



Be our best selves

# COUGHTON

C of E Primary School

**Issue 6**

## Coughton CE Primary School

## Key dates



Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	Pantomime – Sleeping Beauty
Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	School Christmas Fayre- Eric Payne centre
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Service KS2 at St Peter’s Church, Coughton at 9.30am
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Nativity KS1 10am and 2pm
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Nativity KS1 10am
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December	School closes for Christmas Holiday
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January	INSET Day – school closed to pupils
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> January	School re-opens to pupils
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> February- Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February	Half term School closed to pupils
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February	School Re-opens to pupils
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	School closes for Easter Holidays
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> April	School opens to pupils
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> May	Half term School closed to pupils
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	INSET Day – school closed to pupils
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	Schools closes for summer holidays

Dear Families,

It is that magical time of year as we head towards Christmas. The sound of the nativity performances fill the corridors and the children continue to produce excellent pieces of work from across all areas of the curriculum.

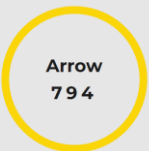
This week started with reflections about remembrance day and a number children sharing how they had taken part in local services on remembrance Sunday.

We have also taken part in anti bullying week this week and the children have explored activities for BBC Children In Need including letter hunts, Pudsey art competition and completing a **Bearpees** challenge.

A letter from the PTA has been sent out and this details Christmas events. It may be worth keeping this close by and making sure you have the dates in your diary.

Head of School  
**Mr Alex Kolb**

Coughton CE Primary School  
Coughton Lane  
Coughton  
B49 5HN  
01789 762444



Coughton CE Primary School

Coughton Primary School PTA are pleased to present:



# The 2023 Christmas Fair

New venue... more space... more stalls... more fun!

All new for this year...

Visit from Santa

Festive refreshments (including hot food)

Mulled Wine

...and a Hot Chocolate Station

School Choir Performance

Mega prize raffle

3 x Tombolas

Pocket money toys

Glitter tattoos

Games galore: free the elf, lucky dip, candy cane lane, tumble the snowmen

Craft stalls... and more

**Where:** The Eric Payne Centre, off St Faiths Rd, Alcester, B49 6AG

**When:** Saturday 2nd December

**Time:** 12-3pm

(Choir performance at 12:30 & raffle to be drawn at 2pm)

## **Important updates for Parents and Carers**

### **Communication**

If you have any comments for the class teacher, you can write in your child's planner or email the office on [admin3021@welearn365.com](mailto:admin3021@welearn365.com) and the class teacher will make contact when they are able.



Class teachers will occasionally put some updates on the class 'Teams' page. This can be accessed through your child's welearn365 account.

More regular updates of children's work are shared via SeeSaw for children in Maple and Birch.

### **Homework**

Up until Christmas we continue to prioritise reading at home and accessing TT Rockstars in KS2. In January a new programme of home learning will be launched...

### **Attendance**

I have sent out letters for families where the child's attendance has fallen below 90%. As mentioned in the class teams calls, attendance expectations are set high by the DFE. I totally understand that children pick up viruses and bugs but we have seen an increase in the number of term time holidays being taken.

# Important updates for Parents and Carers

## Uniform

A reminder to name all clothing brought to school so that it can be easily returned to its owner. We are reminding children and allowing time at the end of the day for them to collect all of their things.

The second hand uniform stall in the PTA shelter is selling items for £1 each.

## **Holiday / Leave of Absence Requests**

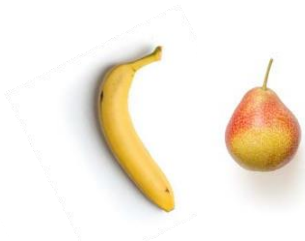
All holiday requests will be unauthorised unless the circumstances are deemed exceptional by the Head of School. Should you wish to request leave of absence for your child(ren) please collect a form from the office.

Term dates 2023/24 can be found here:

<https://www.coughtonschool.org/term-dates/>

## Snack

Children in Key Stage One have access to snacks each day. You are also welcome to bring a healthy snack to school each day.



## Wraparound

We have a digital wraparound booking system. For details and to book a place please follow the link:

<https://coughton.childcare-online-booking.co.uk/>

Breakfast club from 7.30am,  
after school club until 6pm  
(Fridays until 5.30pm).

## **Key Dates- In advance**

Monday 13 May to Thursday 16 May 2024 Year 6 SATS week

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2024- Grandparent Gardening Day

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2024- Sports Day

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2024 - Farmers Market

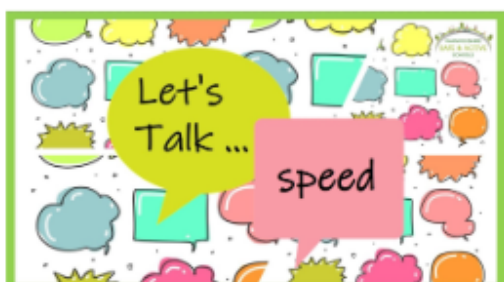
### **Car Parking**

A reminder to park sensibly around the school site so that residents have access to their driveways.

### **Pens**

We have seen some amazing writing so far this term and some children have been awarded pens. Pens will be replaced when they have run out of ink but there will be a charge to replace any lost pens.

# Parent Information



## Let's talk about...speed for Brake Road Safety Week 2023

Warwickshire County Council's Road Safety Education Team is supporting Brake Road Safety Week which takes place between 19 and 25 November 2023.

The theme of this year's event is: Let's talk about...speed, with the goal of starting essential conversations about safe speeds on our roads.

During the week, Warwickshire Road Safety Education Team are working in collaboration with Warwickshire Road Safety partners, including Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service, to educate, raise awareness and engage in discussions relating to speed and why reducing speed can prevent collisions and save lives.

Warwickshire families magazine – Things to do this November and December.

<https://issuu.com/familiesonline/documents/familieswarwickshirenovdec23print?fr=sOWFjZTY3MjY5NjY>

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4703/let-s-talk-about-speed-for-brake-road-safety-week-2023>



## New Coventry and Warwickshire resource provides unique insight into neurodivergent language

A new resource has launched to encourage people to think about the words they use when talking about neurodiversity.

Coventry and Warwickshire Integrated Care System is pleased to share the release of an [informative video](#), presented by a local Expert by Experience and with professional input, aimed at empowering people to feel more confident when talking about neurodiversity.

Adapted from an interactive live webinar delivered in June 2023 which attracted over 150 people, the video offers practical tips and unique insight to anyone wondering how to approach the topic of neurodiversity.

[here](#)



## **LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME**

### **UPDATED INFORMATION FOR PARENTS**

The Supreme Court has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time (*Platt v Isle of Wight* 2017). The Supreme Court has made clear that attending school 'regularly' means that the children must attend school on every day that they are required to do so. As such, the parents of any child who is absent from school without authorisation for any length of time are likely to be considered as committing an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996.

The regulations regarding Leave of Absence (The Education (Pupil Regulations) (England) Regulations 2006 as amended by Education (Pupil Regulations) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013.) advise:

- Head teachers shall not grant any Leave of Absence during term time unless they consider there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application.

If the leave is granted, Head teachers are able to determine the number of school days a child can be absent for.

It is for the Head teacher to decide what is 'exceptional' and it is at their discretion if the circumstances warrant the leave to be granted. When making an application for Leave of Absence in advance parents are advised to give sufficient information and time to allow the Head teacher the opportunity to consider all the exceptional circumstances and to notify parents of their decision. It is advised that if the resident parent has not received notification or a response regarding the leave of absence application, it is their responsibility to ascertain if the leave is authorised prior to the start of the leave.

The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent ~~is~~ the parent with whom the child normally resides.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child will be required to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that ~~period~~, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence, which may result in legal action being taken against the parent(s), by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice.

Where a leave of absence is requested, but additional days taken either prior to or after the request may be considered as part of the leave of absence and could result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to the parent(s).

*Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case-by-case basis and on its own merits.*

Leave of Absences which are not made in advance cannot be authorised in line with legislation. This will result in the absence being recorded as 'unauthorised'. This may result in legal action against the parent, by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice. All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Warwickshire Attendance Service, part of Warwickshire County Council.

It is important to note, Fixed Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices in the amount of £120 each, totalling £240 for both children, this is reduced to £60 per child if paid within 21 days).

Where a Fixed Penalty Notice is not paid within the required timeframe as set out on the notice, the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal proceedings under S444 Education Act 1996.

Fixed Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices.

**Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority**

**Warwickshire School pupils recorded 96,366 half day sessions of absence due to holiday in the Academic year 2021/22.**

# Student Corner



This week in classes we have been talking about bullying and how it can affect someone. We looked at what bullying is and how we can report it.



We have focused on being kind to people this week and on Wednesday during positive noticing day, the children enjoyed saying positive things about friends and children in the school.

# Student Corner

Cedar had an awesome forest school session exploring their carbon footprints.



# Student Corner

Oak class have been really absorbed in their topic that looks at The First and Second World War.



Oak exploring how 'The Great War' actually started.

# Student Corner

Super editing from Oak class to improve their work.

I know I haven't wrote in you for what feels like a decade but you won't believe the day I've just had! I was in the cellar minding my own bees-wax working on something the children should never had seen. I mean is it just me or is a woman allowed some privacy and some time to herself to enjoy from the madness that the rest of the house makes. I had all the evidence laid out on the table like I wanted those wretched children to see! I think they know exactly where they were going almost immediately after seeing what was on the table they would never have seen any of that or know that they were going away if that house girl Esther Jenkins had never snatched Cliff in the first place!

One minute I was working on my private business, the next Cliff came bursting in with his lip smashed in blood and his shirt just as red! This was the final straw, I have come to a decision to let Olive and Cliff go and keep the poor girl Esther Jenkins. I am going to let them go but I think Emma will take good care of them. I hope this new girl Esther isn't too much trouble because I have too much on at the moment to be dealing with any teenage dramas, if they that happens then I'll have to think about whether Esther has a home.

Dear day

It was going so well I had got the 2 children working and they were doing well. I had all the food but they expect me to work for them just that and give them their own kitchen! he older child Olive I think he was more quiet to my question and in normal that I know for older with Olive and I have never heard of anyone with a name was younger than to Olive. She is also worried that I have something in my hand and I was not because of some private reasons like the word child said Cliff would feel every time I would see it going so well with I was going to that child to look after and she was very terrible. She was then and she was taking things were only a few days of what she did now before she was supposed to look and that Esther Jenkins was Jewish and gave her a passport and only she could make. When she was older a girl broke out before Olive and Cliff. When I started giving they were both on the give giving trying to connect and that was not of the other name they could read the wedding letters had some things by and it was that Esther Olive sound.

Quincy suddenly walked in and I got the house and was the lightness. It was dark but we saw Esther the lightness. Quincy thought the children did it. Hope that I found many letters Olive and Cliff with the lightness hope you I had to deal with Esther Jenkins.

Oak using editing strips to improve their writing.

Wednesday 17th January 2023 (14)

Dear Day

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Dear Day

I know that I haven't been writing you in a long time but I have been busy with them, suppering, my plans even then. But these kids are annoying me so much first I had 2 kids but now I have 4 and I have one of them has a split lip from fighting with dogs and about me so much that if next morning and getting on my last nerve sooooo much I am so depressed!





## Family Information Service

The Family Information Service (FIS) supports families across Warwickshire with information and signposting. You can get in touch with the team by emailing [fis@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:fis@warwickshire.gov.uk), calling [0800 408 1558](tel:08004081558) or finding support on [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/childrenandfamilies](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/childrenandfamilies). Head over to our [Facebook](#) to see where you can find the FIS team across the county this week.



### Parenting workshops and programmes

Parent Coaches are linking up with schools to provide workshops and programmes around parenting and relationships.

Please complete the questionnaire so the team know what support you feel is needed and what you'd like to access in your school/area.

[here](#)



### Helping households find financial support

Warwickshire County Council is using Household Support Fund Awareness Week (16-22 October) to remind residents of the cost-of-living support available from services across the county.

The council, along with partner organisations, offer direct support, and signposting to a wide variety of information and services, to people who may be struggling with their finances. The online resource [www.costoflivingwarwickshire.co.uk](http://www.costoflivingwarwickshire.co.uk) brings much of this together in one place to make it easier for people to find the information they need.

The Government's Household Support Fund Awareness Week is a chance to highlight the help available and encourage more people to take action if they need to seek advice to manage their finances. [here](#)

# Protective Behaviours

## – what's that?



Protective Behaviours (PBs) is an internal process where each person applies the ideas to their own unique experience. This paper looks at what Protective Behaviours is and some of its uses. It is intended as an information paper with the hope the reader will see its relevance to their specific interests and will then attend training.

The PBs process is presented here as separate sections. In practice, all interact and support each other - to take one section out leaves the others incomplete.

### Unwritten rules of society

We see how certain rules of society have a powerful influence on our choices of behaviour. Whilst these rules can be positive and help guide our interactions, many of them tell us we should, ought, or must behave in a particular way. For instance, children should do as adults tell them; professionals should always have the answer; men should not show their feelings and women should behave in a ladylike manner. These rules are not written down, are often contradictory and may not fit with our own experience. During training we look at their function, how they develop, their effects and why we may choose to follow them or not.

### Feelings, Thoughts and Behaviours

During this session we look at the interaction between our feelings, thoughts and behaviour. We see that feelings are feelings, neither right nor wrong, good nor bad, positive nor negative. Some people seem to mask one feeling with another or use behaviour as a way of avoiding or covering feelings. We look at how behaviour is a choice with an effect. These effects may involve others as well as ourselves. Sometimes we do not know what our choices are or they may be limited by factors we cannot change. Once we are in touch with our feelings it helps free us to use our thinking. Our thinking can influence both our feelings and behaviour.

## Theme 1 'We all have the right to feel safe all the time'

We explore this theme in detail, carefully looking at the connection between rights and responsibilities. We also take the concepts of blame and punishment out of commonly held ideas associated with responsibilities. Instead we focus on the 'ability to respond' contained within the meaning of the word. The difference between having a responsibility for ourselves and to others is also examined. Next we discover for ourselves the difference between feeling safe, fun to feel scared (adventurous), risking on purpose (which may not feel like fun but we want the goal at the end) and feeling unsafe. These differences are recognised by what we call our 'Early Warning Signs' (EWS), the specific bodily responses which tell us when we do not feel safe. These universal body signs mean Protective Behaviours is accessible to all people, irrespective of age, gender, sexuality, nationality, ability or belief system.

## Theme 2 'We can talk with someone about anything, even if feels awful or small'

This theme is also explored in detail. In particular we focus on the ideas and effects of 'talking', and what might happen if we do not believe this theme. We encourage everyone to develop their personal networks of support; those people they could turn to if in need. Desired qualities of network people are identified and we examine how we would know if someone has these qualities. Types of networks and ways of letting people know we need to talk with them are also explored.



<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/youthmentalhealth>

## Mental health support for young people

As children and young people start a new school or new school year, it is normal for them to feel nervous, anxious, or unsure. Learning how to manage and cope with these feelings is important.

It's important to look after your body to improve mental health by having a good diet, regular exercise, plenty of sleep and limiting screen time. For those who may need more specialist support, the Warwickshire County Council website has a range of information and links to services dedicated to helping young people.



## Support with childcare costs

Thousands of families could be saving money on their childcare costs, but some simply don't know what support they might be eligible for. The Childcare Choices website brings together all the existing childcare offers in one place, so parents can get the help that fits their family. This could be through Tax-Free Childcare, 30 Hours Childcare, or Universal Credit Childcare. Some families might be eligible to use more than one childcare schemes together and get the most out of it.

From next year even more help is on the way:

- From April 2024, eligible working parents in England with children aged 2 will have access to 15 hours childcare.
- From September 2024, the 15 hours childcare offer will be expanded to eligible working parents in England with children between 9 and 23 months old.
- From September 2025, eligible working parents in England with children between 9 months up to school age will have access to 30 hours childcare.

Support is also expanding for primary-school aged children – from September 2024, parents are expected to see an expansion in the availability of childcare in their local area before and after school, between 8am and 6pm, also known as 'wraparound care'. Don't miss out on getting the support you are entitled to.

<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

# Spotlight on parenting support

## Nurture Programme

The 10-week Nurture Programme gives parents and carers practical tools and information to support them to raise happy, confident and emotionally resilient children. This programme is suitable for parents and carers of children up to 12-years-old.

The programme will cover many of the common parenting issues and offer advice that will help parents and carers gain confidence and develop insight by understanding why children behave as they do, recognising the feelings behind behaviour, exploring different positive parenting strategies to help guide behaviours, finding different ways to develop co-operation and emotional regulation in children and learning the importance of looking after yourselves as parents and carers.

The program is highly effective in improving the mental health outcomes for children and their parents.

On average 8/10 parents attending groups report a significant improvement in their child's behaviour and family life.

### **Read what parents have to say about the workshop...**

*"I've got more insight into my children's needs and have learnt to be more patient and listen more. My expectations of them are more realistic now than before."*

*"I learned how to change the way I communicate with my son to better support his understanding, and this has improved my relationship with him."*

*"I think about how I talk to my son now more, I take a breath before reacting, I'm not flying off the handle and shouting as much, I have learnt that his behaviour is communicating something to me and I need to look beyond what he's doing and more to why is he doing it."*

To check availability and book a workshop or programme in your area please go to [Eventbrite](#). [here](#)

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the team by emailing [ehparenttrainers@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:ehparenttrainers@warwickshire.gov.uk).

## Sleep Better programme

If you have a child with additional needs and sleep issues, bedtime can be tricky. Whether they struggle to communicate how they're feeling, have increased anxiety, sensory issues, or social cueing problems, sleeping well may be difficult.

The Sleep Better programme is suitable for parents and carers of children who are one year old and over who are struggling with bedtime routines, their child's sleeping patterns or bedtime as a whole.

The Sleep Better programme can support you to:

- Establish why your child isn't sleeping
- Learn about gentle methods to encourage better sleep habits
- Consider an improved bedtime routine
- Meet other parents/carers in the same situation
- Explore useful resources to aid sleep

The Sleep Better programme is delivered over 5 weeks and covers:

- Understanding sleep cycles
- Common sleep issues and strategies to manage these
- Establishing appropriate routines
- Keeping sleep diaries and interpreting the data
- Environments

To check availability and book a workshop or programme in your area please go to [Eventbrite](#).

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the team by emailing [ehparenttrainers@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:ehparenttrainers@warwickshire.gov.uk).

For information on the sleep better course and other courses see the link below.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/warwickshire-children-and-families-17595309993>

# Community News



## Coventry and Warwickshire Community Support for Neurodivergent People and their Families

Information and advice for neurodivergent people and their families.

<https://dimensions.covwarkpt.nhs.uk/News.aspx?NID=26>

## Information and Advice for Neurodivergent People and their Families



[here](#)

Version one: July 2022



Period: 2023 to 2024  
**Parent Information Sessions for  
Warwickshire parents and carers**

**Courses available online – via Zoom**

**Understanding Self-esteem in Children and Young People**

Monday 20 November, 12.30pm to 2.30pm

**Understanding and Supporting School Aged Children Who Self-harm**

Tuesday 5 December, 10.00am to 12.00pm

**Understanding Sensory Needs in School Aged Children**

Tuesday 19 December, 12.30pm to 2.30pm

**Understanding Low Mood in Children and Young People**

Wednesday 29 January, 12.30pm to 2.30pm

Places on our workshops are subject to availability. To book your place please email [risecommunityoffer@covwarkpt.nhs.uk](mailto:risecommunityoffer@covwarkpt.nhs.uk)

