

Ettington Church of England Primary School

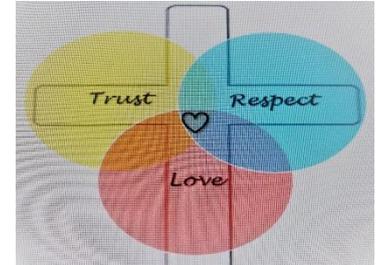
Newsletter 3

Autumn Term 2025

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,

Please find information on what's been going on in school so far this half term and important information for the run up to Christmas – undoubtedly an incredibly busy time of year for us all!

Congratulations

A huge congratulations to our Stars of the Week!

Week ending 7 th November 2025	Week ending 14 th November 2025	Week ending 21 st November 2025
Reception: Arty S Year 1: Gigi D Year 2: Olivia E Year 3: Lucas H Year 4: Jonah C Year 5: Toby E Year 6: Ben S Star Writer: Martha (Year 1)	Reception: Willow Year 1: Arthur M Year 2: Frankie Mc Year 3: Emily F Year 4: Harry C Year 5: Evie D Year 6: Albert D	Reception: Grayson S Year 1: Max V Year 2: Layla H Year 3: Theo H Year 4: Niamh F Year 5: Jasper H Year 6: Jake P Star Writer: deferred

School news

Thank you to all who supported this year's Remembrance Day. We have yet to find out how much money was raised from the poppy appeal, but the money tin could hardly be lifted when it was collected and we had completely sold out of items!



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Headteacher Mrs Michelle Crowe

Anti-Bullying Week

This half term has also celebrated Anti-Bullying Week, and we concluded the week joining thousands of schools across the country in wearing odd socks – a fun way to celebrate what makes us all unique and to remind



ourselves that being different is something to be proud of! I always tell the children that it would be a very boring world if we were all the same! We launched the national theme, 'The Power of Good', in our Collective Worship, reflecting on how even the smallest act of kindness can make a big difference.

Throughout the week, children have taken part in a range of thoughtful activities and live lessons, focusing on kindness, respect, and the importance of speaking up.

At Ettington, we consider that bullying of any kind is unacceptable. We want to uphold our Christian ethos within the school environment where everyone can work, play and express themselves, free from the fear of being bullied. There is a shared understanding of what constitutes bullying, how we prevent bullying and how we respond to reports of bullying. Our children know how to report actual and perceived bullying incidents and are supported in having the confidence to do so.

We follow the Anti-Bullying Alliance definition of bullying:

*"The **repetitive, intentional hurting** of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an **imbalance of power**. Bullying can be physical, verbal or psychological. It can happen face to face (in and out of school) or online."*

We use the acronym **STOP** and teach this to our children.

Several Times On Purpose

Start Telling Other People



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Several
Times
On
Purpose



Start
Telling
Other
People

Diwali Dance Workshop

Last week, children across the school celebrated Diwali – The Hindu Festival of Light by participating in an inspiring dance workshop. Led by professional dancers, each class were given the opportunity to deepen their knowledge of the famous story of Diwali through the medium of dance. Great fun was had by all!

As a school, we actively embrace diversity and inclusivity. We are all unique and we recognise and celebrate difference.



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Year 4 enhanced their Ancient Egyptian curriculum learning with a day in school spent learning about all things Egyptian! Supported by staff from the English Heritage Museum, the children spent the morning learning about significant people from the Ancient Egyptian period, making hieroglyphics, scarab beetles and Shanti's.

Year 1 visited Kenilworth Castle where they spent the day immersing themselves in History through drama – defending themselves against the enemy as they learnt about parts of a castle and their purpose and exploring the lives of the many types of people who lived in castles and the jobs that they did.

This week, as part of our whole school curriculum plan to foster resilience, Years 4 and 5 took part in workshops led by the Mental Health in Schools Team, aimed at recognising and managing anxiety and promoting resilience.



Sports News

Sport - Cross country

On Thursday 13th November, 40 of our key stage two children attended a cross country racing event at Kineton Primary School, racing against children from many of our local schools, and as always impressed with their dedication, team work and perseverance in tricky, cold and muddy conditions! There were individual prizes for the top three in each race and also team prizes with those finishing in the top ten for each race, gaining team points. I am delighted to report that Ettington girls team came a remarkable 1st place and Ettington boys team came a brilliant 2nd place, which they should be very proud of. All children completed the cross-country course with smiles and, what was lovely, was the encouragement given at the finish line to all other Ettington competitors.

Well done to everyone who took part, but special mentions to the following: Eliza F in Year 3 for coming 2nd; Margot in Year 3 for coming 3rd; Pippa in Year 6 for coming 2nd; Albert in Year 6 for coming 3rd and Arlo in Year 6 for coming an amazing 1st place.

Thank you all for your amazing team effort and for demonstrating so clearly our school values of Trust, Love and Respect to all.

Mr Higgitt.



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School Tours and Applying for Reception in 2026

We have had a great turnout for showing prospective parents around our school over the last few weeks. It is always a huge pleasure and privilege to show parents and visitors around our school when it is in full flow – your children shine and consistently demonstrate our school vision and values in abundance. You would be very proud. I know I am!

If you were unable to make it to any of open events or you have yet to book on to one, please contact the school office to arrange an appointment.

You need to apply for a place in Reception for September 2026 if your child was born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022. The applications process opened on 1st November 2025 and the deadline for applying for a Reception place is 15th January 2026. If you apply by this date, you will receive your child's school offer on National Offer Day (16th April 2026).

Applications made after this date will be classified as late and not considered until after 16th April 2026, by which time many schools will be full and you are much less likely to be offered a place at your preferred school.

[Apply for a place here](#)

Free School Meals

Just a reminder that all pupils from Reception to Year 2 are entitled to Universal Free Meals. Year 3-6 may be entitled to a free school lunch – you can check on Warwickshire County Council's website.

Meals are booked through ParentPay, but if you require any assistance or would like to discuss your child's dietary needs further, please contact the school office.



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[APPLY FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS](#)

FREE SCHOOL MEALS



School meals are free for lots of families, check if you are eligible to apply!

So much more than lunch...

A free school meal:

- creates healthy eating habits
- improves learning and behaviour
- saves money and time
- helps schools get extra funding

Did you know that claiming free school meals means that your child will get access to free school holiday activities and food?



To find out more and for help to apply for free school meals, please contact: freemeals@warwickshire.gov.uk or call 01926 359189



Can I apply?

Your child could be eligible for free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support or Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support from National Asylum Support Service (NASS)
- Guarantee Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than £16,190
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

You should still apply if your child is aged 4-7 and receives a universal free school meal

Find out more and apply at www.warwickshire.gov.uk/fsm



Special Educational Needs & Disabilities

Next steps for Year 6 pupils with an EHCP

Is your child in Year 6 with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)?

If they're getting ready to move to a new school or setting at the end of this academic year, you should have already had your Key Stage Transfer Review and shared your preferred setting(s) with SENDAR.



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If you haven't done this yet, please [use the short MS Form](#) to let the LA know your preferences.



Christmas SEND events and activities in and around Warwickshire

With Christmas well on its way, here is a round-up of events and activities in the area for children and young people with SEND and their families to get into the festive spirit and enjoy.

Please note that Warwickshire County Council does not endorse any of these events and cannot guarantee availability. Please check individual websites or Facebook pages for up-to-date information.

Relaxed and accessible theatre performances

[Peter Pan at the Royal Spa Centre, Leamington](#) – BSL interpreted performance - Monday 29 December. Relaxed performance - Friday 2 January.

[Goldilocks and the Three Bears at Priory Theatre, Kenilworth](#) – Relaxed performance - Friday 2 January.

[Robinson Crusoe at Talisman Theatre & Arts Centre, Kenilworth](#) – Relaxed performance - Saturday 3 January.

[Sleeping Beauty at the Belgrade Theatre, Coventry](#) – Relaxed performance – Friday 2



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January. Accessible performances – Saturday 6 December (BSL), Thursday 18 December (Captioned).

[Aladdin at Bedworth Civic Hall](#) – Relaxed performance – Thursday 18 December.

[The Tiger Who Came to Tea at Warwick Arts Centre](#) – Accessible performances on Sunday 30 November and Sunday 14 December (Relaxed), Saturday 13 December (BSL interpreted).

Santa experiences and outdoor activities

[Super SEND and Wheelchair Ice Skating](#) and [SEN Santa Visits](#) at Whilton Locks Garden Centre, Daventry.

[Santa's Quiet Grotto at Dobbies Garden Centres](#) – Friday 5 December (check individual stores for dates as they may vary)

[Sensory Light Trail and Sensory Skating](#) at Warwick Castle – Monday 8 December.

[Enchanted Christmas Kingdom SEN Sessions](#) at Hatton Adventure World – Saturday 29 November.

[Santa sessions for SEN children and their siblings](#) at Spencer's Retreat part of the Langdale Trust, Berswell - various dates starting 6 December. To book, email enquiries@spencersretreat.com.

[SEN Zone Santa's Grotto at Reynolds Cross School, Solihull](#) - Sunday 30 November, 3pm – 4.30pm time slot, limited spaces available.

[Vintage Sleigh Ride and Santa experience at Coventry Transport Museum](#) - SEN sessions on 29 and 30 November, 6 and 7 December at 9.30am and 4.30pm.

[Luminate at Coombe Abbey](#) - sensory friendly slots available on Tuesday 2 December and Tuesday 9 December with reduced capacity and volume of the audio on the trail.



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Soft-play and indoor events

[Christmas SEN event at Riverside Hub, Northampton](#) – Friday 28 November.

[SEN Magical Christmas sessions at Little Monkey's Funhouse](#), Warwick – Tuesday 16 December and Tuesday 23 December.

For more SEND events, activities and support for parents and carers across Warwickshire, [follow the Local Offer Facebook page.](#)

Help shape a new eLearning resource for parent carers in Warwickshire

Warwickshire County Council is working with Warwickshire Parent Carer Voice and local parent carers to create an eLearning awareness programme designed to support parent carers.

To make sure the content truly reflects the experiences and needs of local parent carers, we're asking for your feedback on how you access support.

If this applies to you, please complete the short form linked below and feel free to share it with others who may be interested.

The deadline for sharing feedback is Monday 24 November.

[SHARE YOUR FEEDBACK HERE](#)



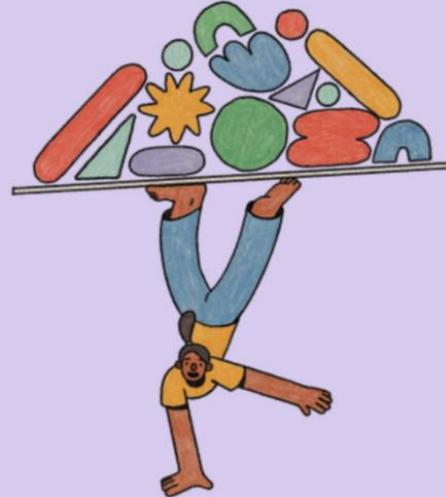
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What is a Young Carer?

A young carer is someone under 18 who takes on responsibilities normally handled by an adult. They may help care for a parent, sibling or other family member who is ill, disabled, or struggling with their mental health.

Their responsibilities can include:

- Helping with household tasks like washing and cleaning
- Giving medication or assisting with personal care
- Attending medical appointments
- Looking after younger siblings
- Supporting a parent with physical or emotional health
- Managing their own self-care



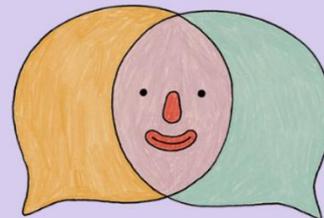
Every young carer's experience is different but all deserve recognition and support.

Start the conversation

Your child might not identify as a young carer - and that's okay. What matters is creating space for honest, open conversations.

Tips to build trust:

- Choose a quiet, familiar time and place
- Clarify the purpose - are you listening or offering advice?
- Let them lead the conversation
- Listen actively and reflect back what they share
- Avoid judgment - reassure them their feelings are valid



You don't need to fix everything. Just being present and patient makes a difference.

If you believe that your child may be eligible to become a Young Carer, please contact either myself or Mrs Brown for support.



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Mental Health in School Information Meeting

Please see below the flyer sent out for The Incredible Years information event. **This will take place in the Year 1 classroom. Entry via the main reception front door.**

If you are unable to make the meeting but would like more information, please feel free to ask either myself, Mrs Brown or Mrs Smith.



Monday 24th
November 4.30pm
An information
meeting for parents
and carers

School Age Programme –
Information for parents/carers

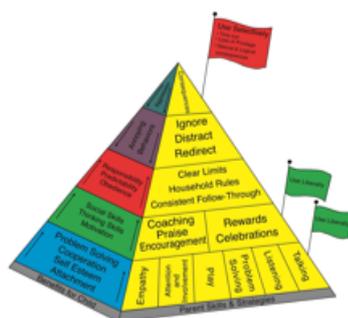
A 13-week group for parents and carers of children in Y 1- 6

The programme aims to:

- Increase children's social and emotional learning
- Develop children's problem-solving skills and strategies to manage feelings of anger and upset
- Strengthen the parent/carer-child relationship

Throughout the group programme, you will:

- Work on personal goals
- Learn through group discussions and skills practice
- Complete home activities with your child
- Receive regular supportive phone calls from group facilitators



Parenting Pyramid*

Further Information

If you are interested in attending, or have further questions about Incredible Years, please speak to your school's Mental Health Lead.

Venues and dates across Coventry and Warwickshire



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Christmas at Ettington

🎄 Dates for your diary from FoES 🎄

Open now! Grotto bookings, at the Christmas Fayre, can be made via this link - £4 per child which includes a gift & a chocolate treat: www.ticketsource.co.uk/friends-of-ettington-school-foes

Monday 24th November - Thursday 27th November

- Advent Calendar raffle tickets for sale on the playground at pick up; 50p a ticket or £2 a strip - cash only please
- Labubu raffle tickets for sale on the playground at pick up; £1 a ticket or £4 a strip (these will also be on sale at the Christmas Fayre) – cash only please
- Christmas Jumpers will be sold on the playground at pick up

Monday 1st December - Thursday 4th December

- Grotto bookings can be made on the playground at pick up, £4 per child (includes a gift & chocolate treat)
- Labubu raffle tickets for sale on the playground at pick up; £1 a ticket or £4 a strip (these will also be on sale at the Christmas Fayre) – cash only please
- Christmas Jumpers will be sold on the playground at pick up

Friday 5th December

- Christmas Jumper Day; in exchange for a donation of chocolate / sweets, the children can come to school in a Christmas jumper or festive top; please note that this only replaces the school jumper, all other uniform must be worn as normal. Please drop off the chocolate donations in the library at drop off on the morning of the 5th December.

Christmas Fayre; 3.15 p.m. – 5.15 p.m. Ettington Community Centre

- Come and meet Santa in his Fab-Yule-Ous grotto! (You can pre-book or book at the fayre)
- Lots of games including Name the Elf and Save the Gingerbread (remember to bring plenty of cash (20p, 50p, £1) to play!)
 - Smiggle raffle and Elfridges – stock up for Christmas!
 - Dedicated shopping hall of local artisans
 - Fully licensed bar and refreshments



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🎄 Christmas at School 🎄

Reverse Advent Calendar

On Monday 1st December, we will begin our Reverse Advent Calendar. Teachers will publish lists and advise which day through December your child will be asked to bring a non-perishable food item into school. Working in conjunction with the Church, our aim is to provide food hampers for our local food bank.

School Christmas Dinner Menu

This year's school Christmas dinner is on Tuesday 16th December. The menu is attached towards the bottom of the newsletter.

Children are invited to wear their Christmas Jumpers on this day!

May I also thank Warwickshire Christmas Tree Farm for their 50% discount on our School Christmas Tree. Our tree will be up in school from Monday 1st December!



WARWICKSHIRE
CHRISTMAS TREE FARM

Kestrel Ridge | Shenington | Banbury | OX15 6NP

T: 07975544754 E: info@warwickshirechristmastrees.co.uk

www.warwickshirechristmastrees.co.uk



School Donation Project

- 1) BUY YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE AT WARWICKSHIRE CHRISTMAS TREE FARM
- 2) MENTION THE NAME OF YOUR SCHOOL WHEN PAYING FOR YOUR TREE
- 3) WE WILL DONATE 10% OF YOUR TREES' VALUE BACK TO YOUR SCHOOL

IT'S THAT SIMPLE. HELP US HELP YOU THIS CHRISTMAS.



UPLOAD YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE PICS & TAG US
[@WARWICKSHIRECHRISTMASTREES](https://www.instagram.com/warwickshirechristmastrees)



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Christmas Post Box

During the last two weeks of term, children are invited to bring Christmas Cards into school for their friends. The cards will go into the school Christmas Post Box in the hall and our Reception Postal Workers will deliver them across the school. Please make sure first and last names and Class are clearly labelled on the envelope to ensure no mis-delivery.

Christmas Musical Ensemble

On Monday 8th December, school in conjunction with FoES, will host our annual Christmas Musical Ensemble at the Community Centre. This is the children's opportunity to showcase their musical successes and talents for the wider community – with performances from our choir, our Year 5 and Year 6 Young Voices and our musicians, showcasing a variety of instruments. Please support and celebrate your children's amazing musical abilities and bring your friends and neighbours! ALL CHILDREN ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE.

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Productions

Separate information has been sent to parents in EYFS and KS1 regarding the children's Nativity performances – the children (and staff) have been working tirelessly on their respective productions. They look forward to amazing you!

KS2 Church Service

On Tuesday 16th December, **ALL** children, from EYFS – Year 6, will be going to church for our annual Christmas service. We would love you to join and celebrate with us and watch KS2 musical performances. ALL WELCOME.

Please let your child's class teacher know if you can help us with the walk to and from church.

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. We have already been made aware of questionable parking near Chestnut Close.

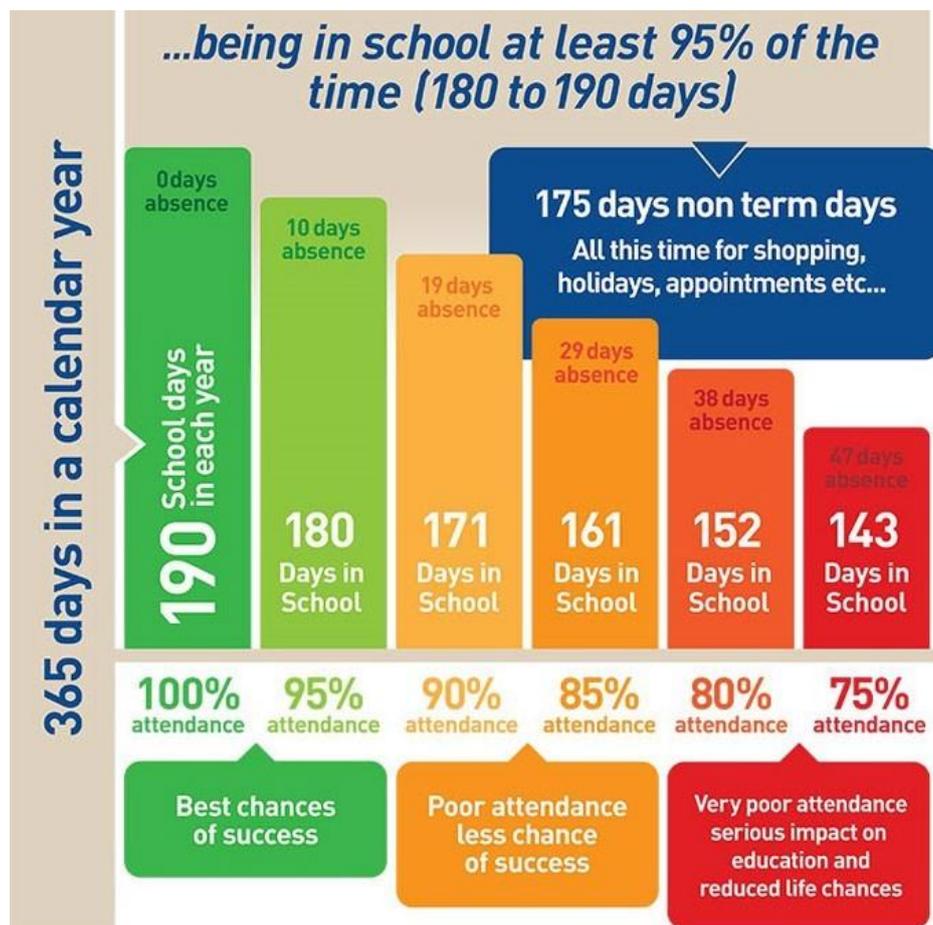
Please use the Community Centre for drop off and pickup.

Please DO NOT park across the designated Disabled Parking space outside of school unless absolutely necessary. Thank you.



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EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS



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**

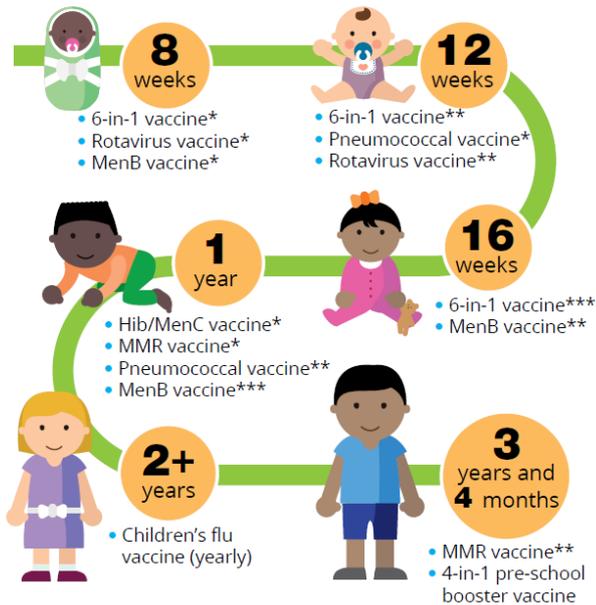
If you think that a child is at immediate risk, contact the Police immediately by calling **999**



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Your child's vaccine schedule



* first dose, **second dose, *** third dose

6-in-1 protects against diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, polio, Hib and hepatitis B

4-in-1 protects against diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough and polio

Follow your child's vaccine schedule to protect them against illnesses

Stick this timeline up as a useful reminder



- Childhood illnesses like measles and whooping cough are rising
- These illnesses can make children very sick, leading to hospital stays or lifelong problems
- If your child is not vaccinated, they are not protected
- It's important that vaccines are given on time for the best protection. Some need booster doses later too
- Check your child's red book or speak to your GP practice to see if they have missed any
- You can still catch up on most missed vaccines
- All the childhood vaccinations are free. As children grow up, they will be offered more vaccine appointments, right up until they are teenagers. Some vaccines are offered at school
- Vaccinations offered by the NHS are thoroughly tested to assess how safe and effective they are. All medicines can cause side effects, but vaccines are among the very safest.
- Research from around the world shows that immunisation is the safest way to protect our children's health

Are your child's vaccines up to date?

Book now at their GP practice



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Christmas Lunch 2025

**Roast Turkey
Cocktail Sausage, Stuffing Ball with Gravy
(G,SU)**

or

**(vg) Roast Quorn Fillet, Veggie Sausage,
Stuffing Ball with Gravy (G)**

**Served with Crispy Roast Potatoes,
Garden Peas, and Sliced Carrots**

(vg,h) Iced Christmas Cookie (G)

or

(v,h) Festive Cupcake(G,E)

Allergen Free alternatives are also available

Allergen Key
 V - Vegetarian
 VG - Vegan
 G - Gluten
 E - Egg
 SU - Sulphites
 H - Homemade

Seasons Greetings from The
Nutrigang & everyone at
Educaterers

educaterers®
caring is our secret ingredient



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Create and build with thousands of bricks, mini figures and accessories.



LEGO CAFÉ

Ettington Church

2 - 4pm

THIS SATURDAY

22nd November

Enjoy delicious DRINKS and CAKE
from our Pop-up Café



Fun for all ages!

Best wishes,

Michelle Crowe
Head Teacher



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Dates for your calendar and diary (see school website for regular updates)

Autumn Term 2 2025

Monday 24 November 4.30pm-5.00pm
Incredible Years Parent Workshop

Tuesday 25 November
Year 3 visit to Roman Museum, Alcester

Thursday 27 November
Flu Vaccinations YR-Y6

Thursday 27 November 2.00pm-3.00pm
Reception Intake 2026
Open Afternoon – please book via the
school office

Friday 28 November 5.30pm
Reception Bedtime Reading
(info to follow via Tapestry)

Monday 1 December 5.30pm
Full Governing Board Meeting

Tuesday 2 December 6.00pm
Year 1 & Year 2 Christmas Production

Thursday 4 December 2.15pm
Year 1 & Year 2 Christmas Production

Autumn Term 2 2025

Friday 5 December 3.30pm
FoES Christmas Fayre
Ettington Community Centre

Monday 8 December 6.00pm
Community Musical Ensemble
Community Centre
ALL WELCOME

Tuesday 9 December 2.15pm
Reception Nativity

Thursday 11 December 9.30am
Reception Nativity

Thursday 11 December 2.00pm – 3.00pm
Reception – Year 6
Curriculum Open Afternoon

Tuesday 16 December 9.30am-10.30am
KS2 led Christmas Service at Church
ALL WELCOME TO JOIN US
Please let your child's class teacher know if
you can help us walk to and from Church

Tuesday 16 December
Christmas Lunch

Last day of term: Friday 19 December

Christmas holiday: Monday 22 December
2025 to Friday 2 January 2026

Monday 5 January 2026
(Teacher Training Day)

Tuesday 6 January 2026
(School reopens to pupils)



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Spring term 2026

Term starts: Monday 5 January 2026 (Teacher Training Day)
Tuesday 6 January 2026 (School reopens to pupils)

Half term: Monday 16 February 2026 to Friday 20 February 2026
Monday 23 February 2026 (School reopens to pupils)

Term ends: Friday 27 March 2026

Spring (Easter) holiday Monday 30 March 2026 to Friday 10 April 2026

Summer term 2026

Term starts: Monday 13 April 2026 (School reopens to pupils)
Monday 4 May 2026 Bank Holiday (School closed to pupils)

Half term: Monday 25 May 2026 to Friday 29 May 2026
Monday 1 June 2026 (Teacher Training Day)
Tuesday 2 June 2026 (School reopens to pupils)

Term ends: Friday 17 July 2026
Monday 20 July 2026 (Teacher Training Day)



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