



Message from Mrs McGibney

Dear Parents/Carers,

The children are continuing to work very hard at school with their learning and also beginning to enjoy some of the Christmas festivities. They were excited on Friday during their visit to see Father Christmas and enjoyed receiving a gift. This week we are looking forward fun afternoons of pantos, parties, Christmas craft and a Christmas DVD. Thank you for all of the voluntary contributions we have received to make this possible and for your continued support.

Health and Safety

Due to rise in cases and the threat posed by the new Omicron variant, the government are reintroducing the wearing of face coverings in shops and on public transport. Click on the link for the latest information: <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.
- **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>

- **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>
- **Maintain your 2m social distance from others at all times.**

Please **do not** arrive more than 5 minutes before the class start time, where possible (we understand that you may have more than one child to drop off).

- **Lateral Flow Tests** for your child and family are widely available free of charge. **We shall also be distributing test kits to parents on the playground and we will let you know what days these will be given out.** Please use these links to find out more

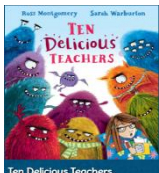
<https://www.coventry.gov.uk/lateralflowtesting>

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing/regular-rapid-coronavirus-tests-if-you-do-not-have-symptoms/>

Reading

This week, children from Year 3 and 4, who were chosen as winners for a writing competition, went to Broad Heath School to spend a morning with the author Ross Montgomery. The children had a great morning and enjoyed working alongside the talented writer. During the morning, the children: listened to Ross Montgomery's new picture book *Ten Delicious Teachers*; asked lots of questions about how he became an author and what he does; and designed a two page spread for his new book. It was an action-packed morning and the children found the workshop very inspirational. Head to Ross Montgomery's website, www.rossmontgomery.co.uk, for more information on each of his books, including videos and extracts!

After half-term, we will be organising a range of new books that have been delivered and the children will have the opportunity to choose from these books for their home reading. We are very excited to get this up and running in the New Year. Watch this space.



Class Teacher Messages...

Nursery

Nursery have had lots of fun this week trying on costumes and practising our singing for the concert. We are all film stars now and you can see our performance on Seesaw.

The children loved wearing their Christmas jumpers and they sang some more songs for you as well, but the best bit of the day was seeing Santa! There are so many lovely activities available this week. The Nursery Newsletter has all of the dates for each event listed. If you are unsure of any of the events or days please ask me at the beginning or the end of the day. Have a lovely week.

Mrs Ruth McShane



Reception

The children have been busy this week performing their nativity plays which have been filmed for you to enjoy at home and share with your families. They will be sent to you next week, we hope you like them! Next week, the children have lots of fun activities planned. They will be watching a pantomime on Monday afternoon, having a Christmas party on Tuesday (children can wear their own clothes on this day) and a Christmas movie on Wednesday. They will also do Christmas crafts and lots of other fun things! Have a good weekend everyone.

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



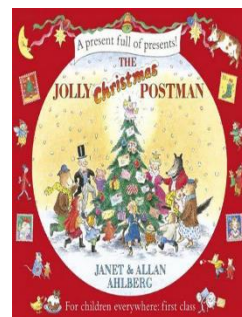
Year 1

This week in English, we have been reading 'The Jolly Christmas Postman'. The children have loved looking at the things inside the letters and seeing lots of well know characters throughout the book. We have pretended to be the postman going on his delivery rounds and written about who and what he is delivering to the characters in the story.

In Maths, we have been learning about Number Families. They are all the addition and subtraction sentences that you can write with 3 numbers from one family.

We will be going on our trip to the Transport Museum on Monday. Please ensure you arrive at school promptly, in school uniform and with your pack lunch in a named disposable bag if you are bringing your own lunch. We will be having our Christmas Party on Wednesday Afternoon so the children can come in their party clothes on that day.

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



Year 2

We have had a fantastic week in Year 2 this week! In English, the children have been reading about Valentina Tereshkova. They were excited to learn about her space mission. The children also started writing their information pages about Lady Godiva.

In Maths, the children have been learning how to subtract with renaming. They have learnt a special trick that they can do if they haven't got enough ones in a number!

In Science, the children have been exploring transparent, translucent and opaque materials.

We have planned some exciting Christmas activities for next week and can't wait to share the fun with the children!

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

Class Teacher Messages...

Year 3

Year 3 this week have completed their non-chronological report in English about the Iron Age and produced some lovely writing including lots of historical language. In Maths we have moved on to Further Multiplication and Division and next week we will learn how to multiply using the multiplication method. In Science we have finished our Rocks topic as well as our Iron Age topic in Humanities which we have all really enjoyed. We are moving onto learning about the Romans after Christmas.

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

Year 4

In English, we have been working on a character description of Lucy from 'The Wolves in the Walls'. Year 4 have really enjoyed this book. In maths, we have been multiplying by 1 and 0. We have also learnt how to multiply three numbers together. In Science, we have investigated our Big Question and concluded that not all changes of state are reversible. In RE, we have been learning about the importance of Jesus to Christians and retelling the nativity story. We have also finished our topic on Ancient Egyptians by designing a retrieval poster about all we know.

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

Year 5

It has been a fabulous week in Year 5. This week in English, the children have continued to read our gripping novel 'Letters from the Lighthouse'. They have applied their knowledge from the tale to plan a short story – written in first person – from an alternative character's point of view. In addition to this, they have also been working on using a technique called S.T.E.A.L.! In maths, the children have worked hard using Dienes apparatus to divide numbers, this has included dividing by 10, 100 and 1,000. In Science, the children have been planning, completing and writing up an investigation about thermal conductors and insulators – they had to discover which material would keep an ice cube the coolest for longest. In R.E. this week, the children have completed their topic about 'the impact of prejudice' and have started a new topic about 'peace' and have asked the question 'Is peace possible?'. In Humanities, the children have researched what Christmas was like in World War 2. An amazing week Year 5; keep it up.

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

Year 6

We've come to the end of the penultimate week here at Whitmore Park, but show no sign of slowing down in the Year 6 corridor just yet! We've had a fantastic assessment week and the children have shown good progress since September. Today, we recorded our Christmas performances which we can't wait for you to see. A letter will come home this evening with information to order CGP revision books to support the children with their SATs preparations. A video will be sent out to parents before we break up with all of the information relating to SATs. This has taken some time to put together, and we appreciate your patience. You will have until Friday to order your SATs books. Enjoy this final run up to Christmas, and we hope you get organised in time for the big day! Mr Payne (Assistant Head and Year 6 Leader), Mrs Harrison and Mr Openshaw

Christmas Raffle Prizes



PLUS MORE!!

Raffle tickets are available to purchase until Wednesday 15th December from your child's classroom.

Tickets cost £1 per strip.

Attendance and Family Welfare Team

Attendance

(w/c 06.12.2021)

WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

WEEKLY WINNERS

KS1 – 1 Beta 97.9%

KS2 – 3 Beta 97.6%

**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 this is for the whole school and for every pupil.

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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.

Sports Update

It has been the final week of our sporting after school clubs this week at Whitmore Park Primary. The P.E team have been so impressed with all the children who have attended each of the clubs this week, with their attitude to learning and enthusiasm in all the activities they have participated in. The P.E team are really keen to encourage all participants to carry on their amazing efforts outside of school. Mr Parry will be sending out an email next week via schoolcomms, letting parents/carers of the children who attend school clubs, where they can find outside sporting clubs/organisations. For children in year 4 and 6 who attended the Acension Dance clubs, a video of the children's last performance will be available in the coming weeks, which we will look to share with attendees' parents/carers. Please look out for the Sporting Clubs letter after the holiday break for all the new activities we have organised for Spring Term.

Reminder – All after school activities finish this week. There isn't any next week.

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 offers a fun way for children to learn about health with games, activities and quizzes.

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.

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**