



Message from Mrs McGibney

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had good week back in school following on from the half term with excellent learning happening. We have seen lots of children this week for Head Teacher's awards for super learning and progress both at home and at school. It is wonderful to see the children developing their interests and carrying on their learning at home. We have enjoyed celebrating World Book Day today and have seen some fantastic books characters parading around the school. We hope you have an enjoyable weekend.

Health and Safety

COVID19 Information

For up-to-date Covid-19 guidance by click on the link <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>.

Parents are no longer required to wear a face covering when on the school site.

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).

Please see below guidance for if your child/anyone in the household develops COVID-19 symptoms.

What to do if you/your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

For most people, especially children, COVID-19 will be a mild illness.

The most common symptoms of COVID-19 are recent onset of:

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature and/or
- a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

Please do not send your child to school if they have any of the above symptoms.

If anyone in the household develops any of these symptoms of COVID-19, they are strongly advised to remain at home and avoid contact with others. If you are symptomatic, you should take an NHS PCR test at a test site and **NOT** a rapid test taken at a community testing site or at home (an LFT test). Anyone that attends one of our community testing sites with symptoms of COVID-19 will be redirected. When COVID-19 is circulating, it is worth also being aware of the wider symptoms of COVID-19 including: sore throat, headache, muscle ache, fatigue, shortness of breath, blocked/runny nose, diarrhoea and vomiting, and cold-like symptoms.

If any of your lateral flow or PCR tests are positive you are strongly advised to isolate, [register your LFT test](#) and follow [this guidance](#).

Access to LFT and PCR Tests

For information regarding access to lateral flow tests see:

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

Please book a PCR test (if you have symptoms) via the [online portal](#) or by ringing 119.

Please note that we are **no longer able to access Lateral Flow Tests** to give out to families, so we are unable to distribute them on the playground going forward.

Vaccinations

For information regarding vaccinations click on the link: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/>

Class Teacher Messages...

Nursery

I hope that you all had an enjoyable holiday. The Nursery children have been very happy to come back to school and see all of their friends. We have had some lovely new equipment for them to play and learn with as well.

This week we are looking at and talking about patterns. I have uploaded a pattern video that I have made onto Seesaw for you to share with your child. Thank you to those parents who have sent me photographs of patterns that you and your child have found around your homes and outside. It has been very inspiring.

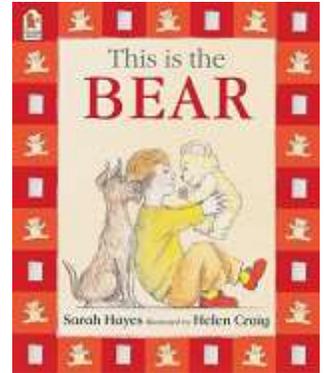
Have a lovely week.

Mrs Ruth McShane



Reception

This week in Reception we have been reading a story called 'This is the Bear'. In the story, a dog pushes a bear into a bin and the bear ends up at the rubbish dump! This leads nicely into our topic this half term 'Our Wonderful World'. We will begin by learning all about rubbish, recycling and how to look after our planet! On Tuesday we celebrated pancake day by enjoying some delicious pancakes in the classroom! In Numeracy, we have been learning about the composition of number nine. We enjoyed the number blocks episode about nine which shows how nine is a special square number! Have a great weekend everyone - please remember to sign reading diaries so we can see how well they are doing at home too.



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

Year 1

This week, in Humanities we have started our Important Victorians topic. We learnt about the life of Queen Victoria and important dates to do with her life. The children then acting out parts of her life such as when she married Prince Albert or the death of Prince Albert.

In Science, we have started our Plants topic. We have been asking some relevant questions that we would like to find out about this half term. The children had a go at putting the parts of a flower back in the correct places. The children have had a great week back and have enjoyed telling us all about the fun they had during half term!

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



Year 2

What a fantastic start to the half term children in Year 2 have had. The children began the week with our Humanities launch morning based on our new topic, 'The World'. We explored atlases and maps to be able to identify the 7 continents, 5 oceans and find out what the equator is. We really loved singing the Continents Song as this helped us to remember when we put a world map together.

We started looking at pictograms in Maths. The children collected data and then used this information to create their own pictograms. We have also been learning about how to interpret them when the symbol means more than 1.

In Science, we have started our new topic on 'Plants' and began to think about what we would like to learn about growing our own plants and experiments we would like to conduct this half term.

In English, we also launched our new book called, 'The Disgusting Sandwich'. Using some clues from the story and the title, we created our very own versions of a 'disgusting' sandwich with art materials. The children really enjoyed creating these.



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

Class Teacher Messages...

Year 3

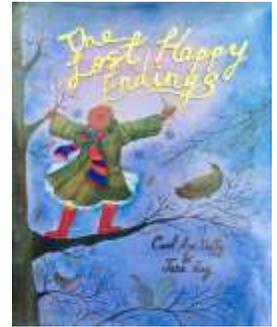
The children have had a fantastic first week back. We have begun to learn about fractions in maths and we have been really impressed with how the children have quickly grasped the concept of fractions being equal parts of a whole. In English the children have enjoyed reading the story 'The world according to Humphrey' and have talked a lot about their own pets that they take care of at home. In science the children have had a lot of fun discussing what they think makes up the human body and was able to share lots of interesting facts about what they have learned.

Overall it's been a fun first week back, keep up the great work year 3!

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

Year 4

In year 4 this week, we had an amazing launch morning for our humanities topic 'Vikings.' We made long-ships, learnt that Vikings don't have horns on their helmets and began to research all the questions we have about Viking life. In English, we have started reading 'The Lost Happy Endings' which is a modern fairy tale and have used it to continue to develop our use of fronted adverbials, especially those used for frequency. In science, we have started to look at electricity; how it is made and distributed. We will be looking at this further when we visit the Think Tank in Birmingham.

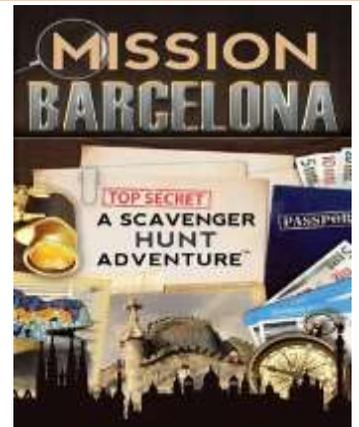


Miss Cox (Year 4 Leader), Mrs Hatton and Miss Chapman

Year 5

It has been great to see the children back in school with smiles on their faces and producing fabulous work this week. In maths, we have started our new unit of work on decimals. The children have shown a good understanding of how to read numbers with tenths, hundredths and thousandths and apply this to problem-solving. Whilst in English, it has been great to see the children showing great enthusiasm towards our new book 'Mission Barcelona'. We have all enjoyed learning facts about Barcelona and can't wait to read the children's non-chronological reports about this fantastic city. In humanities, we looked at a map of the world and located countries, capital cities and oceans using grid references. Whilst in science, the children enjoyed learning about Eva Crane and her work with bees.

There is also some fantastic news to share. Jess from 5B and Amelia from 5G both achieved runner up certificates for the Year 5 writer of the year category for a writing competition created by Coventry Building Society. We are all so proud of both girls and would like to congratulate them on this fantastic achievement.

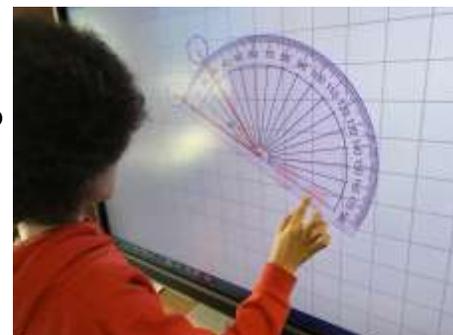


Mr Johnston (Assistant Head and Year 5 leader), Miss Wherly, Mrs Sharratt and Mrs Williams

Year 6

Welcome back! We hope you had a lovely half term and managed to get a much-needed rest before this rather busy term! We have only 7 weeks left until SATs and have hit the ground running, beginning a new topic on angles, practicing papers in Reading and starting new genres in writing. We've had to refresh how to use protractors to measure and draw angles ready for the geometry questions, and will be practicing area, perimeter and volume alongside. It'll be a half term of practice papers, revision and efficiency, so please ensure this is mirrored at home as best as possible.

We value all of your support and couldn't do what we do without it. Please ensure you keep up to date with message on ClassDojo and your emails to ensure you don't miss any important information. We know the children found out their secondary school placements this week, so we look forward to all of the transition arrangements over the next term!



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

Attendance and Family Welfare Team



Attendance

WEEKLY WINNERS (w/e 04/03/2022)

KS1 – 1BETA – 98.3%

KS2 – 3BETA – 99.2%

Congratulations! Your class will receive the Attendance Trophy next 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%; this is for the whole school and for every pupil.

Please Remember to call school by 8:55am to report your child's absence
02476335697

Mrs Smith and Miss Keeling are here to support you with any attendance or welfare concerns.
Please call or email us at familywelfare@whitmorepark.org



Punctuality

We have noticed a large amount of pupils arriving late and coming through the main reception. Can we please just remind parents that Reception, Years 1, 2, 4 and 6 doors open at 8.45am and Year 3 and 5 doors at 8.50am. Please ensure your child is on time on the playground in the morning ready to meet their class teachers.

Reading

Before half-term, the children in Key Stage 2 entered Coventry Building Society's writing competition. The children had a 500 word limit to write about what they would change in the world if they had the power to do this. The children produced fantastic writing and 5 children from each year group were chosen by teachers to enter the next round. During half-term, I received brilliant news informing me that two children from Whitmore Park had been shortlisted for the final. Over 1,000 children entered the competition from 18 schools and only 26 were shortlisted.

On Tuesday, I had the honour of accompanying two of our year 5 girls to the final of Coventry's Young Writer of the Year 2022 at the Coventry Building Society Arena. To get to the final stage was a brilliant achievement for both girls and we are all immensely proud of them. For the Year 5 category, both girls received the runners up award. For this great achievement the girls were awarded with a certificate and a bag of goodies.

Well done to all of the children that entered and especially to our two year 5 girls who received the runners up award for the Year 5 category.

Mr Johnston



PE / Sports News

From the P.E Team, we wished everyone had a relaxing and enjoyable half term. We have already had a busy start to the spring term with a year 5 School Games Basketball Tournament at Centre AT7. We selected 6 pupils from year 5 who had shown particular positive attitudes in P.E Lesson and been working hard on their skills. Our basketball team played 3 games against local schools in the tournament, and won one game and lost two. It was a great effort by all and they all showed the wonderful attitude need to represent our school, one particular pleasing moment, was a compliment from one of the organisers on the resilience and good play shown by all the pupils within the team. The team came third in the group stages, and were unlucky to miss out on the quarter finals.

As we recover from COVID, our sport after school clubs have been sent out for spring term, so we ask all parents to review the schoolcomms which was sent out on Friday 18th February listing all the clubs available for each year group. Please confirm your place by the booking system online. We look forward to welcoming pupils on to our sport after school clubs which start next week, week commencing 7th March 2022.



SEND / Thrive

**Does your Child or Young Person have (or may have) Dyslexia?
Does your Child or Young Person display challenging behaviour?**

Does your Child or Young Person have special needs? Would you like to meet other parents in a similar situation, along with a member of the SENDIASS team?

We are pleased to inform you that **SENDIASS** has partnered up with **Coventry SEMH & Learning Team** to run two **online sessions** providing information and support to parents and carers of children of primary (4-11) and secondary ages (11-16). **See below for session details.**

You can find out more about the Coventry SEMH & Learning Team and what they do [here](#).

We also wanted to share with you the date of our next 'SENDIASS Virtual Coffee Morning'. Please see details below.

SENDIASS Virtual Coffee Morning
Friday 11th March 2022 10am – 11.30am

The image shows two promotional posters for SENDIASS Virtual Coffee Morning sessions. The left poster is for a session on Dyslexia, featuring a coffee cup and text about supporting parents with information and discussion around dyslexia. The right poster is for a general session for children with special needs, featuring coffee cups with phrases like 'A LISTENING EAR', 'LAUGH TOGETHER', and 'LEARN FROM EACH OTHER'. Both posters include contact information for SENDIASS.

Coventry SEND Support Service

DYSLEXIA

Virtual Coffee Morning

Supporting parents with information and discussion around dyslexia

Key areas we will explore in this session

- Give parents 'Top Tips' to help, support and empower children with dyslexia.
- Focus on strengths and challenges and explain dyslexic thinking skills.
- Discuss working with school, and the process of assessment.

Thursday 17th March 2022 10am-12pm

To request an invite and for further information contact Coventry SENDIASS
TEL: 024 7669 4307 or email: iass@coventry.gov.uk

Coventry SEND Support Service

SENDIASS VIRTUAL COFFEE MORNING

DOES YOUR CHILD OR YOUNG PERSON HAVE SPECIAL NEEDS?
HOW ARE YOU DOING?

Get in touch with us if you would like an invite to our Virtual Coffee Morning using Microsoft Teams App (we can help you with this). Meet other parents in a similar situation. Share with others in a friendly, non-judgemental environment, together with a member of staff from SENDIASS and Carers Trust Heart of England.

VIDEO LINK

COFFEE MORNING

FRIDAY 11TH MARCH 2022
(10:00AM - 11:30AM)

To request an invite and for further information contact:
SEND Information Advice and Support Service
Tel: 024 7669 4307 or email: iass@coventry.gov.uk

Coventry School Nursing Team

The Coventry school nursing team have devised a series of four online sessions to address concerns that many parents/carers of school aged children are experiencing across the city. They are packed with lots of information, advice and tips to support families with toileting, sleep, challenges in eating and managing behaviour. There is also the opportunity to ask questions at the end of the session.

The first online session is a toileting information session on Wednesday 16th March (1.00pm-2.00pm). If you feel that this would be useful to attend please follow the link provided to register for this FREE session.

Useful Links –

Toileting Information Session

Wednesday 16th March 2022 1:00pm – 2:00pm

[s://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/195909770397](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/195909770397) <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/195909770397>



Sleep Information Session

Tuesday 22nd March 2022 10:00am-11:00am

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/195918737217>



Challenges in Eating Information Session

Tuesday 29th March 2022 10:00am-11:00am

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/195924664947>

Managing Behaviour Information Session

Thursday 07th April 2022 10:00am-11:00am

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/195934815307>

Breakfast & After School Club

After a long break the Children can once again enjoy Mrs Hands famous hot buttered toast with honey in breakfast Club!



In after school club this week the children have been making their own Pom-poms!

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**