

St Matthew's Bloxam C of E Primary School

"Let Your
Light Shine"

NEWSLETTER

Friday 19th September 2025 Issue 3

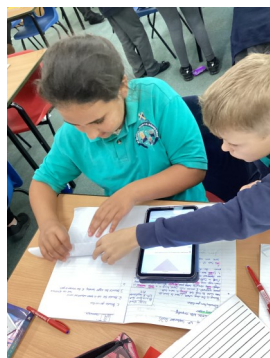
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YEAR 5

What a fantastic start to year 5! We have had such a packed few weeks and year 5 have shown themselves to be hard workers and very excited about books! We have spent the first two weeks reading the picture book, *The Arrival* by Shaun Tan as part of a whole school focus on this author. It is quite a sad story and year 5 have written some fantastic stories to go alongside the pictures and then wrote a letter in role as the father in the book, who was leaving and then learned how to fold these letters into origami birds to give to his daughter as a keepsake. We have now moved on to reading the book, *Who Let the God's Out* which has been ever so exciting! We also went out to the forest school area for our first of many sessions, this time with a focus on science and were lucky enough on Wednesday to have our first ukulele lesson, in which year 5 were treated to a guitar performance from our new teacher, Mr Tyler! Year 5 then learned the elevator song with him, practising using different pitches and then learned how to use held thumb to strum the ukulele. I am very excited to see the work year 5 produce over the next few weeks!

Miss Blackaby



Diary Dates

Monday 22nd September – Year 6 swimming , chicks in school for 2 weeks

Thursday 25th September — Football Afterschool Club 3:20pm-4:20pm



The school has strong links with St Oswald's Church. Further details are available from www.smso.org.uk

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 **31 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**.



ATTENDANCE



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

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 16th September 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-1219204-96fqcdqgps-8830408?e=04fcebfe0>

SEVERN TRENT PARENT SURVEY

Severn Trent presented an assembly this week providing pupils with lots of useful information.

They have asked if school can share a survey for parents to complete using the link below.

<https://forms.office.com/e/F8Z0eDRFfx>

Anyone completing the survey will be entered into a quarterly prize draw!



SCHOOL UNIFORM

Can we please ask that ALL uniform is named.

Can we ask that pupils arrive at school suitably dressed for the weather conditions.

Please ensure your child has a jumper/cardigan and a coat when the weather is cold and wet.

Can you please check that your child does not have another pupil's uniform as named items may have gone home with the wrong children.

PARKING REMINDER

Can we ask that you park considerately when dropping off and collecting your children from school.

Please do not block driveways of nearby houses

We have been informed of near misses by the gym involving pupils running in the road and in the gym carpark. Please ensure children are walking safely to avoid any accidents.

Thank you



VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Your School PTA Needs You





PAFOS ARE HOSTING

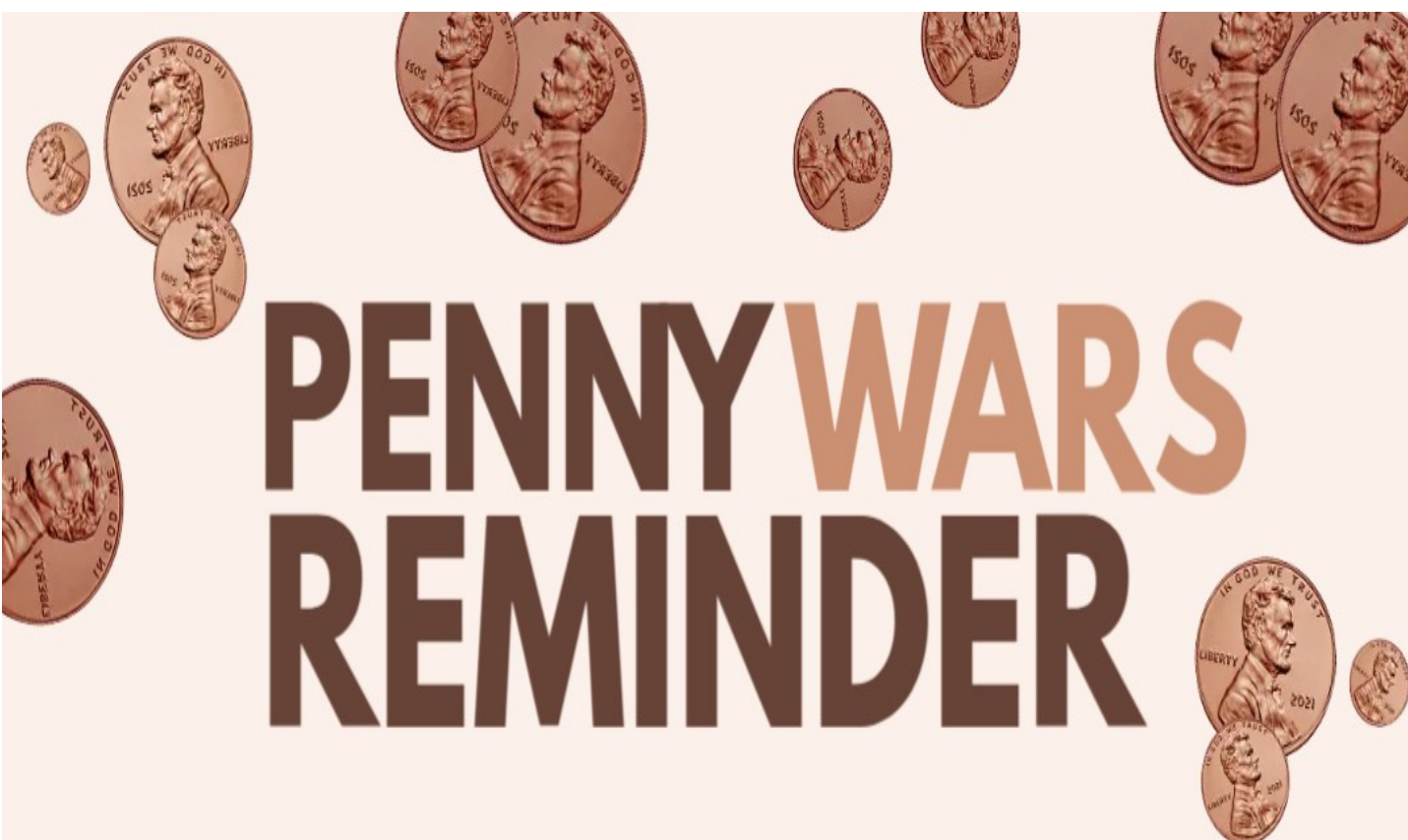
AUTUMN CRAFT FAIR & TABLE TOP SALE

11th October 2025

WITH FOOD AND REFRESHMENTS

12:00 - 3:00PM

If you would like a table please
get intouch with Laura or email
secretary-pafos@live.co.uk

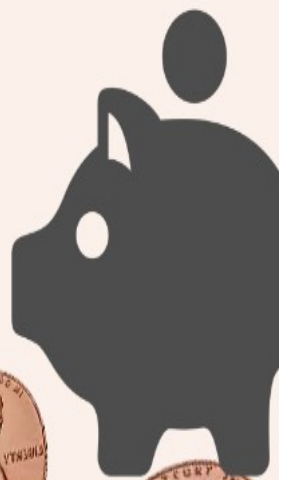
A collection of US pennies is scattered across the top half of the image, surrounding the title. The pennies are shown in various orientations, some facing left and some facing right, with the Lincoln Memorial and the word 'LIBERTY' visible on some.

PENNY WARS **REMINDER**

The first week has ended
How much pennies/change have you brought in so far?

**There is another 5 weeks left until we announce
the winning class**

Good Luck and keep collecting!





Thursdays
5pm-6pm
Term Time Only



NEWBOLD VILLAGE HALL



playdevelopment@rugby.gov.uk

Get Creative
Get Active
Get Confident



Friendly & Fun ✨
Activity Workshop Group
For girls 7-11yrs
looking to grow in
confidence. ✨



**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





Mental Health in Schools Team Tips For Wellness



Mind and Body

Just as we look after our physical health, it's important to look after our mental health. In fact, the two are closely connected!

Most of us will know what it's like to feel worried, stressed or low from time to time. We might be affected by our relationships with friends and classmates or things we see on the news, and we might feel worried about school or our home lives (this is understandable!) Recognising how our mind health and physical health work together can keep us mentally healthy.

Our Tips for looking after your Mind and Body:

To ensure a healthy mind and body, why not try some of the activities below? Can you choose one from each category?

1. **Physical**- healthy eating with plenty of water, time away from technology and get fresh air where you can, regular exercise every day (e.g., walk to school or get off the bus a stop earlier, dance, or stretch), a consistent sleep schedule (children aged 6-12 years should aim for 9-12 hours sleep per night, adolescents should aim for 8-10 hours).
2. **Social**- spend quality time with friends and family, connect with others in person (as well as online), join a club or community group, reach out to others and don't be afraid to ask for help or offer support.
3. **Practical**- keep a daily routine to create structure and stability, use checklists to act as reminders and to hold yourself accountable, get ready for the day each morning, set yourself small and achievable goals to stay motivated.
4. **Emotional**- develop supportive friendships, write down three good things from your day, take time to do something relaxing every day, practise self-kindness (e.g., treat yourself how you would treat a friend!)

Scan the QR code for more ideas around keeping a healthy mind and body.



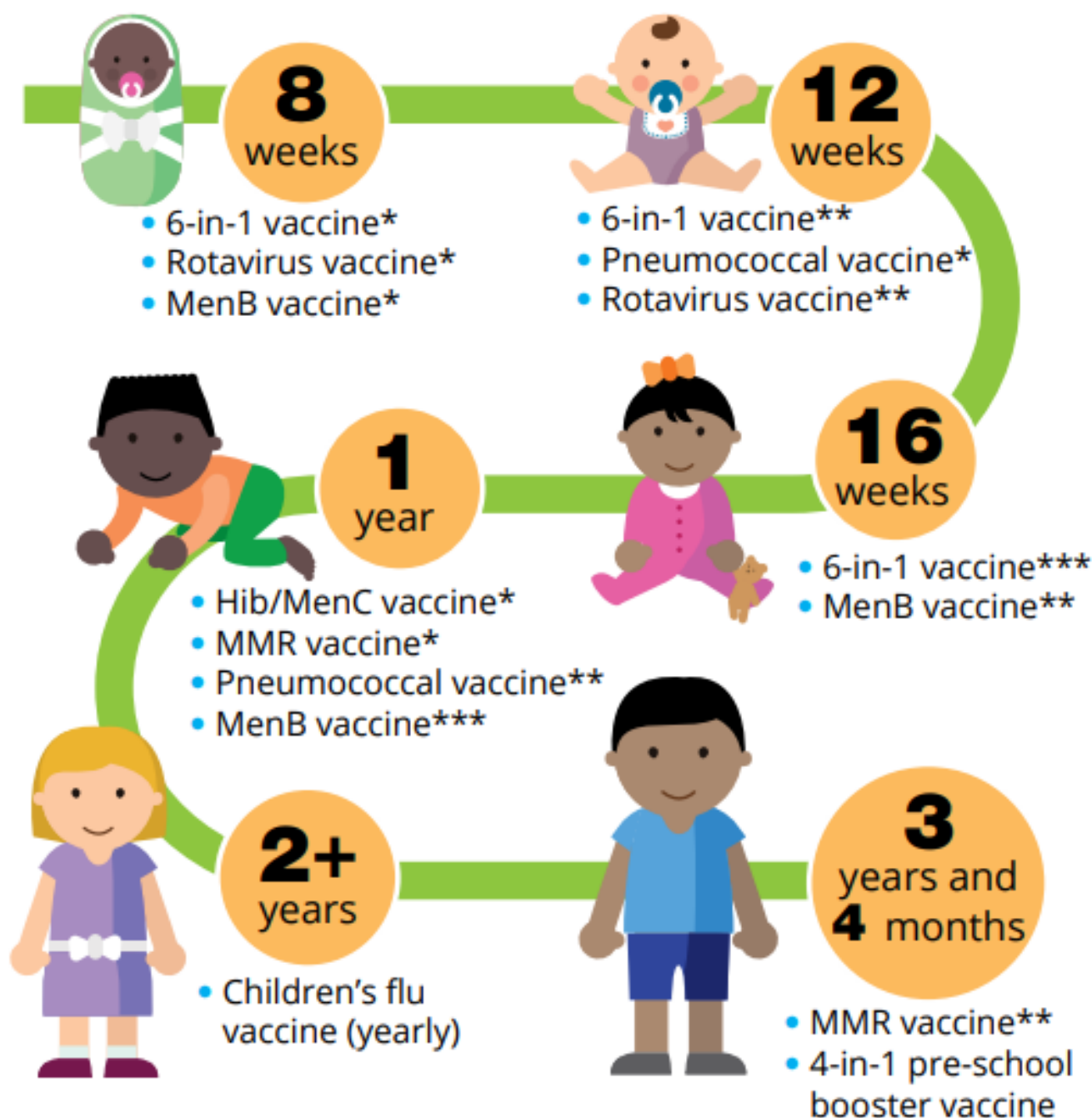
#ThanksKids recognises the efforts and kindness of children and young people, and thanks them with personalised #NHSSStars certificates. If you know a child or young person that deserves recognition for going above and beyond, don't wait, nominate! thankskids@covwarkpt.nhs.uk.

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.



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.



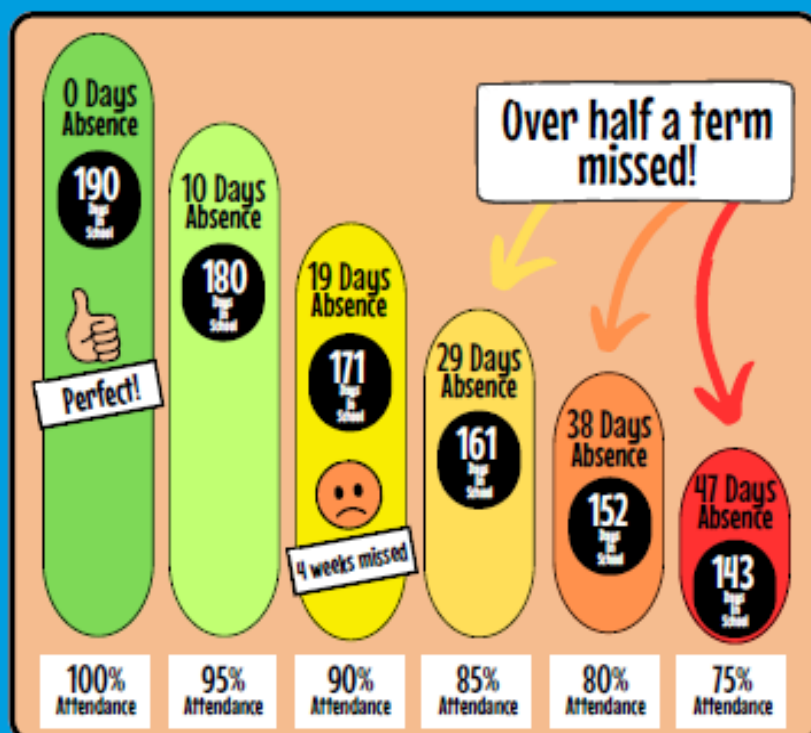
Building Confidence

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