



## Message from Mrs McGibney

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for supporting the Poppy Appeal in school. The children loved the merchandise and hopefully we have raised a generous amount for the Royal British Legion. We have a wonderful day in school today. The children have loved hunting for Pudsey and completing the colouring competition. Monies raised will all go to the Children in Need campaign which supports many good causes. We have raised £460 whilst having fun in school. Have a great weekend.

## Health and Safety

- **Please DO NOT send your child to school if they have any of the following symptoms:** a new continuous cough or a high temperature or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell. If they have any of these symptoms, please follow the guidelines from the link below or call 119 for advice: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>
- **We wear face coverings to protect others. Please wear a face covering** when entering the school site and building, **unless** you have a medical exemption.
- **Lateral Flow Tests** for your child and family are widely available free of charge. Please use these links to find out more <https://www.coventry.gov.uk/lateralflowtesting>
- **Vaccinations** – please click on the link below for information regarding vaccinations and where you can find drop-in vaccination centres.  
<https://www.healthwatchcoventry.co.uk/advice-and-information/2021-11-01/how-access-covid-19-vaccination>
- **Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership Trust Covid Vaccination Clinics for 12-15 year olds**  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-resources-for-children-and-young-people>

### **Northgate House – Warwick**

**When:** Saturday and Sunday from this Saturday (20<sup>th</sup> November)

**Location:** Cape Rd, Northgate South Side, Warwick CV34 4JH

**Times:** First appointment: 10:00, last appointment: 15:55

**How to Book:** appointment available via: <https://www.swiftqueue.co.uk> - Northgate House

### **Coventry Central Library**

**When:** Wednesday & Saturdays

**Location:** Smithford Way, Coventry CV1 1FY

**Times:** Wednesday: 15:30 to 17:55, Saturday: 10:00 to 15:55

### **Bedworth Civic Hall**

**When:** Daily

**Location:** Civic Hall High Street, Bedworth CV12 8NF

**Times:** Monday to Friday 16:00 to 19:30, Saturday and Sunday 08:30 to 19:30

## Reading

At Whitmore Park, reading is at the heart of our curriculum and we want to ensure that every child has a love of reading. To help children in school to achieve this, we want every child to read...read...read.

In school, we have a dedicated reading for pleasure session once a week. During this session, the children can read any book, magazine or comic of their choice. We believe that this session is vital to promote a love of reading and to engage children in texts that they enjoy. Reading for pleasure opens up new worlds for children. It gives them the opportunity to use their imagination to explore new ideas, visit new places and meet new characters. It is a brilliant session for both teachers and children and we especially enjoy: seeing what the children choose to read; listening to them read; and talking to them about their reading.

We would also like to thank you for allowing your child to buy a reading book from our Book Fair over the last week. Your support is very much valued by us and we hope that the children enjoy reading their new books at home and in school.

Mr Johnston and Mrs Sandhu [The English Team]

# Class Teacher Messages...

## Nursery

This week Nursery have been sharing the book *Brown Bear Brown Bear What Can You See?*

The children have enjoyed joining in with the story and talking about the animals in the book. We have been playing lots of guessing games with the animals.

We have also been working hard to collect all of the falling leaves in the garden. We made a huge pile that was so big one of the children hid in it!

Have a lovely weekend,  
Mrs Ruth McShane



## Reception

This week we have participated in World Nursery Rhyme Week! Nursery rhymes are fantastic for developing children's language and literacy skills. The children have taken part in many fun activities centred around the nursery rhymes that we have been singing. Please make sure that you check your child's seesaw account to see a snapshot of them and please press 'like' to let us know that you've seen them too!

In phonics, children have learned the letters w, th, z and ch (more info on Seesaw) and in Numeracy we have learned about the composition of number 4. Please remember to send your child's reading folder into school on Monday.

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



## Year 1

This week in Science, we have continued to look at materials. We have investigated which materials are shiny and which are dull using torches. We spoke about why it might be important to not wear dull clothes when out at night time and in other situations where you might need to be spotted easily.

In RE, we have been learning about Jonah and the whale and that this teaches Christians that it is important to forgive others. The children have drawn super pictures of Jonah inside the whale's tummy and written about what Christians believe God did in the story.

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



## Year 2

Year 2 have worked extremely hard this week to write their own character descriptions about *Amazing Grace*. They included adjectives and conjunctions to add extra detail. Some children showed their work to Mrs McGibney who was also blown away with the high standard of work produced.

We are learning about subtraction in Maths. The children are becoming more confident at finding key words in problems to help them decide what to do.

We had a fantastic trip to Selly Manor last week. The children really impressed the group leaders with their knowledge about the Great Fire of London. The children especially enjoyed looking around the house and exploring the artefacts.

In Science, the children researched about Charles Macintosh. They created fact files about him after looking at different sources.

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



# Class Teacher Messages...

## Year 3

This week the children have been writing some fantastic setting descriptions about Boggis's farm from our story Fantastic Mr. Fox. We were very impressed with the vocabulary used by the children. Next week we will be looking at non-fiction, and begin to learn the features of a good information text about the Stone age.

In Maths, the children have been reviewing their 3 times tables and learning their 4 times tables using a variety of methods. Next week, the children will be moving onto the 8 times tables. A big well done to year 3 for all the hard work they have done this week!

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

## Year 4

In year 4 this week, we have been drafting and publishing our non-chronological reports about an aspect of Ancient Egypt. We have used captions, sentence starters and fact boxes to good effect. We have also been using our skimming and scanning when reading.

In Maths this week, we have been learning how to use grouping and sharing to divide. We have been representing division sums in a variety of ways and showing why there is sometimes a remainder. In arithmetic, we have been consolidating our understanding of a compact method for multiplication.

In Humanities, we researched ancient Egyptian gods and presented our findings to the class. In science, we have been observing the cress seeds we planted and writing up our experiment on the water cycle in action. In RE, we have learnt about how Sikhs worship and show respect.

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

## Year 5

It has been another great week in Year 5. This week in English, the children have written their own play scripts about World War Two and we have continued to read our very interesting and engaging class story 'Letters from the Lighthouse'. In maths, the children have worked hard to understand how to multiply a 4 digit number by a 1 digit number. The children have shown a good understanding of this method and have been able to calculate accurately and apply their understanding to problems. In our year group assembly we focused on the theme Anti-Bullying Week. We discussed the importance of being kind, what bullying is, the impact of bullying and what we can do to stop bullying. The children offered great ideas during the assembly and have been given the task to carry out acts of kindness in school and at home. In PE, we have continued with our unit of work on hockey and we were impressed with the children's tackling and how they applied this skill to different games. We were also impressed with how the children worked during our Thrive lesson and the maturity they demonstrated to answer questions such as: What would you do if you worked really hard to get in the school football team but didn't get picked? Well done on a fantastic week Year 5; keep it up.

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

## Year 6

As it gets colder and darker outside, our children remain bright and eager in the classrooms! It's amazing to see their energy and enthusiasm for learning every day, and we are definitely working them hard to prepare for their SATs. Due to COVID, we will be unable to gather parents together to have a meeting, however all Year 6 parents will receive a link to a video presentation to watch at a time convenient to you. We will also be opening orders for revision guides and sharing effective methods to prepare your children for May - we hear the guides make great Christmas presents!

This week, we studied Sikhism, the digestive system and multiplying decimal numbers all whilst writing and publishing our Charles Darwin diary entries! I'm sure the children's hands hurt from all of the writing, but we can't wait to share some examples of great work with you on Class Dojo!

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

## Attendance and Family Welfare Team

### Attendance

(w/c 15.11.2021)

**WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE : 92.9%**

### WEEKLY WINNERS

KS1 – 1 Beta (98.6%)

KS2 – 6 Delta (97.0%)

**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.**

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### Punctuality

We are noticing a number of children are arriving late to school in the mornings and are entering school through the main entrance. Please ensure that your child arrives on time to school at 8:45am ready to be greeted by their class teacher. If you are experiencing difficulties getting to school on time and would like some support please contact the Attendance and Family Welfare team who will be happy to help.

### Family Welfare

*We are here for you...*

Please get in touch if you have any concerns regarding your child's wellbeing. We are well equipped to support you and your family with matters such as mental health, financial, bereavement and general welfare.

Winter Coats Appeal: As we enter the colder months, we would be very grateful for donations of children's winter coats, so that we can provide these to any of our families in need. Thank you.

## Thrive Update

In Thrive we have been thinking about symbolic representation and how colours can help express different emotions too.



## Our School Nursing Team Health focused websites

Coventry School Nurses have launched two websites, one aimed at children and another tailored towards teenagers:

[www.healthforkids.co.uk](http://www.healthforkids.co.uk) offers a fun way for children to learn about health with games, activities and quizzes.

[www.healthforteens.co.uk](http://www.healthforteens.co.uk) hosts videos and webchats as well as articles to educate teenagers on a range of health topics such as contraception, mental health, drugs and alcohol.

**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**.

### Mental Health & Wellbeing

[Young Minds](#) - a national charity which supports children and young people with mental health and well being. They have specific resources for young people around COVID-19, and also offer support to parents.

[Childline](#) - Childline is available to help anyone under 19 in the UK with any issue they're going through. You can talk about anything. Whether it's something big or small, they have trained counsellors to support you. The helpline is **0800 1111** and is available between 9am to midnight every day.

[Samaritans](#) - Coventry & District Samaritans is an independent charity, run entirely by unpaid volunteers. They provide a free 24-hour helpline for people who are upset, troubled or who are feeling suicidal. Call **116 123** at any time of the day or night or email [jo@samaritans.org](mailto:jo@samaritans.org).

In addition to their normal services Samaritans has set up a [confidential support line for NHS workers and volunteers in England](#). This operates from 7am to 11pm every day. NHS staff can, of course, still use the 24 hour helpline if they prefer.

### Pathways Family Hub

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**