



Message from Mrs Squires

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week has been assessment week in school and we are so proud of all of the children for their effort and determination to do their very best. Well done to them all! The school is starting to look very festive! We are looking forward to providing a range of Christmas activities for the children and also to seeing parents and carers in school during the next 2 weeks for the Christmas performances. A letter has been sent out and all of the dates are on the school website. We are also busy preparing for the Christmas Fayre which is on Friday 9th December from 3.30-6.00pm and are looking forward to seeing lots of you joining us. We have lots of stalls, live music and refreshment planned. Thank you for the donations of bottles from the non-uniform day last week – we are delighted with the fantastic response. I hope you all enjoy the weekend and look forward to seeing everyone on Monday.

Health and Safety Notices



**Reminder to Encourage Children to Wash
Their Hands
To Help Prevent the Spread of Infections**



Hand Hygiene

Hand hygiene is one of the most important ways of controlling the spread of infections, especially those that cause diarrhoea and/or vomiting and respiratory infections. It is important to wash hands regularly with soap and water.

Please can parents remind children to wash our hands more often especially:

- After using the toilet
- When we get to work or school or arrive home
 - After we blow our nose, cough or sneeze
 - Before we eat or handle food
 - After playtime
 - After touching animals
 - We will also be reminding children in school.
 - Thanks again for your continued support

Attendance



Our school target for attendance is **96% or above**.
School attendance for this week = **87.2%**
School attendance for the year = **93.3%**



Do I need to keep my child off school?



Chicken Pox

Until all spots
have crusted
over

Conjunctivitis

No need to stay
off but school
or nursery
should be
informed

Diarrhoea & Vomiting

48 hours from
last episode

Glandular Fever

No need to stay
off but school
or nursery
should be
informed

Hand, foot & mouth

No need to stay
off but school
or nursery
should be
informed

Impetigo

Until lesions are
crusted & healed or
48 Hours after
commencing
antibiotics

Measles or German Measles

4 days from
onset of rash

Mumps

5 days from
onset of swelling

Scabies

Until after first
treatment

Scarlet Fever

24 hours after
commencing
antibiotics

Slapped Cheek

No need to stay
off but school
or nursery
should be
informed

Whooping Cough

48 Hours after
commencing
antibiotics

Flu

Until
recovered

Head Lice

No need to stay
off but school
or nursery
should be
informed

Threadworms

No need to stay
off but school
or nursery
should be
informed

Tonsillitis

No need to stay
off but school
or nursery
should be
informed

Weekly Trophy Winners

Reception = RDELTA - 90%

Year 1 = 1BETA – 96.9%

Year 4 = 4GAMMA – 91.5%

Year 5 = 5DELTA – 96.1%

Attend Today



Achieve Tomorrow



Class Teacher Messages...

Nursery

This week in Nursery we have enjoyed exploring in the misty weather. We have talked about what we need to wear to keep ourselves warm. It has been quite exciting as the weather has also made it seem very dark. The garden is still incredibly muddy, even when wearing wellies, the children are still getting dirty – apologies for this. The children worked together to create a fantastic car in the block area. It remained in the block area for the rest of the day. Lots of children then enjoyed role play and visiting the shops in the car. We have started to learn some songs for the Nursery Christmas performance. I am sure you are familiar with the songs as the children are most likely practising them at home. Please see the Nursery Newsletter for further information about the concert. Thank you to the parents who attended the parent consultations on Wednesday. There are still some consultation appointments available on Monday and Tuesday next week. Please speak to me at the gate if you would like to book an appointment. Have a lovely weekend.



Mrs McShane

Reception

We've had another fantastic week of learning in Reception. In Read, Write Inc we have been learning that some words have a double letter sound (ff, ll, ss and also ck). We have been completing some simple additions and subtractions in Numeracy and have been learning how to explain the difference between a rectangle and a square. Can your child tell you this at home? We have started to practise our Christmas performance and are enjoying learning some new songs. Please remember to read with your child, every day if you can, and sign your child's reading diary. Have a great weekend everyone.

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



Year 1

This week, Year 1 have been completing some quizzes to check their learning so far. They have worked very hard! Year 1 have been learning some Christmas songs for their Christmas assembly which is on Thursday 8th December. The children are very excited to perform to their families. They have been recapping on materials and their properties in Science. In computing, the children have been learning about different types of technology and they were able to show if something is or isn't technology.

Miss Skidmore (Year 1 Leader), Miss Allison and Mrs Corbett



Year 2

Year 2 have worked extremely hard this week. They have completed quizzes to show what they have learnt so far in Year 2. In Maths, they used a range of methods to solve problems. It was lovely to see the children representing their problems by drawing pictures. They showed resilience in reading and used their detective skills to answer questions. We have also been busy practising for our Christmas performance. The children are excited to showcase this to their grown-ups in a couple of weeks!

Mrs Merkelbach, Mrs Gill (Year 2 Leader) and Mrs Nolan

Year 3

In Year 3 this week we have had a great week completing assessments and we are all very proud of how hard the children have worked. In Geography, they have continued to use maps and find out the landscape and weather in the West Midlands. They will be writing a brochure to summarise all their learning next week about the area that we live in. In RHE, children learnt about the effects of using hurtful words. They had an interesting discussion about the importance of using kind words and how words impact on others' feelings. They have been decorating the classroom and tree on Friday ready for the Christmas period. Thank you for your continued support. Please continue to complete homework and read with your child 5 times a week so they get a stamp and some extra dojos!

Miss Kukathasan, Miss Khan (Year 3 Leader) and Miss Waddell

Year 4

This week the children have shown a great attitude towards their assessments. They have worked really hard and shown great growth mindset. We are really proud of how amazing the children's behaviour has been throughout the week. Keep up the great work Year 4, you are fantastic!

Mrs Cox (Year 4 Leader) Mrs Hussain and Miss Bassi

Year 5

The children in Year 5 have all worked tirelessly this week to complete their Autumn term assessments. We have been extremely happy with the results thus far and look forward to building on these as the year progresses. Well done to all of the children!

In Geography this week, we have continued to learn about London. We have learnt about how London has developed from Londinium all the way to the London we know today. We have used maps to compare how the population has changed and how the size of the city has grown over the years.

In Science, the children have carried out their own experiments and we have then used this as an opportunity to use our knowledge of Science to influence our writing. Again, the children have worked extremely well on this.

As we get ever closer to the festive season, the children have now also begun to practice their Christmas performance for you all to come and watch. We will be performing this on Thursday 15th December 2022 at 2pm in the school hall. Have a wonderful weekend!

Mrs Hatton, Mr Maguire (Year 5 Leader) and Miss Wherly

Year 6

We have been completing assessments in Year 6 this week and all of the children have been working extremely hard to be the best they can be. In Geography, we have linked our work to what we learnt in Cultures Week - we have taken everything that we learnt about Mexico and written a non-chronological report. In Science, we have started to plan an investigation about evolution called 'battle of the beaks' to find out how birds' beaks have adapted to different foods in their environments.



Mrs Sandhu (Assistant Head and Year 6 Leader), Mr Payne (Assistant Head and Year 6 Leader) and Miss Knowles



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.

The expectation is for children to be reading at least 5 times every week; reading diaries need to be signed by an adult to show how many times children have read. These are our winning classes for this week. Each child will receive an additional 5 dojo points each as well as some extra playtime in the afternoon.

YEAR 1 = 1 GAMMA

YEAR 2 = 2 GAMMA

YEAR 3 = 3 DELTA

YEAR 4 = 4 BETA

YEAR 5 = 5 DELTA

YEAR 6 = 6 DELTA

This week in school, children have started rehearsals for their Christmas themed performances and Miss Skidmore spoke about how the importance of Advent to Christians and how many people celebrate Christmas around the world.

So, this week's recommendation is about the festive period that many people celebrate. It is called, 'Secrets of a Christmas Elf' by Ben Miller.

It's business as usual in the run up to Christmas at Santa's Workshop - and toy elves Holly and Tog are busy making gifts for children all around the world. But Father Christmas isn't feeling well, and Holly is worried that things won't be finished on time. Inventing a robot to help out with festive duties seems like a fantastic idea, until Father Christmas is KIDNAPPED and a race against time to save him and the big day begins. Funny and heartwarming, this beautifully illustrated pocket-sized story shows the importance of family at Christmas, and all year round.

Enjoy!

The English Team



Family Support

Domestic Abuse

Coventry Haven 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**.

Cost of Living

Advice and support:
www.coventry.gov.uk/costofliving

Uniform and Clothing:
www.Clothingcoventry.org



Pathways Family Hub

Telephone 024 7697 8130

E-mail

PathwaysFamilyHub@coventry.gov.uk

Health

Parent Advice Parents can call the School Nurses between 8.30am -4.30pm, 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 **07507329114** 9am-5pm Monday to Friday. If your child is unwell please call your GP or call 111. For medical emergencies ring 999.

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

Finance

Coventry Independent Advice Service offers free advice, information and support to Coventry residents.
Call **024 7652 1100**



Mental Health & Wellbeing

Young Minds supports children and young people with mental health and well being www.youngminds.org.uk

Childline available to help anyone under 19 in the UK with any issue they're going through. **0800 1111** 9am to midnight every day

Samaritans provides a free 24-hour helpline for people who are upset, troubled or who are feeling suicidal.
Call **116 123** at any time

Looking for warm spaces this winter?

WARM SAFE SPACE HOLBROOKS

We know that this winter will be difficult for many people due to rising costs of utilities and food, so we are offering warm safe spaces in our centres for people to visit, with free access to the Internet, books, playing cards and dominos and lots of chat available.

We will be opening:

Holbrooks Community Centre, John Shelton Drive, Monday 12:00 - 15:00
Join us at our lunch club & have a hot meal, dessert and drink too.

Holbrooks Library at HCCA, Holbrook lane
Tuesday 9:30 - 16:30
Wednesday 12:00 - 19:00
Thursday 9:30 - 16:30
Hot drinks available



The Power of PACE at Christmas Time

There are a lot of feelings flying around at Christmas time for children and adults alike. Finding the right balance for YOU is something to work towards. PACE can help. PACE - Playfulness, Acceptance, Curiosity, Empathy



Playfulness isn't the same as playing but is enjoying time with someone else or yourself in an unconditional way.

This can look like a 5 minute sofa struggle with someone, walking hand in hand, swapping cringey cracker jokes or even taking yourself off for a cry on your own if that's where you're at and trying to leave behind any guilt about it.

It's about showing a real interest in someone, or yourself, and finding something you really enjoy about them - or you. Even if that's 2 minutes alone with yourself outside the front door.



Acceptance means sitting with strong emotion or perspective of another and knowing that you might not be able to take those away. There may be no words of advice to give, strategies to implement or thoughts to share, only comfort by offering your safe presence.

It is allowing uncomfortable sensation and emotions to be in your own body without judgement. Accepting their existence.

For an example of this and Empathy, watch the YouTube clip called 'Irene Brown on Empathy' or find inspiration from the song 'Hill Space' by Ward Thomas.



Curiosity isn't about asking "why?" even when this is exactly what we want to know! It's about wondering what is going on inside for someone or ourself.

It's about taking the risk of being wrong "Can I share my ideas with you... I wonder if... I might be wrong, so tell me if I can, but here are my thoughts..."

A way of letting someone know that your mind is on their mind and genuinely interested in anything at all that's going on in there without judgement.

It is practicing this same non-judgmental curiosity within ourselves.



Empathy can take a lot of energy at Christmas. Sitting with the disappointment of a child who hasn't got the gift they hoped for "I can see the sadness in your eyes that it's not what you wanted" or accepting our own disappointment that this time hasn't felt very festive "I am where I am and things are how they are and I'm going to do my best to feel okay with that".

A top tip is try to move away from reassurance or denial of feelings - others or your own. Naming what is happening for ourselves or another helps us in our offering of empathy.

To PACE oneself: "To do something at a speed that is steady and that allows one to continue without becoming too tired."

Benefits AND Energy

Advice and Information

FREE Session for Parents and Carers

BENEFITS

We will be joined by representatives from...

**Coventry Independent Advice Service
& National Energy Action (NEA)**

Come join us, if you would like to...

- know more about benefits for a child or young person with disabilities
- have an overview of Child DLA, PIP from age 16, and becoming an Appointee
- know about the rules for Universal Credit and studying
- know where to get more advice
- get advice on energy, water usage, bills, debt and grants available
- know more about 'cost of living' information

Wednesday 7th December 2022

10am – 12pm

Venue: Committee Room 3, Council House, Earl Street, Coventry, CV1 5RR

To book a place or for further information contact SENDIASS

Tel: 024 7669 4307 or email: iass@coventry.gov.uk

ENERGY
EFFICIENCY

FREE TEA, COFFEE &
FESTIVE MINCE PIES

A
LISTENING
EAR

MAKE
FRIENDS

LAUGH
TOGETHER

LEARN
FROM
EACH
OTHER



**DOES YOUR CHILD OR
YOUNG PERSON HAVE
SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL
NEEDS?**

Get in touch with us if you would like to join our next SENDIASS Coffee Morning. Meet other parents in a similar situation. Share with others in a friendly, non-judgemental environment, together with a member of staff from SENDIASS.

COFFEE MORNING

**FRIDAY 2ND DECEMBER 2022
(10AM -12PM)**

For further information contact:

SEND Information, Advice and Support Service

Tel: 024 7669 4307 or email: iass@coventry.gov.uk

Venue: Metropolis Restaurant

Upstairs Community Room,
Earl Street, Coventry, CV1 5RU

Youth Summit 2022

On Monday, two children in Year 6 attended the Cost of the School Day Youth Summit with Mrs Smith, held at Blue Coats School. It was an exciting opportunity where the children participated in discussions and activities around creating social change, with children from other primary schools and Blue Coats. The two children represented Whitmore Park so well and have come away with some fantastic ideas to share with our school.



Christmas at Whitmore Park

Whitmore Park
Christmas Fayre
Friday 9th December 2022 3pm - 6pm

Meet Santa Raffle
Face painting
Guess how many sweets in the jar.
And many more ...

Are you interested in having a stall?
Contact
admin@whitmorepark.org
Whitmore Park Primary School

Christmas jumper day
Christmas dinner
Thursday 8th
December 2022

Whitmore Park Primary School