

Ettington Church of England Primary School

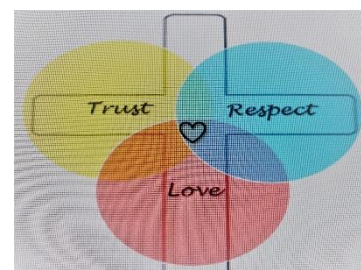
Newsletter 3

27th October 2023

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

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

'My God is my strength in whom I trust.' Psalm 18:2



Dear parents, carers and the wider community,

Thank you so much for all of your continued help and support over the last 8 weeks. The children and staff have all worked incredibly hard and I think it is safe to say, are all ready for a well-deserved half term holiday.

Stars of the Week

Week ending 6.10.2023	Week ending 13.10.2023	Week ending 20.10.2023
Reception: Olivia	Reception: Niko	Reception: Abel
Year 1: Phoebe	Year 1: Aurelia	Year 1: Robin
Year 2: Nancy	Year 2: Diane	Year 2: Hattie
Year 3: Harper	Year 3: Lola	Year 3: Edie
Year 4: William	Year 4: Arjun	Year 4: Eva
Year 5:	Year 5: Darcey	Year 5: Freddie
Year 6: Ben	Year 6: Lacey-Mai	Year 6: Alys
Star writer: Oscar (Year 4)	Star writer: Hannah (Year 3)	Star writer: Sophie (Year 2)

Events

Our year 5 children have completed their Peer Mediation Training and are now out and about...

Last Thursday, we enjoyed our two Harvest Festivals in Church. Reception and Key Stage 1 were first, followed by Key Stage 2 after break. Both services were led by children. The children's thoughts, poems, prayers and song were, as always, uplifting. Many thanks to all who were able to attend and help us to walk to church and back. It was wonderful to see so many of you join us. Thank you for all of your donations, they will be welcomed at the Shipston Food Bank. We were so fortunate that the rain held off for us!

Thank you to all that attended our Phonics workshop on Tuesday, I hope that you found it to be an enjoyable as well as informative learning session. The slides will be available on the school website.



The children in year 4 had a fabulous day on Tuesday by taking part in lots of fun activities as part of their Egyptian workshop in school. 'We looked at Egyptian artefacts, created hieroglyphics on papyrus paper using ink and created scarabs using modelling clay. We all

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had a great day and thank you to St John's Museum, Warwick for coming into our school to teach so many interesting facts.'

Year 3 had a wonderful day out when they visited the Roman Alcester Museum. 'When we arrived, we were given Roman names and tunics to wear. We then explored an archaeological dig site, sorted parts of different pots that had been found, played Roman games and built a mini Roman fort. In the afternoon, we got to dress up as a Roman soldier. We had a great day!'

Year 2 have had a fantastic day at Blakesley Hall. 'We experienced what life was like in 1666 for Samuel Pepys and the people of London. We also had the chance to write with quills, do brass rubbings and look at 17th century artefacts. Finally, we were able to enjoy the beautiful grounds!'

Year 1 have also travelled back in time and visited Kenilworth Castle where they spent the day exploring the castle – learning about the people who might have lived there and the jobs that they would have had.

We thank you for helping to make these experiences to enhance and embed our curriculum through real life, hands on experiences happen. Thank you especially to the parents and helpers who gave their time and spent the day with the classes. It is these experiences that cement the classroom learning and become the events that the children remember for years to come!

FoES Thank you!

I attended the FoES AGM last week and was again humbled by the tireless help, support and ideas to provide enrichment to the curriculum, to enhance the opportunities for your children. This term alone, they have funded the school's School Library Service, so that we can supplement the curriculum with a wealth of topic related books and have agreed to pay £5.00 per head towards the cost of school trips. They are also paying for the children's Christmas Pantomime and exploring how we can enhance our outdoor learning environment. Profits from both the disco last week and Monday's pre-loved clothing sale have now been calculated and a total of £502.50 has been raised.

FoES have written their own newsletter, which has already been emailed out. Please take the time to see how we hope to spend money raised this year. If you have a few hours to spare, I am sure that they would welcome new faces and ideas with open arms.

Please contact them via the admin3024@welearn365.com email.

Free School Meals (FSM)

To apply for free school meals (even if your child is in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 and currently has universal infant free school meals) please go to <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/education-learning/apply-free-school-meals>

Household Support Fund

The government's Household Support Fund has provided local authorities with one-off funding for families, and vulnerable residents, who may need financial help with significantly increased living costs. Warwickshire County Council will be providing Huggg vouchers to parents and carers with one or more children who are eligible for benefits related free school meals to support during these challenging times.



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Eligible parents will receive this cost of living payment in October 2023. This will be a £30 voucher for each child at home who is in receipt of benefits related free school meals in addition to one £75 voucher for each eligible Warwickshire household to help with your household costs. This will be sent via SMS text message. Supermarket choices are Aldi, Asda, Farmfoods, Iceland, M&S, Morrisons, Sainsbury's, Tesco and Waitrose.

Active Travel

Please avoid parking in Churchill Close to drop off and pick up your children and please do not park in the Disabled Access. This space is used on a daily basis for learners in our school.

Reception School Applications for September 2024

Parents and Carers are invited to Join “Applying for a Primary School Place” webinar.

Parents and carers with a child that is due to start in Reception in September 2024 are invited to join the school admissions team on Thursday 9 November at 7pm to get advice and guidance on how to apply for their school place.

This applies to children born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020 for Reception. The webinar is open to everyone and free to join. A recording of the event will also be made available via the School Admissions YouTube Playlist shortly after for those not able to join on the day.

To book a place, go to: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/applying-for-a-warwickshire-primary-school-place-tickets-737955162757>

Please note:

Applications for primary school places can only be made after 1 November 2023. All applications received by the deadline of 15 January 2024 will receive a school offer on 16 April next year, which is National Offer Day. Any applications submitted after the 15 January deadline will only be considered after this, meaning the child is much less likely to be offered a place at a preferred school. Applications can be made online after 1 November at www.warwickshire.gov.uk/primaryplace.

Secondary School Applications for September 2024

If your child will be moving to Year 7 in September 2024, then now is the time to start thinking about your secondary school application. You must submit your application by 31st October 2023. If you apply before this date, you will receive your child’s school offer on National Offer Day (1st March 2024). Late applications will not be processed until after 1st March 2024, by which time many schools will be full and you are much less likely to be offered a place at your preferred school.

Please visit [Applying for a Secondary School Place](#) for more information and apply for your place.

There is a YouTube video to support parents and carers with the admissions process -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V7yVvgN9tAs>



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Online Safety

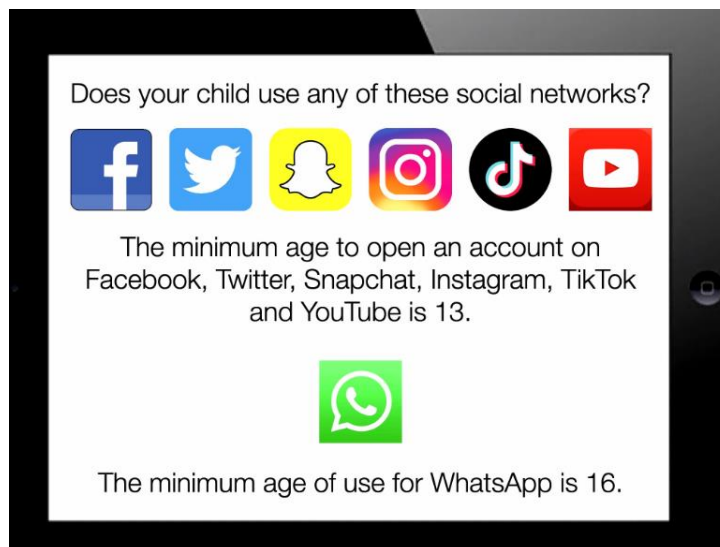
Parents, you have access to the Warwickshire Online Safety Hub
[Warwickshire Online Safety Hub](#)

In addition, we are excited to announce that there will be a FREE Online Safety workshop for parents, presented by Katherine Howard from Smoothwall, on Wednesday 29th November from 7.30-8.30pm.

Online Safety for Parents Workshop on 29th November at 7.30pm.

Please find it below:

https://smoothwall.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_W_mmsH4uTZCZlpyrrAN5gQ



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FREE ONLINE SAFETY WORKSHOP

FOR PARENTS OF SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN

Get practical hints and tips to support your children and keep them safe online, and learn how to keep up to date in the ever changing online world.



Speaker
KAT HOWARD

Head of Education & Wellbeing (UK)
Smoothwall



Access the workshop [here](#)

bit.ly/ONLINE_SAFETY_WORKSHOP_29th_Nov

Kat has been working with schools for over 18 years to develop their understanding of online safety. She is passionate about the importance of online safety in schools and the wider community.

For more information on online safety, visit <https://warwickshire.onlinesafetyhub.uk/>

Attendance

Please ensure that if your child is well enough to come to school that they are in school.

Attendance - Measles

Over 102,000 children starting primary school in England are at risk of catching measles. With millions of children across the country back in school this term, NHS England is urging parents to check that their children are up to date with their MMR (Measles, Mumps and Rubella) vaccinations in the wake of measles cases rising across the country.

Childhood vaccination rates have fallen over the past ten years and statistics show that over 102,000 children aged four and five years old starting in Reception are not protected against catching measles, mumps and rubella. Measles is highly infectious and if left



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unvaccinated nine out of ten children in a classroom can catch the disease if just one child is infectious.

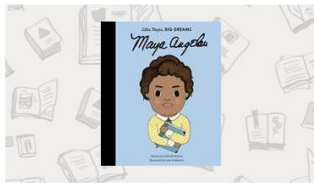
If you are unsure if you or your child are up to date, check your child's red book or GP records and make an appointment to catch up any missed doses. For more information on the NHS vaccination schedule please visit [Vaccinations - when to have them](#)

School Library

As from Friday 10th November 2023, we would like to invite you to use our school library to borrow books. The library will be open on Friday afternoons between 3.15pm and 3.45pm. It will be run voluntarily by Ms Aileen McNair, an experienced librarian and on a rota basis, our own Year 6 librarians. This is a great resource that we are sure you will use and enjoy. A huge thank you to Ms McNair and the Year 6 librarians for giving their time to help.

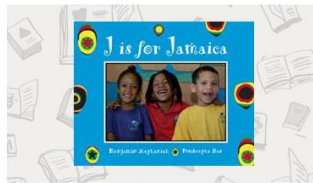
Again, this year, we are running our 'Caught Reading' competition. Please send us photos of your child, caught reading. The more exciting the location, the better...

Explore some of our favourite book choices this half term...



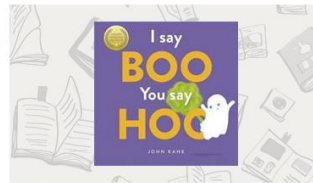
Our favourite books about Black History for younger children (4-8)

Check out our favourite books about Black History for younger children. Warm, truly interesting and pitched appropriately for the age group, these books are perfect for curious children.



Our favourite poetry books (younger children)

From re-invented fairy tales to classics from Poet Laureate Carol Ann Duffy, here are some poetry books your child is sure to love and want to read out loud.



Halloween picture books

These picture books, featuring witches, wizards and monsters, are perfect to share with little ones as the nights draw in and there's a touch of frosty magic in the air.



Son of the Circus: A Victorian Story

Author: E L Norry **Illustrator:** Alette Straathof (cover art)

Publisher: Scholastic

Interest age: 9-11

Reading age: 10+

Twelve-year-old Ted discovers he has roots in the circus and must join his father's company for the first time to discover his own talent! Great for history buffs and those looking for historical fiction featuring people of colour.



Freedom (1783)

Author: Catherine Johnson

Publisher: Scholastic

Interest age: 9-11

Reading age: 9+

This is a brilliant adventure story that manages to give young readers a really important insight into slavery without being so upsetting that it's impossible to read: a very fine balance, masterfully achieved.



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Connect for Health

Connect for Health, the school nursing service, completed the National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) with Reception and Year 6 pupils on Monday 23rd October. Your child may have been measured as part of the programme and the results letter will be available for you to view. Parents can access their child's results letter via the parent/carer portal. To log in or register an account, please go to:



<https://www.compass-uk.org/services/c4h/primary-parent-sign-up/>



Save the Date

Christmas Fayre Friday 1st December 2023

Ettington Community Centre

Think mince pies, gifts, grottos, Christmas crafts and all that's in between. Join us for a fun filled evening of festivities!

Please speak to Steph Sneath or contact a member of the FoES team to reserve a stall space

Don't miss out on half-term fun at Warwickshire's Country Parks

The October half-term holiday is just around the corner, and with a variety of exciting and educational activities taking place across Warwickshire's Country Parks, it's the perfect opportunity for kids to step out into the great outdoors. From arts and crafts to outdoor adventures, the rangers have organised something for every child to enjoy.

These events are hugely popular and tickets are selling like hotcakes, so don't wait until the last minute to secure yours. For more information about any of the events, or to book tickets, visit the Warwickshire Country Parks Eventbrite page: [Warwickshire Country Parks](#)

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very safe and happy half term and we look forward to welcoming you all back to school on Monday 6th November.

Kind regards,

Mrs Michelle Crowe

Head Teacher



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LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME

UPDATED INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Supreme Court has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time (Platt v Isle of Wright 2017). The Supreme Court has made clear that attending school 'regularly' means that the children must attend school on every day that they are required to do so. As such, the parents of any child who is absent from school without authorisation for any length of time are likely to be considered as committing an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996. The regulations regarding Leave of Absence (The Education (Pupil Regulations) (England) Regulations 2006 as amended by Education (Pupil Regulations) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013.) advise: Head teachers shall not grant any Leave of Absence during term time unless they consider there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application. If the leave is granted, Head teachers are able to determine the number of school days a child can be absent for. It is for the Head teacher to decide what is 'exceptional' and it is at their discretion if the circumstances warrant the leave to be granted. When making an application for Leave of Absence in advance parents are advised to give sufficient information and time to allow the Head teacher the opportunity to consider all the exceptional circumstances and to notify parents of their decision. It is advised that if the resident parent has not received notification or a response regarding the leave of absence application, it is their responsibility to ascertain if the leave is authorised prior to the start of the leave. The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent i.e. the parent with whom the child normally resides.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child will be required to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence, which may result in legal action being taken against the parent(s), by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice. Where a leave of absence is requested, but additional days taken either prior to or after the request may be considered as part of the leave of absence and could result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to the parent(s). Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case-by-case basis and on its own merits. Leave of Absences which are not made in advance cannot be authorised in line with legislation. This will result in the absence being recorded as 'unauthorised'. This may result in legal action against the parent, by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice. All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence may be referred to the Warwickshire Attendance Service, part of Warwickshire County Council. It is important to note, Fixed Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices in the amount of £120 each, totalling £240 for both children, this is reduced to £60 per child if paid within 21 days). Where a Fixed Penalty Notice is not paid within the required timeframe as set out on the notice, the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal proceedings under S444 Education Act 1996. Fixed Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices.

Warwickshire School pupils recorded 96,366 half day sessions of absence due to holiday in the Academic year 2021/22.



Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority

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Dates for your calendar and diary

Autumn 2

Monday 6th November
Start of Half Term

Tuesday 7th November 4pm-6.30pm
Parents Evening

Thursday 9th November 1.30pm-2.30pm
New Reception Parents 2024
Tour of School

Wednesday 15th November 9.15am-10.15am
Reception Class Inspire Workshops
Writing

Thursday 16th November 4pm-7pm
(DATE CHANGE)
Parents Evening

Thursday, 23rd November @ 1.30pm
Panto – Cinderella @ Ettington Community
Centre – funded by FoES

Wednesday 29th November 9.15am-10.15am
Reception Class Inspire Workshops
Maths

Friday 1st December
Reverse Advent Calendar Begins
Advent Windows around the village
Information to follow

Thursday 7th December 2.30pm
Friday 8th December 9.30am
Reception Nativity in school

Tuesday 12th December 2pm
Wednesday 13th December 6pm
KS1 Years 1 and 2
Christmas Production in school

Thursday 14th December 9.30am-10.30am
KS2 Christmas Worship for Parents in Church
Years 3, 4, 5 and 6

Wednesday 20th December 6pm
Community Carol Service – led by children of
Ettington Church of England Primary School
starting at the Community Centre

Friday 22nd December
End of Term



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