creates a sense of belonging.

When we think about how others feel and show kindness, it makes us feel good inside and boosts our confidence!

Our tips for Thoughtfulness:

You can be thoughtful through small acts of kindness; it doesn't have to be a grand gesture! Here are some examples below:

- Smile at someone.
- Listen carefully when someone is talking—it shows you care about what they're saying.
- Give someone a nice compliment.
- Help out without being asked, like sharing your things or tidying up.
- Think about how others might feel before you act or say something.
- Hug someone you care about (e.g., parents/carers, family members or a friend).
- Hold the door open for the person behind you.
- Say kind things to others and try to cheer someone up if they're feeling sad.
- Say "thank you" and "please"—small words can make a big difference.
- Tell someone that they are important to you.

Scan the QR code for more information about the benefits of being kind and thoughtful to ourselves and others:



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.

**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.**

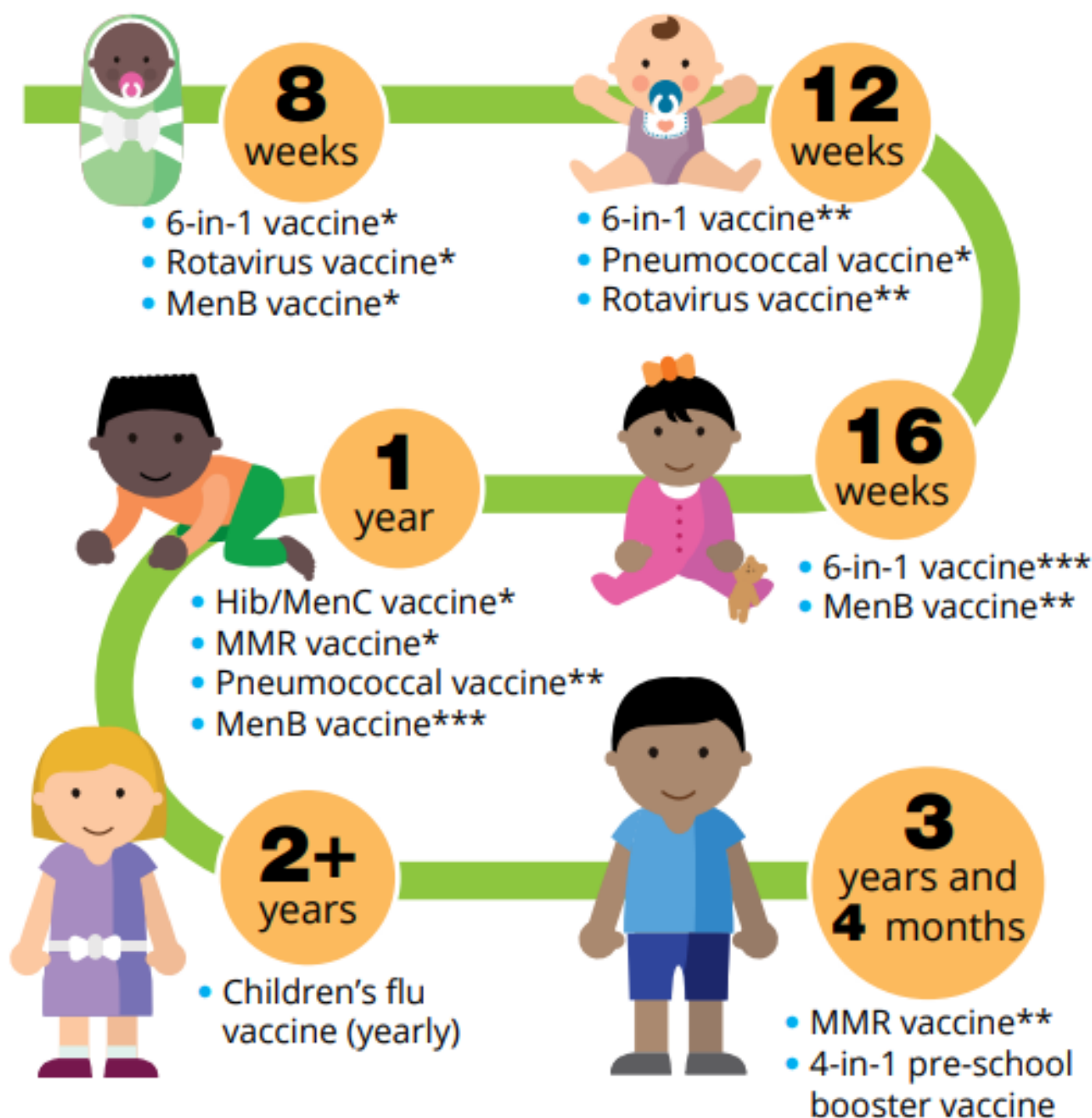


HM Government





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

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.



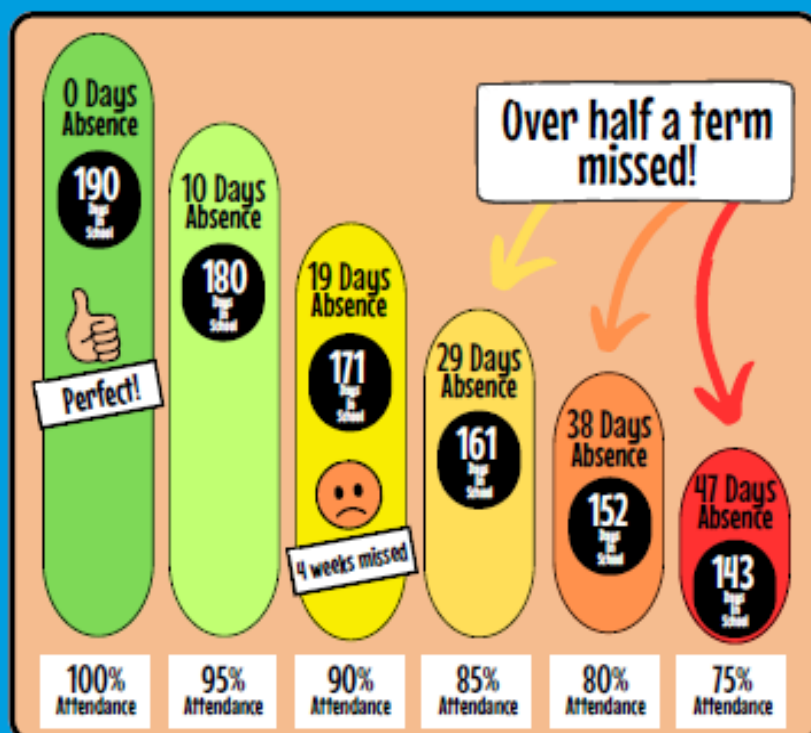
Building Confidence

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.

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



- 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