

St Matthew's Bloxam C of E Primary School

**"Let Your
Light Shine"**

NEWSLETTER

Friday 16th May 2025 Issue 31

Telephone/Fax: 01788 542610

e-mail: admin3213@welearn365.com

Website: www.st-matthewsbloxam.co.uk



YEAR 4

Year 4 have had a fantastic year, making incredible progress both personally and academically. I'm so proud of each and every one of them—their enthusiasm, resilience, and kindness have made teaching them an absolute joy! As I prepare to go on maternity leave, I know I will miss them very much. Keep shining, Year 4—you're all amazing!

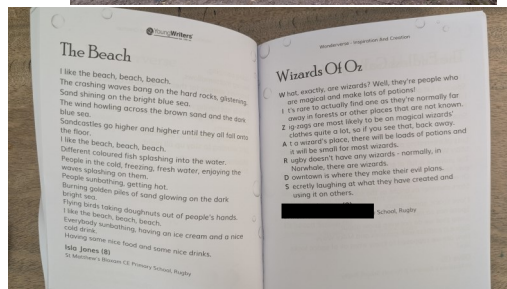
Some of the exciting things we have been doing recently...

A fantastic day at Blackwell Adventure! Children pushed themselves outside of their comfort zone and had a go at kayaking and rafting. They showed great courage even when a little scared. We had a few falling in the water accidentally and a few brave ones jumping in!

Year 4 became published authors!

A few months ago the children took part in a poetry competition. As part of the competition, the children got the opportunity to have their work published in a book. What a wonderful achievement!

Miss Hughes



Diary Dates

Monday 19th May

Year 3 Swimming

Tuesday 20th May

After School Games Club

Years 1-6

3:20pm-4:20pm

Wednesday 21st May

Year 2 & 3 school trip to Ninja
Warrior & Islamic Centre

After School Cricket Club

Year 3- 6

3:20pm-4:20pm

Thursday 22nd May

After School Dance Club

Year 1-6

3:15pm - 4:15pm

Friday 23rd May

Break the Rules Day

School closes for half term

Monday 2nd June

School closed for Teacher
Training Day

Tuesday 3rd June

School reopens for Summer
Term 2

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

This week's Family Information Service Newsletter - Tuesday 13th May 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-8829047?e=04fcebfe0>

SMB NETBALL TEAM



On Tuesday, some of our Year 5 / 6 took part in a netball festival organised by Onside coaching.

The team played 4 games, they won 2, drew 1 and lost 1.

The team played exceptionally well given this is their first time playing together.

They showed great teamwork and had great fun.

Mr Clarke and Mrs Hancock were very proud.

ATTENDANCE



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

This week's whole school attendance is **95.4%**



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/>

**BREAK THE
RULES
FRIDAY 23RD MAY**

Break 2 rules = £2

Or

Break 5 rules = £3



SCHOOL UNIFORM MUST BE WORN

NO TRAINERS

NO NAIL VANISH

NO CRAZY HAIR STYLES

NO HATS OR CAPS IN CLASS

ONLY HEALTHY SNACKS AT BREAKTIME

NO SQUASH IN WATER BOTTLES

NO Teddies

Rules that can be
broken

Rules that can be
broken

We ask you to respect that some rules cannot be
broken, this is a day of fun.

Please send correct cash on the day in a sealed
envelope with child's name and class stated.





PAFOS WILL BE HOSTING A FREE COFFEE MORNING COMING SOON!!



EVERYONE IS INVITED

Held in the dining hall at 9 o'clock
There will be refreshments and cake

We will be introducing ourselves, what we do as a PTA
and getting updates and ideas for our upcoming
summer fayre



Mental Health in Schools Team

Tips For Wellness



Caring

Caring is about looking after the needs of yourself and others. There are lots of ways you can show others that you care, showing kindness, compassion, love, support and being thoughtful. It is equally important to take time to care for ourselves, sometimes termed '**self-care**'. This can help us to increase our resilience and sense of self-worth. Allowing yourself time to engage in activities you enjoy and make you feel good, along with recognising unkind thoughts and trying to replace these with kinder thoughts can be part of caring for yourself.

Caring for others can help us feel connected, purposeful, and close to those we care for. These things are positive for our mental wellbeing. Can you think of a way you've shown care for someone this week?

Everyday millions of people in the UK give additional care to people they know through helping with everyday living tasks. **Young Carers** may also be responsible for looking after younger brothers and sisters and doing household chores. If you are, or you support a Young Carer, you can find local carers support by following the QR code:



Warwickshire Young
Carers Project



Coventry Young Carers
Support

Our tips for being caring:

1. **Caring Chain** - write down an act of caring they can do for another person or for themselves on a strip of paper. Create a paper chain with each of these strips, by folding and linking them together. This can then be displayed in the classroom and pupils can be encouraged to give a new act of caring a go each week.
2. Try to **identify 3 ways** you have been caring towards yourself and 3 ways you have been caring towards others. Then, set a goal for another caring act you can carry out over the following week.
3. Take time to **practise self-care!** Follow the QR code for some ideas of how you could be kinder to yourself:



Self-care ideas

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.



Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Family Fun Day

- 🌿 Rugby Eco Hub
- 🌿 Wednesday 28th May
- 🌿 Drop in between 10am-1pm



Join us for a morning of activities for all ages!
Find out more about how you can reuse items
you might throw away, what happens in a
compost bin and take home a newspaper pot!



CONTACT US

rugby@gardenorganic.org.uk

02476 303517

Working in Partnership

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

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



WhatsApp

A Guide for Parents & Carers

Age Rating
13+

WhatsApp is a free messenger app. It uses the internet to send messages, images, documents, audio or video. The app offers end-to-end encryption, which means that all messages can only be read by the sender and the recipient.

Privacy



Show your child how to **adjust their privacy settings**, such as hiding their profile photo, last seen status and about info. Set them to either of the following:

My Contacts: available to contacts from their address book only
Nobody: not available to anyone

Talk to them about not sharing their personal details online.

Messaging



Encourage your child to think about these things before they message:

- Is it kind?
- Is it true?
- Would your parents/guardians approve?
- Would you say it to their face?
- Have you asked permission to post photos?
- Have you used your online manners?
- You don't have to join in!

Contacts



Make your child understands that they should **only connect with friends, family, or trusted individuals**.

Teach them not to accept messages from **unknown contacts**.

Go over with your child how to **add, block and report** contacts.

Group Chats



If a child is added into a **Group Chat**, it may include people they don't know. This can put them at risk of being contacted by a stranger.

Go to **Settings -> Privacy -> Groups**. Select specific contacts that can add your child into groups.

Encourage your child to only join a group with people they **know and trust**.

Location



WhatsApp allows users to share their **location** with others.

If this feature is enabled, it could potentially let others **track** your child's location or discover their home address.

Speak to your child about keeping this feature **disabled**.

Check



Check in with your child regularly to **review their phone settings**.

Have an open dialogue about their WhatsApp usage and **how often** they are using the messaging app.

Encourage them to share what they're experiencing and periodically check that they are **staying safe and happy** online.



Encourage your child to come to you if **ANYTHING** online makes them feel uncomfortable, upset or worried.

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.

For further information, visit:

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/tips-and-advice/reading-tips/>

TOP TIPS TO HELP PARENTS READ WITH THEIR CHILDREN

- Ask your child to choose what they'd like to read. They'll feel more interested in the story if they've picked it out themselves. (And don't worry if they keep returning to the same story, either!)
- If you can, turn off the TV, radio and computer. It's easier for both of you to enjoy the story without any other distractions.
- Sit close together. You could encourage your child to hold the book themselves and turn the pages, too.
- Take a look at the pictures. You don't just have to read the words on the page. Maybe there's something funny in the pictures that you can giggle about together, or perhaps your child enjoys guessing what will happen next.
- Ask questions and talk about the book. Picture books can be a great way to talk through your child's fears and worries, or to help them deal with their emotions. Give them space to talk, and ask how they feel about the situations in the story.
- Have fun! There's no right or wrong way to share a story – as long as you and your child are having fun. Don't be afraid to act out situations or use funny voices... your little ones will love it!

WAYS FOR PARENTS TO ENCOURAGE A LOVE OF READING

- Read yourself! It doesn't matter what it is – pick up a newspaper or magazine, take a look at a cookery book, read a computer manual, enjoy some poetry or dive into a romance or detective novel. And get your children to join in – if you're cooking, could they read the recipe? If you're watching TV, can they read out the listings?
- Give books as presents. And encourage your children and their friends to swap books with each other – it'll give them a chance to read new stories, and get them all talking about what they're reading.
- Visit the local library together. It's always fun choosing new books to read, and keep an eye out for special author events at the library or local bookshops – children love meeting their favourite authors. Jacqueline Wilson and Anthony Horowitz always have signing queues that are miles long!
- Encourage children to carry a book at all times. That way, they'll never be bored (this is something you can do, too!)
- Have a family bookshelf. If you can, have bookshelves in your children's bedrooms, too.
- Keep reading together. Just because your children are older, it doesn't mean you have to stop sharing stories – perhaps you could try the Harry Potter series or *A Series of Unfortunate Events*.
- Don't panic if your child reads the same book over and over again. Let's be honest - we've all done it!

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.



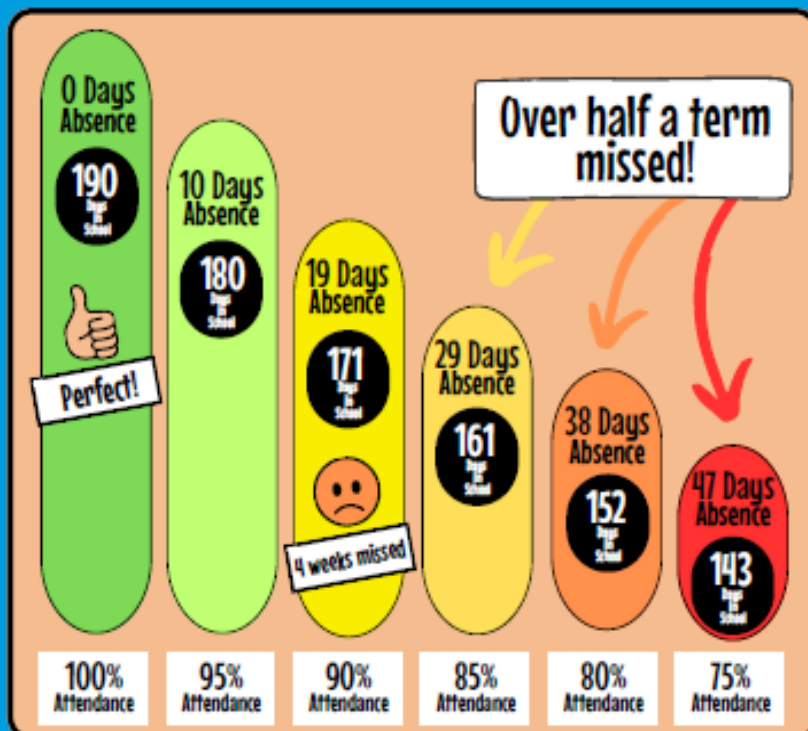
Building Confidence

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





**"THIS MORNING,
HE HAD A RUNNY
NOSE... BUT LOOK
AT HIM NOW!"**

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**



HM Government

Head to the NHS website to find out more.

