



Be our best selves

COUGHTON

C of E Primary School

Issue 4

Coughton CE Primary School

Key dates



Monday 6 th November	Flu Immunisation Spray (Year R-6)
Thursday 9 th November	PTA Extraordinary General Meeting – 7pm – School Hall
13 th -17 th November	Anti Bullying week
Friday 1 st December	Pantomime – Sleeping Beauty
Monday 11 th December	Christmas Service KS2 at St Peter's Church, Coughton at 9.30am
Wednesday 13 th December	Christmas Nativity KS1 10am and 2pm
Wednesday 13 th December	Christmas Nativity KS1 10am and 2pm
Thursday 14 th December	Christmas Nativity KS1 10am
Friday 22 nd December	School closes for Christmas Holiday
Monday 8 th January	INSET Day
Tuesday 9 th January	School re-opens to pupils
SILLY SOCK DAYS	
Friday 10 th November	Silly Socks in return for a bottle donation
Friday 17 th November	Silly Hair in return for a chocolate donation
Friday 24 th November	Christmas Jumper day in return for a Jarbola

Dear Families,

We have reached the end of a long first half term! The children have worked incredibly hard and we have already seen some amazing progress across the curriculum.

It was great to see so many of you at the class information evenings. If you were unable to attend, the slides are on your child's Microsoft Teams page. If you have any further questions then please reach out via the office admin3021@welearn365.com or by writing a note in your child's planner.

Thank you for your donations this harvest time. We were able to send a considerable amount of food to the Arden Foodbank who are very grateful that they can support people in genuine need.

In this issue I attach a full list of dates and events for the term ahead as we look ahead to Christmas!

Head of School
Mr Alex Kolb

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

House Points



Coughton CE Primary School

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 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...

Music

If your KS2 child is interested in learning to play keyboard, guitar or violin please contact the office as limited spaces may be available for these paid sessions.

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 new 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 17th May 2024- Grandparent Gardening
Day

Thursday 20th June 2024- Sports Day

Thursday 11th 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.

PTA Events

Thursday 9th November - 7pm, School Hall

PTA EGM (Extraordinary General Meeting)

If you would like to learn more about the PTA or you are interested in joining, please contact Sian or Katie at coughtonpta@outlook.com.

'SILLY' FRIDAYS!

Help us collect items for the School Christmas Fayre with Themed Silly Fridays! Bring an item into school in return for taking part in each theme!

Fri 10th November

Wear Silly Socks

In return for A bottle

Fri 17th November

Wear Silly Hair

In return for Chocolate

Fri 24th November

Wear A Christmas Jumper

In return for a Jarbola



School Christmas Fayre
Saturday 2nd December 12pm-3pm

Eric Payne Community Centre, Alcester

Stalls, Prize Raffle, Food and Drink, Festive Fun and Games for everyone!

If you are able to volunteer time to set up, run a stall or clear up, or if you could donate a raffle prize, please email coughtonpta@outlook.com

Please join the PTA Facebook group for more updates and news:

Group name: Coughton School Parents & Families:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/708605439222112>

Parent Information



The artwork produced by the children last year that was sent to Coughton Court has been enlarged and put on display on the boards while building work is being completed. Coughton Court is open during half term from Wednesday to Sunday.

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

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



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



Warwickshire Fire Service worked with Birch and Willow.



Student Corner



Running club enjoyed a cross country run at Coughton Court.

LOOK AT THESE AMAZING CREATIONS!



Artbase created some amazing dragons.



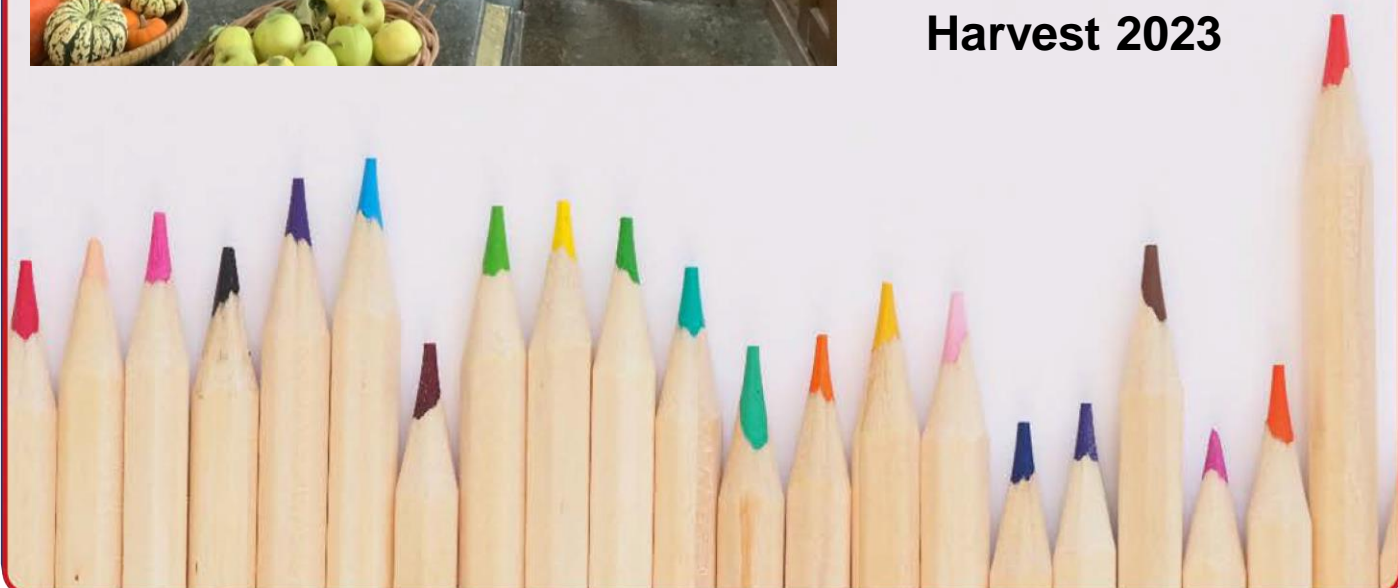
ART BASE



Student Corner



Harvest 2023



Student Corner



Reading buddies- Oak and Maple



Thrive

It was great to welcome families to our Thrive information meeting. Thank you to Mrs Salkeld for running such an informative and engaging session.



<https://www.thriveapproach.com/>



Connect for Health's October health and well- being update

Read the latest newsletter to find out about Dyslexia and how people with Dyslexia may experience more challenges, there are links to webpages to access further information and support. Also take a look at their Halloween activities and trick or treat safety advice, 'Do's' and 'Dont's' to ensure children have fun safely this Halloween.

<https://mailchi.mp/9a44a0b69cf7/your-c4h-april-health-and-well-being-update-13639136?e=01d6463923>



Visit a National Trust place for free this autumn

The National Trust is giving away a number of free passes for families to use between 18 September and 20 October 2023.

Each single-use pass allows free entry for 2 adults and up to 3 children or 1 adult and up to 4 children.

<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/escape-into-autumn>

31 places where kids can eat free over half term.

<https://www.bigissue.com/life/food/all-the-places-where-kids-eat-free-during-the-holidays/>



Some Year 6 students will be outside the school at 3.15pm selling remembrance day items for The Royal British Legion and The Poppy Appeal,

SUPPORT AND ADVICE FOR FAMILIES IN WARWICKSHIRE



No one ever said being a parent or carer was easy! There are lots of support services available in Warwickshire to support you and your family...

THE FAMILY INFORMATION SERVICE

Get in touch with Warwickshire's Family Information Service for advice and guidance on a wide range of subjects including:

- Housing
- Finance
- Childcare
- Parental conflict and contact
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

☎ 01926 742274

✉ fis@warwickshire.gov.uk

📍 @WarwickshireFIS 📱 @WarksFIS

Available Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm. All enquiries will be responded to during this time.

FAMILY SUPPORT

Get in touch with a Family Support Worker for advice and guidance on parenting and all aspects of family life.

Support can be offered through telephone calls, video calls, text messages or email to suit your needs.

☎ 01926 412412

Available Monday to Friday 9am to 4pm. All enquiries will be responded to during this time.

To contact your local district or borough family support team via email please visit: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/familysupport for more information.



For more information and advice for families including parenting courses, workshops and other support services go to: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/childrenandfamilies



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, calling [0800 408 1558](tel:08004081558) or finding support on 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 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.

Free School Meals

Schools should provide meal options for all children attending school. Meals are available free of charge to:

- all infant pupils (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) – known as universal FSM
- pupils who meet the free school meals [eligibility criteria](#) – known as benefits-related FSM

If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, they will automatically be entitled to universal infant free school meals. However, if you do meet the benefits-related free school meals eligibility criteria, then it is advised you apply to receive additional benefits:

- [Holiday activities and food \(HAF\) programme](#) is for children aged 4 to 16, in reception to year 11, in receipt of benefits-related free school meals. HAF offers eligible pupils access to activities and at least one healthy meal is provided during each session. The activities take place during the Easter, Summer, and Christmas school holidays.
- [Pupil premium](#) is extra funding paid directly to schools for each pupil who is eligible for free school meals. It can help to fund valuable teaching and learning support to improve pupil's education.

You can apply for benefits-related FSM at any time online through the [Parent Portal](#).

If you have any questions or need support with applying, please contact the team by emailing freemeals@warwickshire.gov.uk or calling 01926 359189.

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/education-learning/apply-free-school-meals/2>

<https://admissions.warwickshire.gov.uk/Synergy/Enquiries/Citizen/FreeSchoolMeals.aspx>



<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.



October's Warwickshire SEND newsletter is here!

October's SEND newsletter is here to bring you all the latest news on special educational needs and disabilities in Warwickshire!

In this month's edition you'll find:

- Free bite-sized sessions to support parents and carers of autistic children
- Calling all children and young people to share their experiences of school!
- Support for parents and carers of babies and pre-school children who are deaf or have a hearing loss
- Supporting young people with a learning disability to stay happy and healthy
- SEND conference sets out the priorities for Warwickshire
- Inclusive Industry Tour leads Jay to employment and security.

<https://mailchi.mp/warwickshire/send-october23-1217700?e=7a95476d4b>

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.

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.

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

