

Ettington Church of England Primary School

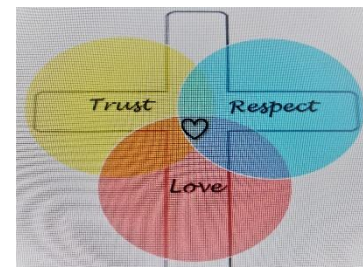
Newsletter 1

Autumn Term 2026

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

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

'Two people are better than one... If one person falls, the other can reach out to help.' Ecclesiastes 4.9-10



Dear parents, carers and the wider community,

Welcome back to a brand-new academic year—I hope you have all had a wonderful summer and are getting back to normality and routine following our return to school! The children have returned rested, enthusiastic and excited to begin the new school year, with children moving to different classrooms, meeting their new teachers and working with different friends. We have had lots of new families join us this term and we welcome them warmly to the school community. It's lovely to see the school growing and evolving.

At the start of term, staff and Governors completed a day of Safeguarding training. It was a busy day of essential learning, but we are confident that the school's safeguarding processes remain rigorous.

Staff also worked on developing our school Curriculum – ensuring that we continue to offer an outstanding ambitious, broad and balanced learning opportunity for all areas of learning, where all children can flourish and thrive.

A very warm welcome to our new Reception children and their families. They have faced their first few weeks at school with tremendous courage and enthusiasm. It has been such a joy to see them arriving with big smiles each morning, eager to start their day. They have already embraced school life, making new friends, learning their way around the classroom, and most importantly, having lots of fun - confidently supported by their new Year 6 buddies. We have been very impressed by their resilience and are really enjoying getting to know each one of them.



Ettington Church of England Primary School
Churchill Close, Ettington. CV37 7SP.

Tel: 01789 740236 Email: admin3024@welearn365.com

Headteacher Mrs Michelle Crowe

School Leaders

We have officially elected our brand-new School Leadership Teams for this academic year, empowering our children to take an active role in shaping the future of our school while putting democracy into action. These teams give pupils a genuine voice in decision-making, helping them learn about debate, responsibility, and teamwork while making positive changes across our school.

Huge congratulations to the following children who have been democratically voted into council by their peers.

School Council – Gathering ideas directly from classmates to improve our learning environments and school activities.

Year 1: Willow & Grayson

Year 2: Elouise & Freddie

Year 3: Izzie C & Niko

Year 4: Robin W & Sara S

Year 5: Harry C & Elsie G

Year 6: Beatie A & Evie D

‘World Changers’ - Eco Council – Acting as Sustainability Champions to care for our grounds, lead recycling projects, and help save energy.

Year 1: Freya & Hudson

Year 2: Gigi & Jacob

Year 3: Hattie & Leo

Year 4: Eliza & Umar

Year 5: Jack & Holly

Year 6: Jules & Edie

Well-Being Warriors – Thrive Ambassadors to promote kindness, inclusion, and emotional well-being.

Year 2: Elouise

Year 3: Isla

Year 4: Christelle

Year 5: Samuel

Year 6: Freddie

Sports Leaders – OPAL Playleaders to promote kindness and inclusion at break times.

Harper, Diana, Elodie, Bodhi & Harry

Prefects – Acting as a role model to other pupils, demonstrating and modelling TRUST, LOVE and RESPECT in all that we do and to make the most of all the opportunities on offer, with all three leading to Excellence.

Elina, Charlotte, Isla, Leo, Zaria & Ember



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House Team Captains and Vice Captains - Inspiring house spirit, celebrating achievements, and supporting school competitions.

Red team captain - Eva and vice-captain - Sophia

Blue team captain - Lola and vice-captain - Beau

Green team captain - Hannah and vice-captain - Jasper

Yellow team captain - Isla and vice-captain - Alfie

I very much look forward to working with all of the children over the next 12 months to ensure 'Pupil Voice' in shaping the future success of the school.

School news

It was lovely to welcome so many of you into school last week for 'Meet the Teacher', the perfect opportunity for you to find out about life in your child's new class and to hear the expectations from the teachers. Thank you for your support. The presentations will be made available on Tapestry and Google Classroom for you to refer to at leisure. Additionally, the school website offers a wealth of knowledge for you to access further information. The 'Remote Learning' within the LEARNING tab will provide you with further details on how to access Tapestry (Reception) and Google Classroom (Years 1-6), should you encounter a problem. Failing that, please do speak to your child's teacher who will be more than happy to help.

[ETTINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL AND PRE-SCHOOL WEBSITE](#)

Reminders

As we step into the start of the Autumn Term packed full of learning, fun and special memories, here are a few important reminders and updates to help things run smoothly:

Uniform Reminder

Please ensure your child comes to school in **full school uniform** each day. This

Includes:

- A white polo shirt
- Grey trousers, skirt, (skort or gingham summer dress)
- White, grey or black socks ONLY
- A royal blue cardigan or jumper
- School shoes only (no trainers, boots or open-toed shoes)
- Hair tied back (**Please remember that hair below shoulder length should be tied back. Hair bobbles are now available for children in school should they forget.**)



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Please do not feel obliged to buy 'Ettington badged' jumpers, t-shirts etc. Similar items can also be purchased from your local supermarket. FoES also have a large range of pre-loved uniform.

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 us to discuss requirements.

Morning Routine

The school gate opens at **8:40am** and closes at **8:45am**. Please ensure your child arrives on time to settle into their morning learning. Arriving late can make the start of the day more challenging for them.

PE Days

Please ensure your child wears their school **PE kit on their PE days**, with:

- Plain clothing (no logos or football kits)

Free School Meals

Our kitchen will provide meal options for all children attending school. Meals are available free of charge to:

- all infant pupils (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) – known as universal FSM
- pupils who meet the free school meals [eligibility criteria](#) – known as benefits-related FSM. This includes pupils in school-based nurseries and maintained nursery schools.

For the new school year starting in September 2026, there will be two categories of free school meal eligibility depending on your financial circumstances:

Targeted free school meals for those getting Universal Credit with annual household earnings of £7,400 or less, or another qualifying benefit

Expanded free school meals for anyone getting Universal credit whose annual earnings are above £7,400.

[APPLY FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS](#)

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.

Households in **both categories** will benefit from the financial savings of getting free school meals.

Households who fall into the **targeted category** only will get access to additional benefits:



Holiday activities and food (HAF) programme is for children aged 4 to 16 in reception to year 11 in receipt of benefits-related free school meals in the targeted

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category. HAF offers eligible pupils' access to activities and at least one healthy meal is provided during each session. The activities take place during the Easter, summer, and Christmas school holidays

Pupil premium is extra funding paid directly to schools for each pupil who is eligible for free school meals in the Targeted category. It can help to fund valuable teaching and learning support to improve pupil's education.

If you have applied and already received a notification from the Local Authority to confirm your child/ren's free school meal eligibility status for the 2026/27 school year, then you do not need to do anything.

[APPLY FOR FREE SHOOOL 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:

- Universal Credit
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- guarantee element of Pension Credit

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

Some families who have no recourse to public funds are also eligible for free school meals, please see the webpages below for more details.

Depending on the benefits you receive and your level of income, your child may also get access to the Holiday Activities and Food programme and their school could receive extra funding for them. Find out more and apply at: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/fsm





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Reception Baseline Assessment

Reception parents, as you should now be aware, we are required to complete a baseline assessment within the first 6 weeks of your child starting primary school.

Parents and carers of our new Reception cohort can access information on the Statutory Government baseline assessment following the link below.

[Reception Baseline Assessment Information for Parents](#)



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.**

FoES

A massive thank you to FoES for organising two big events so far, this academic year! The school 'DIY' morning was a great success – we were able to build three new planters, clear forest school ready for this year and cut back overgrown hedges across the site. To all of those who helped out - THANK YOU!

A big thank you also to those involved in organising the children's most favourite event of the school year – THE COLOUR RUN! The children had a wonderful time and although the final amount has yet to be counted – over £2000 has been raised in sponsorship.

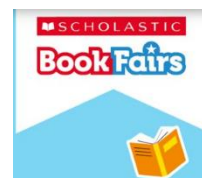
Thank you for supporting your children and the school.



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Book Fair

Celebrate reading and earn free books for our school with the Scholastic Book Fair!



Reading for pleasure is transformative for pupils' academic success and personal wellbeing. Inspire and excite bringing books to pupils in the heart of our school with a pop-up school book shop!

When – Monday 5th October to Friday 9th October 2026

Where - School Library 3.15pm



Paying via a Book Fair specific QR Code

A QR code unique to our fair will be available for parents and guardians to scan and pay quickly at the event. For Parents and Guardians:

- Please bring your **mobile phone** to the fair so you can scan the QR code.
- Please also bring your **payment card** to complete your purchase.



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Working Together to Improve School Attendance

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

Good attendance is essential to ensure your child achieves their full potential. The Department for Education highlights that being in school underpins your child's learning, wellbeing and wider development, and we are committed to working in partnership with you to support this.

Expectations for Attendance

As set out in [Working together to improve school attendance](#): July 2026

- Parents have a legal responsibility to ensure their child receives a suitable full-time education.
- Children should attend school every day unless there is a valid reason, such as illness or authorised absence.
- Regular attendance supports not only academic progress, but also friendships, confidence and a sense of belonging.

Establishing Strong Daily Routines

To support good attendance, we ask all families to:

- Ensure your child has a consistent morning and bedtime routine
- Make sure your child arrives on time and ready to learn each day
- Reinforce the importance of school and positive expectations about attendance
- Developing these routines helps children feel secure, prepared and able to engage successfully in school life.

Reporting Absence

If your child is unable to attend school, it is essential that you:

- Contact the school on the first day of absence as early as possible, providing a reason
- Continue to inform the school on each day of absence unless otherwise agreed
- Understand that, if we do not hear from you, the school will contact you to establish the reason for absence.

This process ensures that we can safeguard pupils and provide appropriate support where needed.



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Working in Partnership

The national guidance is clear that improving attendance is a shared responsibility between families, schools, and local authorities. We are committed to working with you to:

- Understand any barriers to attendance
- Provide support at an early stage
- Help your child attend school regularly and successfully

If you are experiencing any difficulties that may impact your child's attendance, please contact the school so we can work together to find a solution.

Please see the '[Should I keep My Child Off School?](#)' poster.

Thank you for your support. Together, we hope to improve our school's attendance.



Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

	Until...
Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No
but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



SCAN ME

Advice and guidance
To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfec>

Half Term 1
**3 ½ days**
off school from September until October half term holiday will make your child PA.

Half Term 1-2
**7 days**
off school from September until the Christmas holidays will make your child PA.

Half Term 1-3
**10 days**
off school from September until February half term will make your child PA.

Half Term 1-4
**12 ½ days**
off school from September until the Easter holidays will make your child PA.

Half Term 1-5
**15 ½ days**
off school from September until May half term will make your child PA.

Half Term 1-6
**19 days**
of absence for the full academic year from September to July will make your child PA.



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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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Mental Health and wellbeing

As part of continued work with RISE and the active promotion of positive mental health and wellbeing, please find below a list of online workshops that you can access for support. Weekly top tips to promote positive mental health and wellbeing will be emailed home weekly and are always available on the school website.



Mental Health in Schools Team

Tips For Wellness



Going back to school

Going back to school can be stressful, so check in with your young person and keep the conversation open about how they're feeling. Help them find and keep a good routine (regular wake-up, meal and bedtime schedules) and try to keep these on the weekend to help them adjust quickly to the school day rhythm. Remember to celebrate small wins, offer praise and try to stay patient if your child struggles with the new routine.

Activities to Support Your Young Person's First Weeks of School

The transition back to school is a great time to use activities that boost your young person's confidence, reduce anxiety, and build strong routines. Here are some ideas to try during those first few weeks:

1. Morning Check-In Ritual:

Start each school day with a simple ritual—like a hug, a positive affirmation, or a quick chat about what they're looking forward to. This helps set a calm, positive tone.

2. After-School Decompression Time:

Plan 20–30 minutes of quiet time after school for your young person to unwind. Reading, drawing, or light play can help them process the day and relax before homework or chores.

3. Homework Kickoff Activity:

Create a fun "homework kickoff" routine like a special snack, background music, or a 5-minute movement break before starting homework. It helps shift their mindset into focus mode.

4. Organisational Games:

Turn organising school supplies or packing the backpack into a quick game or challenge—who can find and pack items the fastest? Making organisation fun encourages responsibility.

5. Weekend Family Planning Session:

Spend time on the weekend planning the upcoming week together. Discuss after-school activities, school projects, and family events. This builds anticipation and helps your young people feel involved.

6. Gratitude or Highlight Jar:

Keep a jar where your child can drop notes about something good that happened at school each day. Review them together weekly to focus on positives and build resilience.

Tips for
going
back to
school



Webinar about the
transition to
secondary school



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

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BASE

Before and After School Ettington

[Book at BASE](#)



BREAKFAST CLUB



Before and After School Ettington (BASE) Breakfast Club is for school-age children at Ettington Primary and Pre-School, **EVERY MORNING** during term time from **7.45am**.

Enjoy a healthy breakfast and some fun activities before school starts.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB



Before and After School Ettington (BASE) is for school-age children at Ettington Primary and Pre-School, **EVERY AFTERNOON DURING TERM TIME**

(Monday-Thursday 3.15pm-6.00pm and 3.15pm-4.30pm Friday).

Play, have fun, eat and chill out after school.



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Ettington Primary School Calendar Dates 2026 – 2027

Autumn Term 2026	
Designated Teacher-Training Days	Tuesday 1 st September Wednesday 2 nd September
Term Starts	Thursday 3 rd September Monday 7 th September (Reception only)
Designated Teacher-Training Day	Friday 23 rd October
Half Term	Monday 26 th October-Friday 30 th October
Term-ends	Friday 18 th December 1.30pm

Spring Term 2027	
Designated Teacher-Training Days	Monday 4 th January
Term Starts	Tuesday 5 th January
Half Term	Monday 15 th February-Friday 19 th February
Term-ends	Thursday 25 th March

Summer Term 2027	
Term Starts	Monday 12 th April
May Bank Holiday	Monday 3 rd May
Designated Teacher-Training Day	Friday 28 th May
Half Term	Monday 31 st May-Friday 4 th June
Term-ends	Wednesday 21 st July

Autumn Term 2027	
Designated Teacher-Training Days	TBC
Term Starts	TBC

Warwickshire CC School Calendar

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Half Term Days						
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				
Total	195					
Total days						
Autumn Term	73					
Spring Term	63					
Summer Term	59					

School Holiday
Public Holiday
Teacher Training Day (*3 to be set by school)

Secondary School Induction Day



Warwickshire
County Council



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

Autumn Term 1 2026	Autumn Term 2 2026
Monday 21 September 5.30pm Full Governing Board Meeting Tuesday 22 September Flu Vaccinations Thursday 1 October 9.30am – 10.30am Reception Intake 2027 Open Morning – please book via the school office Monday 5-9 October 3.15pm Book Fair – School Library Wednesday 7 October 6.00pm-7.30pm Reception and Year 1 Phonics and Early Reading Information Evening Friday 9 October World Mental Health Day Monday 19 October 3.45pm-6.45pm Parent Consultations Tuesday 20 October 9.30am-10.30am Harvest Festival 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 20 October 1.30pm–2.30pm Reception Intake 2027 Open Afternoon – please book via the school office Thursday 22 October 3.45pm-6.45pm Parent Consultations Thursday 22 October Last Day of Half Term	Monday 2 November (School reopens to pupils) w.c. Monday 16 November Anti Bullying Week Tuesday 8 December 9.30am Reception Nativity Play (information to follow) Thursday 10 December 9.30am & 6.15pm KS1 (Years 1 &2) Christmas play Thursday 10 December 2.15pm Reception Nativity Play (information to follow) Tuesday 15 December 9.30am-10.30am 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 Last day of term: Friday 18 December



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Friday 23 October Teacher Training Day School closed to children Half term: Monday 26 October 2026 to Friday 30 October 2026	
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