

St Matthew's Bloxam C of E Primary School

"Let Your
Light Shine"

NEWSLETTER

Friday 22nd November 2024 Issue 11

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PSHE

This half term the whole school are studying the Jigsaw Puzzle Piece "Celebrating Differences". Children across school are learning about what makes us different and unique. They have also been finding out about the similarities they have with their peers. Year 2 and 4 have been finding out about stereotypes and that is good to be ourselves. Year 3 are learning about different families and year 5 are learning about culture and other influences. All classes have been learning about bullying; why it happens and what to do if they need help.

Last week was anti-bullying week. The theme this year was respect. The children had an assembly and discussed how they could show respect. As a school, we made a pledge to show respect to all members of our school community.

This week was road safety week. The theme was road safety heroes. We found out about the people who help us after an accident. The children also found out about how they can be road safety heroes.

Diary Dates

Monday 25th November

Year 5 Swimming

Tuesday 26th November

KS1 Cinema Trip - AM

Forest School After
School Club

Year 1,2,3 & 4

3.20pm - 4.15pm

Wednesday 27th
November

Rocksteady concert –
1.45pm parents of pupils
who take lessons are
welcome

Thursday 28th November

Year 5 Space Camp
Sleepover

Friday 29th November

Year 1 celebration
assembly 9am—parents/
carers welcome



Can we please remind you that we are a

NUT FREE SCHOOL!

Recently there have been quite a few nut based products and bags of nuts being sent in with the children.

We have pupils in school with nut allergies.

Please do not send any type of nuts or nut based products into school, this includes **Nutella**.

GENTLE REMINDERS

The weather is unpredictable this time of the year, can we ask that your child always has a coat with them.

Children also take part in outdoor learning and require a coat for this activity.

Can we also ask that **ALL** uniform is named.

We cannot return items that are in the lost property box if they do not have a name in them!

Sweater

Trousers

Skirt

Sweater

Trousers

Skirt

A green sweater with a ribbed collar, cuffs, and hem. It is shown from a slightly elevated, angled perspective.





ATTENDANCE

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

This week's whole school attendance is **95.9%**

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/>



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.

PAFOS CHRISTMAS

Fayre

Monday 2th December

3:15-5pm

Lots Of Fun Things To Do:

Santa's Grotto

Secret Gifting Room

Bouncy Castle

**FABOULOUS Prizes To Be Won
and Loads More..**



VOLUNTEERS WE NEED YOU!!

MONDAY 2ND DECMEBER

CAN YOU HELP SET UP OR

RUN A STALL??

PLEASE LET LAURA OR THE

OFFICE KNOW OR EMAIL

CHAIRSMB@GMAIL.COM

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!

**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.



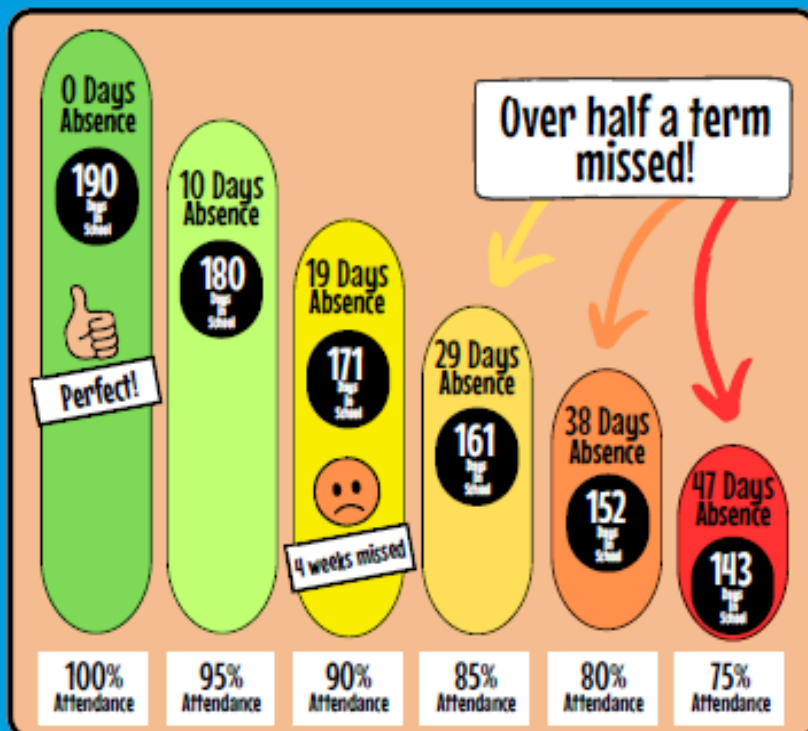
Building Confidence

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



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