

St Matthew's Bloxam C of E Primary School

**"Let Your
Light Shine"**

NEWSLETTER

Friday 24th January 2025 Issue 18

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NURSERY & RECEPTION

Nursery and Reception have been learning all about People Who Help Us. Early Years have learnt all about the important roles of people who help us, including Doctors, Nurses, firefighters, police officers, air ambulance, physiotherapists, farmers, shop workers and many more. We started learning all about the people who work in school, and we had lots of visitors including Mrs Timson, Mrs Byard and Mr Stacey sharing their jobs with us. The air ambulance came into our assembly to share their vital work and the firefighters came and we looked around the fire engine and sat inside! Sam the Physiotherapist came in to talk about her job. The children have enjoyed role playing different roles and reading stories about different jobs. The children have been thinking about what they would like to be when they grow up.



Diary Dates

Monday 27th January

Year 4 Swimming

Vision Screening -
Reception class

Tuesday 28th January

After School Games Club
Years 1-6

3.20pm-4.20pm

Wednesday 29th January

Boogie Bounce

Thursday 30th January

Fire & Rescue Workshop-
Year 1 & Year 5

Friday 31st January

Year 1 celebration
assembly 9am—parents/
carers welcome



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

NURSERY & RECEPTION



AIR AMBULANCE

Thank you for the donations that were sent in for the non uniform day in support of the Air Ambulance.

We have raised £185



ATTENDANCE

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

This week's whole school attendance is **94.2%**

This is below the target set by Warwickshire Admissions Service.

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 21st January 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://warwickshire.us5.list-manage.com/track/click?
u=a24b439ef7022ae0d86f9ca6e&id=cb5fecc39a&e=04fcebfe0](https://warwickshire.us5.list-manage.com/track/click?u=a24b439ef7022ae0d86f9ca6e&id=cb5fecc39a&e=04fcebfe0)

POLITE REMINDER

Please can you make sure your children stay with you on the playground after school.

We have had a small group of children who keep coming into the Early Years outside area and trying to use the swing.

Can we also ask that you do not allow your children to run around in the remembrance garden that we are in the process of creating.

Thank you

RAINBOW RAFFLE PRIZES

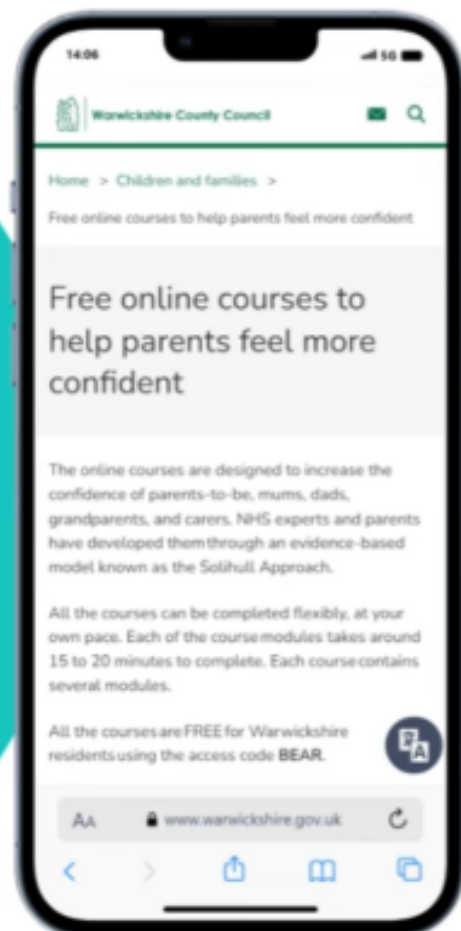
We would like to say a big thank you for all your donations today for our Rainbow Raffle.

There will be a winner from each class who will win their own class hamper, if you would like to be in with a chance to win, please complete the slip on the letter that is being sent home and return to school along with the money





An online course to
help you
Understanding your child
with additional needs
visit
warwickshire.gov.uk/parentguides
to get started for free



Free
'Understanding your child with additional needs'
course is for parents and carers of children who
may be neurodiverse, or have a physical or
learning disability

Whatever their developmental age, these ideas and techniques may help you better understand your child and how to help process or manage their emotions.

Use the code **BEAR** to get free access.



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.



Mental Health in Schools Team Tips For Wellness



Respect

Respect is important in our lives because it helps us develop a sense of self-worth and improves our general wellbeing. This in turn will enable us to develop healthy relationships with others and an environment where everyone feels valued and heard. As we grow, respect is a crucial life skill we need to manage our emotions and resolve conflicts peacefully.

When you respect yourself, this enables you to be open to new opportunities that will help you reach your personal goals. If you feel confident in your own worth, you are more able to recognise when others are not treating you well. *Scan the QR code below to watch a video about Maslow's hierarchy of needs!*

Our tips for respect:

1. **Listen** to each other's point of view and recognise that it is OK if you do not agree with someone else's opinion.
2. Try to keep discussions about the topic and not about the people who are sharing their views.
3. As a class, **create an agreement** and list the ways you would like to be respected by each other in school. You could all sign your name and pin this on the classroom door to remind you about how to be respectful!
4. **Create a poster** about how you can show respect outside of the classroom too. Think about what you could do at home and in the community.
5. **Respect role-play!** Practice respect by imagining how someone else might feel in different situations. Think about how actions and words might affect others.
6. **Talk to your friends** about what makes you unique. Focus on listening to each other and embracing each other's differences.
7. Listen to the '**respect rap**' by following the QR code and watching the video!



*Maslow's
hierarchy of
needs*



*Respect
rap!*

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.

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

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.



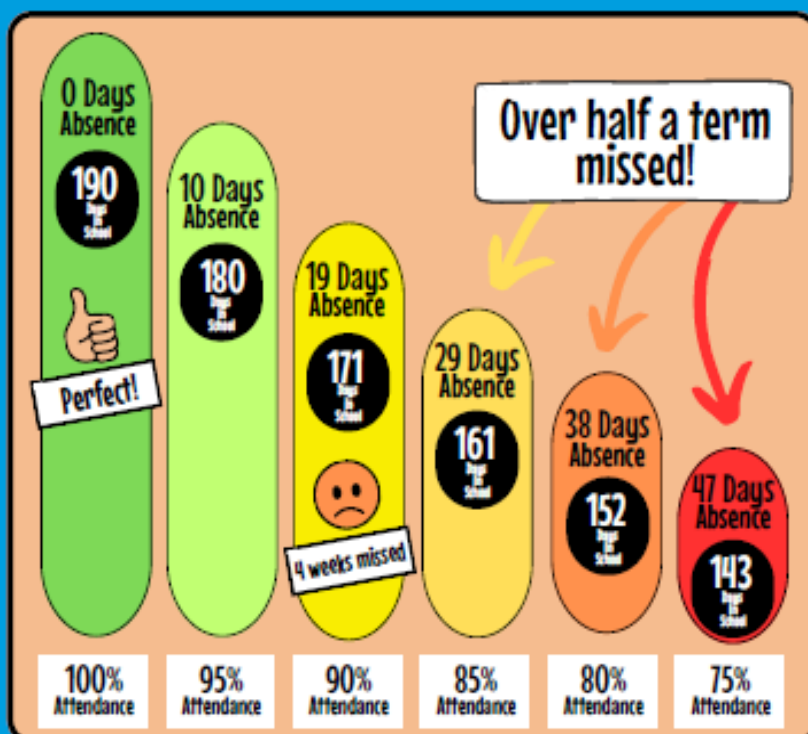
Building Confidence

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.

