

Ettington Church of England Primary School

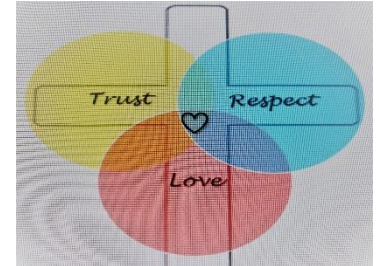
Newsletter 4 Autumn Term 2024

20<sup>th</sup> December 2024

*Learning for the Fullness of Life (John 10:10)*

Our Christian Value for this half term is **GENEROSITY**.

**A community flourishes when people plant trees under which they will never sit.**



Dear parents, carers and the wider community,

Well, what a whirlwind of a half term it has been, and I cannot be prouder of all of our achievements!

**Stars of the Week**

| <b>Week ending<br/>29.11.24</b>  | <b>Week ending<br/>6.12.2024</b>   | <b>Week ending<br/>20.12.2024</b>   |
|--|--|---|
| Rec: Alfie H<br>Year 1: Izzy S<br>Year 2: Georgina A<br>Year 3: Georgina B<br>Year 4: Beatie A<br>Year 5: Harry B<br>Year 6: Annabelle W<br>Star Writer: | Rec: Ollie C<br>Year 1: Hugo G<br>Year 2: Ophelia A<br>Year 3: Annie L<br>Year 4: Eva T<br>Year 5: Luca F<br>Year 6: Alena J<br>Star Writer: Henry A | Rec: Louis R<br>Year 1: Frankie M<br>Year 2: Luca B<br>Year 3: Reggie R<br>Year 4: Ivor H<br>Year 5: Emily C<br>Year 6: Lillian J<br>Star Writer: Charlie R |

**A huge congratulations to all of our stars!**

**School news**

Many thanks to all of you who attended the various school nativity plays and Christmas Carol Services this month, your children, as always, shone like the stars that they are. Your support, both behind the scenes making costumes and helping to learn lines and your support on the day do not go unnoticed and are very much appreciated. It has been fantastic to welcome the whole community to our school events. The children were wonderful – happy, confident and flourishing - capturing the true meaning of Christmas, reminding me what *'Learning for the Fullness of Life'* means for us at Ettington. Just, WOW!

It was also a pleasure to welcome Reception parents to our EYFS Inspire Maths workshop and then so many of you to our Curriculum Open Afternoon last Friday – the children love to see you in school and to share their learning experiences with you. Thank you for joining us if you were able.



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Headteacher Mrs Michelle Crowe

We were thrilled to be identified as the 11<sup>th</sup> highest performing school this week out of 243 state primary schools across the Warwickshire County Council area.

This is unquestionably down to the hard work and dedication of the staff in school who have designed a curriculum that continues to motivate and engage your children. This, coupled with quality first teaching opportunities and the high levels of support that you provide at home, ensure that all of the children at Ettington are provided with the opportunity to reach their true potential and continue to flourish. Your children are amazing and have earned a very well-deserved break.

### **FoES at Christmas**

Thank you so much to everyone who has supported the FoES Christmas events over the past few weeks. We're delighted that the total profit raised across the Christmas Fayre, the raffle and the Ensemble Evening is a fantastic £1746.90!

We were unable to make a pantomime visit work this year due to date clashes, so instead FoES were really pleased to be able to cover the costs of a Christmas party for each class this week.

As we have mentioned previously, supporting FoES doesn't necessarily need to mean financial donations (although these are very important!). A couple of parents will very kindly be giving up some of their time over the coming weeks to lay the bases needed for our lovely new sheds, saving the school a large amount of money in labour costs. If there are other ways that you feel you might be able to help support FoES, we'd love to hear from you!

### **Sports**

In the last few weeks before Christmas, and with the darker nights, evening fixtures prove tricky, however sports clubs have still continued with great success and children have really braved the cold weather to partake with enthusiasm in these, whilst also enjoying in school PE lessons based on gymnastics. On top of this, Year 6 children took part in a highly competitive all-day football event at Warwick University ran by Coventry City Football Club. There were scouts aplenty and players from a whole host of academies taking part in the freezing conditions. To Ettington's credit, they took on schools from all across the Midlands, some with over 250 year 6 children in their schools and gave their all. Ettington managed to reach the semi-final of the second pool of teams losing out narrowly on penalties. All the children demonstrated great team working skills and perseverance even in some of the very tough matches in the initial pool one group stage. Well done to Darcey, Lottie, Ethan, Charlie T, Charlie R, William, Barnaby and Abi for your brilliant efforts. Special mention to Darcey for her outstanding penalties.

Have a great Christmas, be active and be merry and we look forward to lots of sport in the New Year. Mr Higgitt



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## Parking

Thank you to all the parents and carers who continue to park safely around our school. You are super role models for your children. Can I please remind you, not to drive down and park in Churchill Close wherever possible? Can I also ask that you park with courtesy on the Banbury Road, it is imperative that driveways are not blocked or that visibility from driveways are not obscured? This is unsafe for both drivers and for people walking on the footpath.

**Please use the Community Centre for drop off and pickup.**

## School Uniform Reminder

At Ettington, we believe that the wearing of uniform encourages children to have a sense of belonging and of being part of a community. It is an outward expression of the school's identity and promotes a feeling of pride, equality and aspiration.

Please see below a reminder of our school uniform requirements and see the school website for full details:

**Please do not feel obliged to buy 'Ettington badged' jumpers, t-shirts etc. Similar items can also be purchased from your local supermarket.**

| Either   | Or   |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Grey long trousers</li><li>• Knee length grey shorts in the summer</li><li>• 'Dark royal blue round neck sweatshirt / royal blue jumper*</li><li>• 'Dark royal blue' V-neck sweatshirt / royal blue knitted jumper*</li><li>• White polo shirt*</li><li>• Plain white cotton shirt</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Grey long trousers</li><li>• Knee length grey shorts in the summer</li><li>• Grey skirt</li><li>• Grey pinafore dress / Blue and white gingham dress in summer - optional</li><li>• 'Dark royal blue' round neck sweatshirt / royal blue jumper*</li><li>• 'Dark royal blue' V-neck sweatshirt cardigan / royal blue knitted cardigan*</li><li>• White polo shirt*</li><li>• Plain white cotton shirt/blouse</li></ul> |
| Sport  | Sport  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 'Royal blue' or white T-shirt*</li><li>• Navy blue shorts (not fitted)</li><li>• Navy blue hoodie (zipped or pouches) – optional</li><li>• Navy blue tracksuit bottoms – optional</li><li>• Pumps / trainers</li></ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 'Royal blue' or white T-shirt*</li><li>• Dark blue skort.</li><li>• Dark blue hoodie (zipped or pouches) - optional</li><li>• Dark blue tracksuit bottoms – optional</li><li>• Pumps / trainers</li></ul>  |



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In addition, please note the following:

- We require – white, grey or black socks or grey, navy or black tights
- No open-toed sandals or boots, black or navy enclosed shoes only
  - Navy-blue scrunchies/bobbles to tie all shoulder-length hair back
  - Plain Alice bands
  - No jewellery except for a watch and plain stud earrings
  - Make-up is not permitted at school
  - Nail varnish is not permitted at school

Reasonable Adjustments:

We understand that reasonable adjustments may need to be made for school uniform, especially if your child has sensory needs linked to SEND. If this is the case, please feel free to contact either myself or Mrs Brown to discuss requirements.



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## Warwickshire Family and Relationship Support-



Our workshops and programmes are only available to parents/carers living in Warwickshire.

None of us were taught how to be parents and sometimes we may find what we're doing isn't working or we just want some different strategies in our toolbox. In Warwickshire, parents to be, parents, carers and grandparents have access to a variety of parenting resources and advice. Support can be accessed online, face-to-face through informal advice, one-to-one consultations, group programmes and workshops.

This is part of the information, advice and support that is often referred to as 'universal support' or 'early help' as it is freely available to all families. Early help is about helping families deal with any issues as early as possible. It is a spectrum of support that ranges from information, advice and support that families can access themselves through to more individualised or targeted support.

For more information on any of our workshops or programs please email [ehparenttrainers@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:ehparenttrainers@warwickshire.gov.uk)



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Public Health  
Campaign

## Has your child had their flu vaccine?

The NHS flu vaccination campaign launched on the 1st September, with appointments running across autumn and winter. This provides vital protection to prevent people from developing serious illnesses and ending up in hospital during the busy winter months.

*NHS England, 2024*



**2,478**

patients in hospital with flu each day. (February 2024)

**961** ↑

patients in hospital with flu each day. (February 2023)

Data shows that winter flu cases have increased with it being 2.5 times higher than compared to the year previously.

### How is the children's flu vaccine given?

**The children's flu vaccine is usually given as a quick and painless nasal spray in each nostril.**

Children who cannot have the nasal spray vaccine will get a different flu vaccine, given as an injection into the upper arm or thigh.

Some children with certain long-term health conditions who have not had a flu vaccine before might need to have a 2nd dose 4 weeks later.



**Children can have the flu vaccine at the same time as other vaccines.**

### How well does it work & how long does it last?

The children's flu vaccine aims to protect children against the most common types of flu viruses. There's still a chance your child might get flu after getting vaccinated, but they're less likely to get seriously ill or need to go to hospital.

The vaccine usually takes up to 14 days to work.

Protection from the flu vaccine goes down over time and the types of flu the vaccine protects against are updated each year. This is why it's important to get the flu vaccine every year.

### Potential side effects

The most common side effects of the children's flu vaccine are mild and get better in 1 to 2 days.

Side effects of the nasal spray flu vaccine can include:

- A blocked or runny nose
- Loss of appetite
- Feeling tired
- A headache



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# Do you need support or advice for your child's health and wellbeing

You can text a member of our school nursing team about any concerns you have related to your child's health and wellbeing - **even over the winter school break, we'll still be here to support you.**

## Our Parentline hours are:

Monday: 9am - 5pm  
Tuesday: 9am - 5pm  
Wednesday 9am - 5pm  
Thursday 9am - 5pm  
Friday: 9am - 4:30pm



Text your school nurse today using:  
Parentline: 07520 619 376

## The National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP)

For Reception and Year 6 Students

If your child has already been measured as part of the National Child Measurement Programme, **you will be able to access their measurements by registering your email address in our secure parent/carer health needs assessment and NCMP portal:**

<https://www.compass-uk.org/primary-parent-sign-up/>

If you are struggling to access your child's measurements, please contact our service for further support.



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# Toy Safety During Gifting Season

**Keeping your child and other children safe during the winter gifting season.**

The Child Accident Prevention Trust is raising awareness about toy safety and identifying any risks around gifts during this gifting season.

While you're shopping this year, you should consider that:

Toys from reputable brands are made to be safe. But if they've come from an unknown seller on an online marketplace, a market or small discount store, they could be dangerous.

## Tips for buying safely

Buy toys from brand names you know. If you've never heard of the seller or the brand and price is really tempting, it could be dangerous.

Watch out for cheap copies of popular toys. They may not be made to UK safety standards.

Check if the toy has been removed from sale because it's unsafe. Visit [gov.uk](http://gov.uk) and search 'product recalls'.

If you buy something that looks unsafe, trust your instincts and send it back.

## Which toys are most dangerous?

**Toys with:** accessible button batteries that can burn through your child's food pipe, super strong magnets that can rip through your child's belly, long cords that can strangle your child, or small parts that can choke your small child.

- Water beads that can block your child's bowel if swallowed.
- Electrical toys with exposed wires or chargers that can catch fire.

“

**“I would hate for any other child to go through what Becca suffered because of buying dangerous toys via online marketplaces”.**

Mum of two-year-old Becca who swallowed magnets from a toy.

## Checking toys

If you're unsure about the safety of a toy, here are some checks you can do:

- Check battery compartments for accessible button batteries or loose spares in the box.
- Check for any loose, small magnets.
- Give the parts on the toy a quick tug and check for small parts that come off.
- Look for long cords or access to stuffing.
- Check if there are any age restrictions or safety warnings on the product.



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# Water Safety

Children are often attracted to frozen lakes, canals, and lochs during the winter, as they present natural play opportunities.

However, ice can be a serious hazard and we often here cases on the news about people falling through the ice and getting severely injured or even dying as a result.

## Taking care around icy water...

We recommend you:

- Teach children not to go onto the ice under any circumstances.
- Keep dogs on leads near ice and don't throw sticks or toys onto the ice.
- Keep well away from the edge when walking near bodies of frozen water.
- If you need to walk in the evening, only use well-lit areas or take a route which avoids water.

According to the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, **50% of ice related drownings involve the attempted rescue of a dog.**

RSPCA Pet Welfare Specialist Dr Sam Gaines said: "Our advice at the RSPCA is to keep dogs away from frozen ponds, lakes or rivers which can pose a danger and make sure their paws do not get impacted with snow. It is best to walk dogs away from frozen water or keep them on the lead if it's unavoidable. If your dog ventures onto the ice, never follow them onto it, instead call them to come back to you right away, but if they get stuck call fire and rescue services for help."

"Owners should never try to risk rescuing their pet themselves as they could get themselves into a dangerous situation."



It might be tempting to walk or play on frozen water, but the ice can easily break. In December 2022, four children died after falling into an icy lake in the West Midlands.

## What to do if you fall through the ice...

- ⚠ Keep calm and shout for help.
- ⚠ Spread your arms across the surface of ice in front of you.
- ⚠ If the ice is strong enough, kick your legs to slide onto the ice.
- ⚠ Lie flat and pull yourself towards the bank.
- ⚠ If the ice breaks, work your way to the bank - breaking the ice in front of you.
- ⚠ If you cannot climb out, wait for help and keep as still as possible. Press your arms by your side and keep your legs together. Keep your head clear of the water.
- ⚠ Once you are safe, go to hospital immediately for a check-up.



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# Health Features Of The Month

December

Theme: Physical Health



## Download the Finch app: Your new self care best friend

Daily self care is finally fun - take care of your pet by taking care of yourself.



## Meet your new best friend!

Finch is a self-care pet app that helps you feel prepared and positive, one day at a time.



## Download My Water: Daily Drink Tracker App

Helping you to drink water regularly. Calculate your daily water intake and get notifications!



## Water is essential.

Water is essential to good health, yet needs vary between individuals. This app can help ensure you drink enough fluids.



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## Useful contacts

### Mental health & wellbeing

#### **CW RISE**

Rise is a family of NHS-led services providing emotional wellbeing and mental health services for children and young people in Coventry and Warwickshire.

#### **Dimensions Tool**

A web-based app that will help you to find well-being support in the local area specific to your needs, or someone else's needs, after you answer a series of questions.

#### **Relate**

Counselling service for young people.

#### **Kooth**

Join Kooth, the free online mental health community for young people in Warwickshire. Includes counselling via text service.

### Family support

#### **Family Lives**

Support for a wide range of topics relating to family life.

#### **Warwickshire Family Information Service**

Advice and support provided by Warwickshire County Council.

#### **Warwickshire Health Visiting**

Support and advice for parents/carers with a children under 5.

### [Click here for useful apps and websites for children & young people](#)

Our service is here to support school-age children, young people and their parents/carers in Warwickshire with all things health & wellbeing - just get in touch to find out more.



Text ChatHealth (11-19 years): 07507 331 525

Text ParentLine: 07520 619 376

Call us: 03300 245 204

Email us: [connectforhealth@compass-uk.org](mailto:connectforhealth@compass-uk.org)

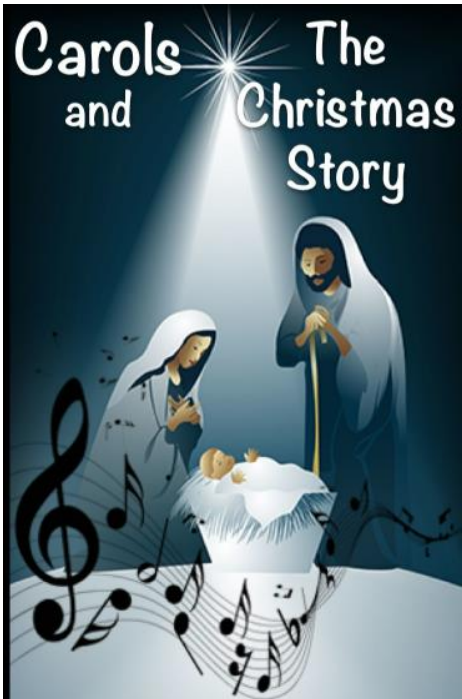
Visit our website: [www.compass-uk.org/services/c4h](http://www.compass-uk.org/services/c4h)



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**JOIN IN  
THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT  
AND SING CAROLS  
AS WE HEAR  
THE CHRISTMAS STORY**

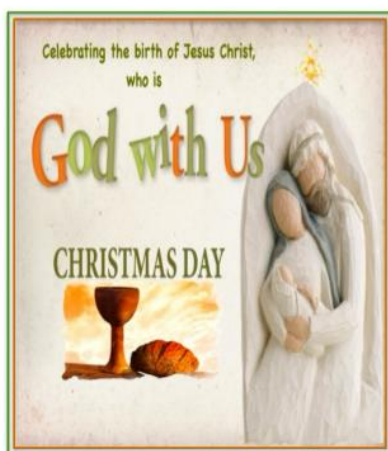
**BUTLERS MARSTON  
FRIDAY 20TH AT 6PM**

**ETTINGTON  
SATURDAY 21ST AT 6PM**

**HALFORD  
SUNDAY 22ND AT 4.30PM**

**NEWBOLD-ON-STOUR  
SUNDAY 22ND 6PM**

## **CHRISTMAS DAY**



**ETTINGTON  
9.30AM**

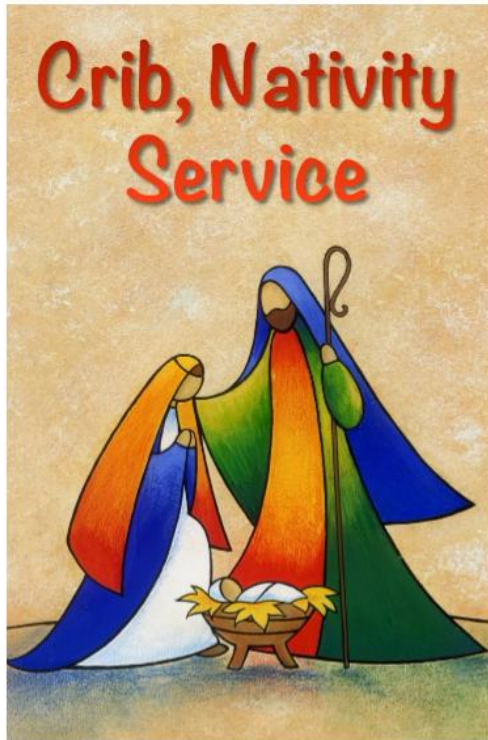
**HALFORD  
9.30AM**

**BUTLERS MARSTON  
11AM**

**NEWBOLD-ON-STOUR  
11AM**



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## Crib, Nativity Service

**CHRISTMAS EVE  
TUESDAY 24TH**

**ALDERMINSTER  
3PM**

**BUTLERS MARSTON  
PANTOTIVITY 3.30PM**

**NEWBOLD-ON-STOUR  
4PM**

**PILLERTON HERSEY  
5PM**

**ETTINGTON  
6.30PM**

# CHRISTMAS EVE

**ALDERMINSTER  
11.30PM**



Midnight Mass

the First Holy Communion  
of Christmas



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## Safeguarding

Please remember...



**Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility**

If you have concerns that a child is suffering any form of abuse, neglect or cruelty contact the Warwickshire Children and Families Front Door immediately by calling **01926 414144**

Lines are open Monday to Thursday 8.30am - 5.30pm,  
Friday 8.30am - 5.00pm

If you need to get in touch out of usual office hours, please contact the Emergency Duty Team immediately by calling **01926 886922**

If you think that a child is at immediate risk, contact the Police immediately by calling **999**



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## **Thank you!**

A huge thank you to Miss Hampson who has been supporting in Year 4 this term. Miss Hampson is now off to America for the remainder of the academic year to work as a Nanny before embarking on her university studies where she will study Psychology, with the aim of becoming an Educational Psychologist. We wish you safe and happy travels, Miss Hampson.

More thanks and good luck to Mr Vause, who has begun his Teacher Training this academic year, working in Year 5. We wish you well in your new school in the Spring Term and hope to see you back in the Summer Term for your final placement. You have been amazing!

Finally, may I take this opportunity to thank all of the staff and volunteers for their continued hard work and support to ensure that your children continue to receive an excellent education – providing all with the opportunities to use and develop the gifts and talents that they have been blessed with.

I wish you all a very happy and safe Christmas with your loved ones and we look forward to welcoming you back to school on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at 8.40am.

Very best wishes,

Mrs Michelle Crowe

Head Teacher



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## Dates for your calendar and diary

| Spring Term 1 2025   | Spring Term 2 2025  |
|--|---|
| <b>Monday 6 January 2025</b><br>(Teacher Training Day)                       | <b>Monday 24 February</b><br>(School reopens to pupils)   |
| <b>Tuesday 7 January 2025</b><br>(School reopens to pupils)                  | <b>Thursday 6 March</b><br>World Book Day   |
| <b>Thursday 9 January 9.30am</b><br>Final Reception 2025 Parent Open Morning | <b>Thursday 6 March 4.00pm-6.30pm</b><br>Parent Consultations   |
| <b>Wednesday 15 January</b><br>Full Governing Board Meeting                  | <b>Tuesday 11 March 3.45pm-6.15pm</b><br>Parent Consultations   |
| <b>Tuesday 11 February</b><br>Safer Internet Day                             | <b>Tuesday 18 March</b><br>World Recycling Day  |
| <b>Monday 17 February</b><br>Half Term                                       | <b>Tuesday 25 March</b><br>Rec / Year 6 Connect 4 Health<br>needs assessments   |
|  | <b>Monday 31 March</b><br>Autism Awareness Week   |
|  | <b>Tuesday 8 April 9.30am-10.30am</b><br>Easter Service at Church<br>ALL WELCOME TO JOIN US<br>Please let your child's class teacher know if<br>you can help us walk to and from Church |
|  | <b>Last day of term: Friday 11 April</b><br>Easter Holidays   |
|  | <b>Monday 28 April</b><br>(School reopens to pupils)  |



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