

St Matthew's Bloxam C of E Primary School

"Let Your
Light Shine"

NEWSLETTER

Friday 15th November 2024 Issue 10

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The Lighthouse

The children in The Lighthouse have had a wonderful start to the new term. They have all been working really hard and enjoying their learning. Last term we focused on Autumn and the changing seasons. This term our topic is colour, including celebrating Diwali and bonfire night. The children access learning in lots of different ways; sensory experiences, 1:1 and small group work, forest schools, craft and carpet sessions. Some children also join year 1 and 2 for small parts of the day.



Diary Dates

Monday 18th November

Year 5 Swimming

Tuesday 19th November

Whole School Road
Safety Day

Forest School After
School Club

Year 1,2,3 & 4

3.20pm - 4.15pm

Wednesday 20th
November

Rocksteady lessons (for
those who have signed
up)

Friday 15th November

Year Reception
celebration assembly
9am—parents/carers
welcome

Year 4 visit to Rugby
Mandir



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



As part of the 'Into Film Festival' children in KS2 got to see Harold and the Purple Crayon. KS1 are looking forward to their trip soon.



ATTENDANCE



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

This week's whole school attendance is **96%**

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/>

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!



Mental Health in Schools Team Tips For Wellness



Laughter

“Laughter is the shortest distance between two people” – Victor Borge

Laughter is often described as a ‘natural medicine’ and can help us connect with other people, interests, and memories. Laughing can benefit our well-being by building and strengthening social connections and releasing stress. It can also have short-term benefits, such as improving sleep, memory and stress. Laughter can also support us in the long term by improving our immune system, relieving pain, and improving our self-esteem.

Can you remember the last time you laughed? Have a go at one or more of the tips below for this week.

Our tips for laughter:

1. Find a video, picture or film that never fails to make you laugh. Why not share this with a friend or family member so you can laugh together?
2. Can you think of a memory that made you laugh? This funny memory might have been with a friend, pet, or family member. Remind this person of the memory and see if this makes you both laugh again!
3. It can be difficult to know where to start, so try preparing to laugh. Create a collection of funny movies, TV shows, funny photos and videos for when you need a humour boost.
4. Try laughing yoga! To do this, take a deep breath in and then as you breathe out start laughing. The first few breaths and laughs might feel forced but the more times you do it, the more genuine your laughing can become. This can help to induce all the positive benefits which laughter gives us.

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



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.



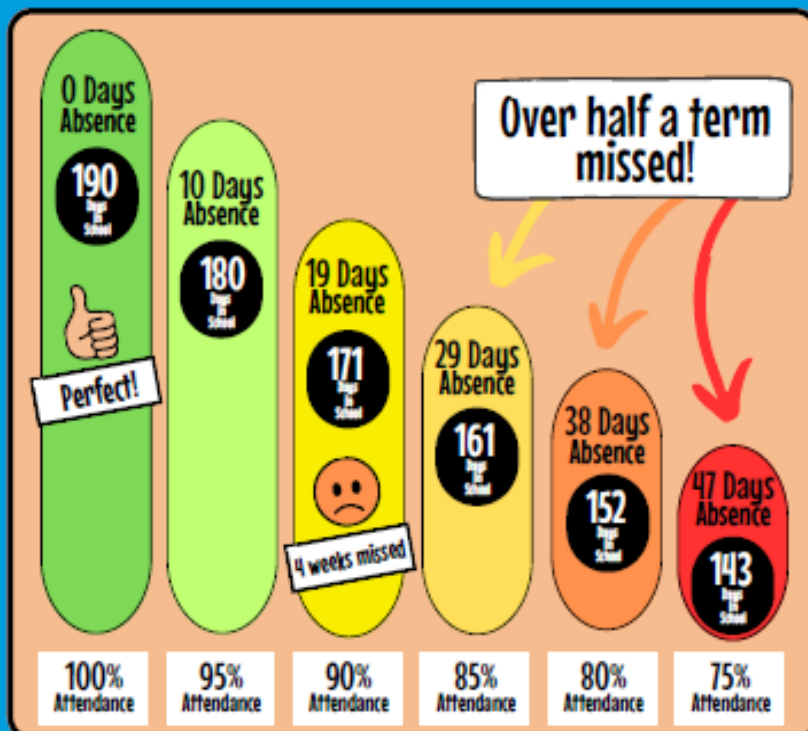
Building Confidence

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

**JOHN SLINGER MP'S
CHRISTMAS CARD
COMPETITION**



**Open to all primary
school children in Rugby
and the Villages**

Please draw, paint or colour your design on an A4 sheet of paper but no glitter or stuck on pieces.

The competition closes 23rd November

Please return entries to John Slinger MP, Old School, Pennington Court, Rugby, CV21 2BB

