



Message from Mrs McGibney

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been great to invite members of our city community into our school this week to support the children's about transport as part of their History unit of work. We haven't set any homework for the children during the half term holiday, however we would like to encourage both you and your children to enjoy sharing a book together and to promote reading for pleasure. Have a lovely half term!

Health and Safety

Lateral Flow Tests for your child and family are widely available free of charge. These tests are really important to help identify the virus in those who are asymptomatic and thus help reduce the risk of spread in the school and the community. We are aware that many of you already carry out these tests on a regular basis. So far we have provided hundreds of test kits to parents on the playground and we will continue to do so, for as long as we are able to obtain them. Please use these links to find out more about Lateral Flow Tests and where else you can obtain them in the community:

<https://www.coventry.gov.uk/lateralflowtesting>

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>.

You are probably already aware that the number of Covid-19 cases in the UK has been rising. If you would like to see the current statistics for the Coventry area, please use the link below:

https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/easy_read?postcode=CV1%204LY

Where can you access PCR testing if you have been told that you can't test unless symptomatic?

Symptomatic test sites should still accept people who don't have symptoms, but you need to book ahead and booking online is the easiest way: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>.

Morrisons Good to Grow

We are participating in the Morrison's 'It's Good to Grow' scheme and we currently have 14 collectors. Between 6th September and 24th October 2021 for every £10 spent in store or online at Morrisons customers will automatically receive one Grow Token to donate to your chosen school. We would love for everyone to get involved and donate your tokens to our school. For more information please visit <https://itsgoodtogrow.co.uk/faq>

Reading

As the first half term of this academic year comes to an end, at Whitmore Park we are continuing to encourage ALL of our children to read, read and read some more! Reading is a key life skill and its value is fundamental within our curriculum; as a school we are extremely dedicated to all our children learning to foster a love of reading.

With the half term holidays here, we would encourage all children to continue reading throughout it whether that is an e-book, a blog, a football analysis, a magazine or brochure for a holiday, every reading experience counts and can develop your child as a reader. It could also be that whilst you are out and about, you ask your children to read local signs or maps to give directions, reading can be fun even in the holidays!

As part of the City of Culture, arriving in Coventry for the first time, The Lost Lending Library is searching for young story writers to help reach its next destination. Landing at the Drapers' Hall, visitors are invited inside one of the library's many departments. Filled with books and curiosities, one empty shelf waits for new stories. A feast for young imaginations, this immersive experience for children aged 6-11 years and will inspire a lifetime of reading and writing. Tickets cost £8. See the link provided for more information: <https://coventry2021.co.uk/what-s-on/the-lost-lending-library/>

Mr Johnston and Mrs Sandhu [The English Team]

Class Teacher Messages...

Nursery

Nursery have had a busy week this week. We have been continuing to work on our topic Marvellous me. We have talked about our clothes, getting dressed and caring for ourselves. We have used finger paints to create Autumn pictures and we have been practising using glue. Wednesday was a very exciting day, we watched the rain and thunder storms from the safety of the classroom. When the sun came out, we went out too. The children were delighted to see worms everywhere!!



Mrs Ruth McShane

Reception

The children have had a fantastic first half term at school. We are so impressed with how well they are picking up their Read, write inc sounds. Please see your child's seesaw account for the most recent sounds that they have learned and please practise these over the half-term. Please also continue to read their reading book and practise sounding out and blending the given words. Please remember to send your child's reading folder in on Monday after the half-term. We hope you have a fantastic week and enjoy any Halloween celebrations, we look forward to seeing pictures of the children in their costumes - send them in on Seesaw and we will share them in class with their friends after the half-term.



Miss Ridgway (Early Years Leader), Miss Blower and Miss Mosey

Year 1

We have had a fantastic last week to the half term! We had our visit of the Lanchester car and the children got to look at all the features of old cars that we have learnt about. They also got to hear the difference between the town horn and country horn. In Science, we have been exploring the school grounds for signs of Autumn. We have seen lots of leaves changing colour, plants that are dying and lots of fungi growing all over the school grounds. The weather has also been very Autumnal this week which has supported their learning of the seasons. We have finished up our week with a visit of a bus from Stagecoach! We got to learn how the bus works, what features it has and we thought about how buses were better for the environment than cars.



Miss Skidmore, Mrs Ellis (Year 1 Leader), Miss McShane

Year 2

This week, the children have been writing their own instructions on "How to find buried treasure." They enjoyed helping the Salty Dogs become better pirates.

In Maths, the children have been working on their problem solving skills to solve a variety of addition problems. They have been using their reasoning skills to justify their answers. For example, they are able to use $2 + 2$ to help them solve $20 + 20$.

In Science, the children carried out an experiment to find out which place in the classroom had the most amount of germs. They rubbed bread in various places to help them answer this question. We are going to see what the bread looks like after half term. The majority of children predicted that the bread rubbed on the floor will have the most mould on after the holidays.

The Year 2 team would like to say a big well done to all the children for a fantastic first half term. They have settled in beautifully and have worked really hard. We wish you all a lovely holiday.

Mrs Sandhu, Mrs Gill (Year 2 Leader), Mrs Nolan



Class Teacher Messages...

Year 3

This week in Year 3 we have been finishing our work on writing our pirate diary based on the Pirate Cruncher. We moved onto subtracting in Maths and have used our base ten materials along with our number lines to help us. After half term we will be working hard on the column method for subtraction. We have finished our Light and Dark topic in Science and we are moving onto Rocks after half term. The children really enjoyed our Science topic especially making our shadow puppets. Next term in English we will be reading Fantastic Mr Fox and writing a setting description. In Humanities the children will be moving on from the Stone Age to the Iron Age.

Miss Khan (Year 3 Leader), Miss Hussain and Miss Waddell.

Year 4

In English, we have been learning why authors change paragraphs and how they show the emotions of their characters. We have used this knowledge to write a diary entry in role as the spider from 'The Spider and the Fly.' In maths, we have been developing our subtraction methods, including a formal column method and using the inverse to check our answers. In arithmetic, we have been developing our mental addition methods.

We have continued our research of the archaeologist Howard Carter and used the evidence we have found to write a newspaper report in humanities. In Thrive and RHE, we have been working on how to be a valuable team member who contributes to the success of the group. We've been consolidating this by playing team building games in PE.

Miss Cox (Year 4 Leader), Mrs Hatton and Miss Chapman



Year 5

Thank you Year 5 for a brilliant first half-term. It has been great to see you working hard in all subjects and giving your best towards your learning over the past seven weeks. When reflecting on what we have achieved as a year group it makes all of the Year 5 team extremely proud. In our maths lessons on place value, addition and subtraction when working with numbers up to 1 million you have shown good understanding and great perseverance.

In English, you have shown great enthusiasm for our text Friend or Foe and applied your understanding to write a short historical story and a formal letter. In our afternoon lessons, you have especially impressed us with how hard you have worked in humanities to understand how World War Two started and the reasons for this. Whilst in Science, you have shown a great love of learning when investigating changes in materials. In Music, PE, Computing, Art and RHE you have also worked hard with your learning and shown a great commitment to improve on your skills.

Mr Johnston (Assistant Head and Year 5 leader), Miss Wherly, Mrs Sharratt and Mrs Williams

Year 6

Year 6 have had a fantastic end to the term, and have timed the completion of our story 'Skellig' perfectly. The children have thoroughly enjoyed the story and we are looking forward to watching the film to further compare our own interpretations! The children have written information texts and pieces of descriptive writing throughout the unit and we've handed out lots of handwriting pens - one of our favourite things to do!

We hope you have an amazing half term and that the weather holds up for you before it gets too cold and dark! The children thoroughly deserve the break, and we won't be sending homework home during this time. We do still expect everyone to read and practice their times tables using Timestable Rockstars where possible, and will be checking reading journals upon their return. Action Tutoring will commence after half term from the first week back, so if your child is involved, make sure you don't arrive to pick them up too early!

Mr Payne (Assistant Head and Year 6 Leader), Mrs Harrison and Mr Openshaw

Attendance and Family Welfare Team

Attendance

WEEKLY WINNERS (w/c 18.10.2021)

KS1 – R Delta (98%)

KS2 – 3 Delta (98%)

**Congratulations! Your class will receive the Attendance Trophy this week
PLUS you will be rewarded with 5 dojos each!**



Here Today Here Tomorrow
Every School Day Matters!



Our schools target for attendance is 96.4%; this is for the whole school and for every pupil.

**Well done everyone for a great effort with attendance this half term! We hope that you have
restful week off and return to school on
Monday 1st November**

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Family Welfare

Remember we are here for you and your family, if you have any welfare concerns, e.g. mental health, finance, housing or general wellbeing, please contact us at familywelfare@whitmorepark.org we will get back to you to offer support. This email is only accessed by the inclusion team.

We know it may be difficult for parents who are working to speak to us, if you contact us by email first then we can discuss convenient times to call you. We will respond to your email as quickly as possible.

Pathways Family Hub Open doing half term holiday!

Please take time to have a look at their Facebook page as this is updated regularly with tips, advice and useful information including activities on offer during the half term holiday!

Our local Family Hub is 'Pathways', they are based at Radford Primary School. You can follow them on Facebook or Twitter for information about local events and support for families.

[Facebook - pathwaysfamilyhub](#)

[Twitter - hubsfamily](#)

Tel: 02476978130

Half Term Activities

Check out CoventryRocks.co.uk for things to do in Coventry during half term, there are lots of fun activities happening around the city including Halloween parties and Family Craft Sessions.



Enjoy at Roller Disco at Broadgate!

Monday 25th – Sunday 31st October

10am – 6pm Monday – Saturday

10am – 4.30pm Sunday

Standard Entry Price: £4

Go CV Price £3

Prices include skate and wrist guard hire



A Message from the Admin Team

Please remember that school fleeces and hoodies for PE are available to purchase from school. Fleeces cost £14 and Hoodies are now £14 without initials and an additional £2 to include the child's initials. Please place your order on the school gateway and state the size required. If you are ordering a hoodie please let us know if you would like it with or without initials and also if you would like it in red or grey.

Please note that because these are ordered in they can take around 2-3 weeks to arrive. Please ensure that you top up your child's dinner balance regularly if they re in Years 3-6. Dinners cost £2.20 per day or £11 per week.

A Message from Miss Carney & Miss Chadwick

Hi everyone,

This week children have really enjoyed exploring who they are inside while creating skeletons. Some have been talking about feelings while decorating the pumpkins. Some have explored how rolling marbles can help regulate emotions.



Have a great half term everyone.
Miss Carney and Miss Chadwick.

Our School Nursing Team Health focused websites

Chat Health texting service Chat health is a free service that enables 11-18 year olds across Coventry to send confidential SMS text messages to School Nurses who will provide impartial advice and support. The number to text is 07507 331949.

Parent Advice Parents can call the School Nurses between 8.30am -16.30pm, Monday to Friday on 02475189190 to discuss any child health concerns they may have.

For advice and support from your school nurse please text "Chat Health" on 07507 329114 9am-5pm Monday to Friday. If your child is unwell please call your GP or call 111. For medical emergencies ring 999.

Useful Links

Finance

[Coventry Independent Advice Service](#) is a charity offering free advice, information and support to Coventry residents. Our service is confidential and **our** skilled advisers can help you with things like:

- Identifying entitlement to benefits and helping you make claims
- Helping you to sort out debt or other money problems
- Challenging decisions on benefit claims

Domestic Abuse

[Coventry Haven](#) - ensure safety and empowerment for women and children who are subjected to Domestic Violence and Abuse (DVA) in any form. They offer a range of services including a Safe To Talk Helpline **0800 111 4998** or **024 7644 4077**

(Monday to Friday 9am-4.30pm)

[National Domestic Abuse Line \(REFUGE\)](#) - Refuge supports women, children and men experiencing domestic violence with a range of services including a 24-hour helpline **0808 2000 247**.