



Be our best selves

# COUGHTON

C of E Primary School

Issue 8

## Coughton CE Primary School

## Key dates



What a lovely last couple of weeks to end the term. The nativity play and church services were magical and really brought the school community together.

I hope everyone has the opportunity to spend some quality time with their loved ones over the Christmas period.



I look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January	INSET DAY- Children not in school
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	Children return to school
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> January	Maple and Oak height and weight check in school
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	NSPCC numbers day- own clothes and suggested £1 donation to NSPCC. Maths activities completed for the day.
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	Wellbeing day- <b>pupils to wear non uniform</b>
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	Safer Internet Day- normal uniform, children will engage in workshops to promote being safe online
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	World Book Day 2023 <b>You are a reader</b> . Children can come to school dressed as a character from a book or wear non uniform and bring a book from home.
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Parents Evening 5pm-7pm (online via Wherby platform)
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Parents Evening 4pm-6pm (online via Wherby platform)

### House Points



Primary School  
Coughton Lane  
Coughton  
B49 5HN  
01789 762444

Head of School  
**Mr Alex Kolb**



Coughton CE Primary School

# Important updates for Parents and Carers

## Weather

Please make sure that children have a named coat in school as the weather in the new year is still set to remain cold.



Children need to have a named water bottle in school everyday.

This can be sent in pre-filled with water from home or the children can fill it when they arrive at school.

We ask that children do not bring in squash to refill their bottles or fizzy drinks.

## 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.

## Snacks – Year 3-6

Children in Year 3-6 can bring a snack into school for break time. This snack needs to be fruit or veg please.

Suggestions: a piece of fruit, vegetable sticks, dried fruit.

**Please don't provide food containing nuts.**

Fruit is provided for Maple, Birch and Ash



## Wraparound

If you wish to book wraparound for your child please contact the office on:

[admin3021@welearn365.com](mailto:admin3021@welearn365.com)

Morning slots run from 7.30am from Reception up to year 6. After school slots are up until 6pm (5.30pm on Fridays.)

## Hygiene

With lots of viruses still in circulation we ask that you continue to support us in reinforcing good hygiene practices with children.

# Important updates for Parents and Carers

## **Staffing**

We are pleased to welcome Mrs Kershaw to the staff team. She will be joining the team in January in Birch class. This will be to cover Mrs Buxton's maternity leave.

## **Reception starters 2023-24**

If you have a child due to start school in September 2023 please don't forget to apply.

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/applying-school-place-reception/apply-school-place-reception/1>

## **Music**

A number of pupils have enquired about the opportunities of learning an instrument in school. These are not directly run by school and there is a cost involved. Letters were sent out during the summer term so that the providers could create their timetables ready for the new school year. Consequently there may now be only limited spaces, if any, available. Should your child wish to learn either the guitar, piano or violin please contact the office.



# Important updates for Parents and Carers

## NEW DATES!

I am sorry to mess up the list of key dates sent at the start of term but we have new dates to add..

### Read and Feed

When: Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February, 9.30am in the school hall  
What: Miss Woodhouse and Mrs Jovanovic talking with parents/families about supporting children with reading. Refreshments available.

### Maths and Munch

When: Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> MAY, 9.30am in the school hall  
What: Mrs Bhogal talking about supporting pupils with maths. Refreshments available.

### Horrible Histories Day

When: Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May  
What: Children can come to school dressed as a Historical character if they wish. Will be a History themed day of learning for children.

**NOTE- MATHS and MUNCH is 4<sup>th</sup> May  
not 4<sup>th</sup> April as mentioned previously.**

# Clubs

After school clubs will continue into the Spring term.

Onside coaching:

**Mondays – KS1 Multi Sports**

**Tuesdays KS2**

**on**side  
COACHING.CO.UK

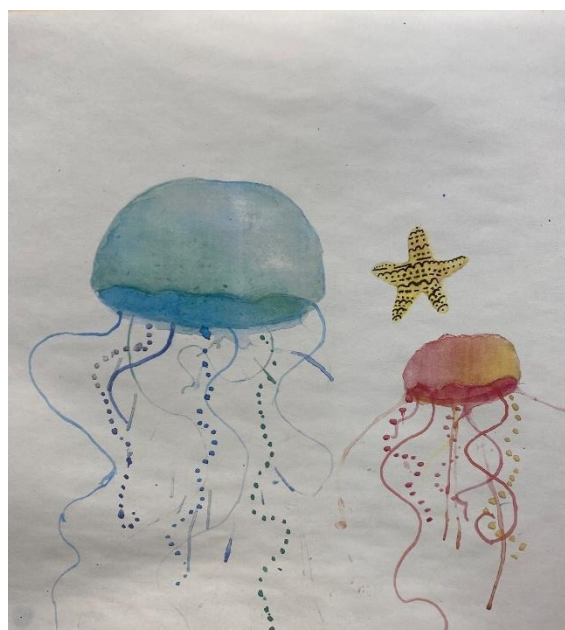


**Booking letter:**

[..\Clubs\Coughton Primary Spring ECC Letter.pdf](#)

## ARTBASE

We are looking at ArtBase returning to provide an afterschool club. More details will follow. This will be dependent on the number of children taking part. Their minimum number of children to make the activity viable is 10 and the maximum is 20. ArtBase have provided a very successful club for us pre-COVID and produced some lovely art work which can be seen around the school..have





## Having fun together online course

With the Christmas holidays approaching, now is the time to learn more about making the most of your time together as family by accessing the FREE online understanding your child, having fun together module.

The courses are free for Warwickshire families using the code BEAR.

<https://inourplace.co.uk/>

## Energy saving tips: Checklist to save £100s

Even after the Government intervened in the energy market and introduced the energy price guarantee, many will still struggle to pay their bills, and cutting energy use is a key way to save.

Money Saving Expert has rounded up a full list of tips on how to cut your energy usage, including simple changes to your boiler and appliance settings you can make to save large, mixed in with some thrifty crowd-sourced tips.

Energy saving tips [here](#)

## December newsletter from Connect for Health

December is the season to be jolly. Get into the festive spirit and boost your wellbeing by visiting local attractions, exploring nature, getting creative, and trying crafts, activity ideas and more.

<https://www.compass-uk.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/December-newsletter.pdf>



## The MoneySkills app

The MoneySkills app was created by researchers from the Centre for Business in Society (CBiS) at Coventry University.

The Money Skills app supports you to manage your money by providing practical tips and step by step guides. Small manageable changes can have a huge impact on finances. Set goals, budget, learn and save.

Money skills [app](#)

# Information for families

We have seen a significant rise in the number of online safety concerns raised in school. Inappropriate use of social media in upper KS2 and children viewing inappropriate content across other year groups.

Please continue to be vigilant with your children's online viewing/playing content.

## Help for Households

The Government has started a Help for Households campaign which offers support and advice on cost of living payments, household costs, childcare costs, income support, help finding work and energy saving advice.

The campaign also provides information on businesses who are offering discounts to help with the cost of living.

<https://helpforhouseholds.campaign.gov.uk/>



## Winter Wellness

The seasons are turning and we're heading into the winter months. With festivities ahead, this can be an exciting time, but it can also be a difficult for many.

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

Free courses for parents/carer to support children being safe online

[here](#)



## UPDATED INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Supreme Court recently reached a decision in the case of *Platt v Isle of Wight Council* which has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time. The parents of children of compulsory school age are required to ensure that they attend school on a regular basis. 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.

Head Teachers retain the ability to authorise leave in accordance with the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006. When considering such requests for a leave of absence, the school are obliged to act within the law. Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless 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. The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent.

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

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.

Failure to make an application for leave in advance can also result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to the parent(s).

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

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 Primary School pupils recorded 29,703 half day sessions of absence due to holiday in the Autumn/Spring term during the academic year 2017/18. This is an increase of 6,256 on the previous year.**



# Thinking of a career in teaching?

You could train at  
The Arden Forest Teaching School!

**Welford on Avon Primary School is committed to supporting the training of new teachers coming into the profession.**

Welford on Avon Primary School lead the Arden Forest School Direct programme in partnership with local primary schools and the University of Worcester. We provide placements and training opportunities within our community of schools for those training to teach through the School Direct teacher programme.

School Direct is a school-based teacher training programme that offers a great opportunity to train, qualify and gain employment as a teacher.

If you want to find out more about life as a teacher before you apply, please contact us to arrange a 'taster day' or some voluntary experience in school.

**We are recruiting now** to find out about the recruitment process please call to speak to us or visit our Arden Forest Teacher Training link on our school website:

[www.welfordonavonschool.co.uk](http://www.welfordonavonschool.co.uk)

"As a partnership of schools, we are fully committed to offering the best possible support and training to grow the next generation of teachers. We have a wealth of experience and expertise in supporting those new to the profession and feel that our School Direct programme will give teachers the best possible start in their career."

**Julie Leeman - Headteacher  
(Welford on Avon Primary School)**



[www.ardenforestschooldirect.co.uk](http://www.ardenforestschooldirect.co.uk)

# Student Corner



**Students in Oak have been enjoying learning to play the glockenspiel.**



# Uniform

## GIRLS

- ★ Grey skirt (knee length pleated/ A-line, NOT STRAIGHT, TIGHT SKIRTS/LYCRA)
- ★ Grey/black trousers (NOT LYCRA OR BOOTCUT)
- ★ White school polo shirt or shirt
- ★ School crew neck sweatshirt OR school cardigan\*
- ★ Sensible, low-heeled black OR red school shoes – no boots
- ★ White socks OR grey or red tights NOT trainer ankle socks

**Summer wear:** Red and white checked gingham school dress and white ankle socks

## BOYS

- ★ Grey trousers OR shorts (NOT cargo style i.e. pockets on outer trouser leg)
- ★ White school polo shirt or shirt.
- ★ School crew neck sweatshirt OR V-necked sweatshirt\*
- ★ Black school shoes
- ★ Black and grey socks NOT trainer ankle socks

**PE kit Indoors:** Red shorts, white T-shirt

**PE kit Outdoors:** Dark track suit bottoms, red or dark jumper, trainers

**NB:** Girls must change out of their tights for PE

Sensible AND safe sandals may be worn

Local retailer: National Schoolwear Centre, Alcester

### Please note the following:

1. In the interest of hygiene, hair should be tied back where possible and kept off the face. The recommendation is that inexpensive items are worn. Plain hairbands and hair clips to be worn - these MUST BE red, black or white.
2. ALL articles of clothing must be clearly marked with your child's name.
3. Children are not allowed to wear jewellery in school. Children with pierced ears are permitted to wear small plain studs only (that can easily be taken out by your child for PE lessons).
4. Bleached, highlighted, coloured and extreme hairstyles are NOT ALLOWED. No hair gel, wax or mousse. Boys must not have their hair cut shorter than a 'Number Two.'
5. Make-up, nail varnish and transfer tattoos are not permitted.

\*Please note that children can wear an appropriate red jumper OR cardigan as an alternative to a school branded version.



# Be our best selves



The children were all stars in our nativity plays and church services.

# Community News

## THE REPAIR CAFÉ



Every fourth Thursday of the month



2pm until 5:30pm at The Depot



Eric Payne Community Centre, St Faiths Road, Alcester, B49 6AG



Come along and bring your broken items



Courses run by the local authority to support families around a range of concepts.

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

Information and advice for neurodivergent people and their families.

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

## WELL CONNECTED



Every second and fourth Wednesday of the month



10am to 12 midday at Alcester Unionist Club



46 High St, London House, Alcester, B49 5AB



Come and learn how to stay connected safely on your computer



Email Wendy: [info@alcester-tc.gov.uk](mailto:info@alcester-tc.gov.uk)  
Telephone: 01789 766084  
Mobile: 07434 664435  
Facebook: [Facebook.com/RepairCafeAlcester](https://www.facebook.com/RepairCafeAlcester),  
[Facebook.com/WellConnectedAlcester](https://www.facebook.com/WellConnectedAlcester)



Emotion coaching to support when a child is upset.

[Here](#)

12 powerful phrases that make talking to children easier link [here](#)

Latest Government information on scarlet fever and invasive group A strep:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3610/ukhsa-update-on-scarlet-fever-and-invasive-group-a-strep>

# Warwickshire RISE Courses

## Free courses via Zoom

<b>Understanding and Supporting Children Aged 3-11 Years with Anxiety</b> – 1 session – Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> January 2023, 12:30pm to 2:30pm
<b>Understanding and Supporting Children Aged 12+ Years with Anxiety</b> – 1 session – Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> January 2023, 10am to 12pm
<b>Understanding Emotional Regulation in School Aged Children</b> – 1 session – Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January 2023, 10am to 12pm
<b>Understanding and Supporting Children and Young People with Emotionally Based School Avoidance</b> – 1 session – Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> January 2023, 10am to 12pm
<b>Understanding and Supporting Children and Young People with Emotionally Based School Avoidance</b> – 1 session – Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> February 2023, 9am to 11am <b>(Saturday course)</b>
<b>Understanding and Supporting Children Aged 12+ Years with Anxiety</b> – 1 session – Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> February 2023, 12pm to 2pm <b>(Saturday course)</b>
<b>Understanding Emotional Regulation in School Aged Children</b> – 1 session – Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> February 2023, 2:30pm to 4:30pm <b>(Saturday course)</b>
<b>Understanding Self-esteem in Children and Young People</b> – 1 session – Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2023, 10am to 12pm
<b>Understanding and Supporting School Aged Children Who Self-harm</b> – 1 session – Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2023, 12:30pm to 2:30pm
<b>Understanding Sensory Needs in School Aged Children</b> – 1 session – Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> March 2023, 12:30pm to 2:30pm
<b>Understanding Low Mood in Children and Young People</b> – 1 session – Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> March 2023, 10am to 12pm
<b>Understanding and Supporting Children Aged 3-11 Years with Anxiety</b> – 1 session – Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> May 2023, 10am to 12pm
<b>Understanding Sensory Needs in School Aged Children</b> – 1 session – Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup> May 2023, 9am to 11pm <b>(Saturday course)</b>
<b>Understanding Low Mood in Children and Young People</b> – 1 session – Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup> May 2023, 12pm to 2pm <b>(Saturday course)</b>
<b>Understanding Self-esteem in Children and Young People</b> – 1 session – Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup> May 2023, 2:30pm to 4:30pm <b>(Saturday course)</b>
<b>Understanding and Supporting Children Aged 12+ Years with Anxiety</b> – 1 session – Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> May 2023, 12:30pm to 2:30pm
<b>Understanding Emotional Regulation in School Aged Children</b> – 1 session – Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> May 2023, 12:30pm to 2:30pm
<b>Understanding and Supporting Children and Young People with Emotionally Based School Avoidance</b> – 1 session – Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> June 2023, 10am to 12pm
<b>Understanding Self-esteem in Children and Young People</b> – 1 session – Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> June 2023, 12:30pm to 2:30pm
<b>Understanding and Supporting School Aged Children Who Self-harm</b> – 1 session – Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June 2023, 10am to 12pm
<b>Understanding Sensory Needs in School Aged Children</b> – 1 session – Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023, 10am to 12pm
<b>Understanding Low Mood in Children and Young People</b> – 1 session – Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2023, 12:30pm to 2:30pm

Online registration:

Visit: <https://www.recoveryandwellbeing.co.uk/>

Email: [Recovery.Academy@covwarkpt.nhs.uk](mailto:Recovery.Academy@covwarkpt.nhs.uk)

Call: 0300 303 2626

Coughton Primary School PTA would like to thank the following businesses for their generous contributions of raffle prizes, sponsorship and donations to our 2022 Christmas Fair!

**CyberFort Group**

**Ruth Jewell Funeral  
Celebrant**

**Stratford Football Club**

**Beauty and Laśnes  
by Amy**

**Studley Castle**

**Ackers Adventure**

**Body Tonic by Nell**

**Studley in Business**

**Liberty Fields**

**HPF Energy**

**Purity**

**Kixx Redditch and  
Walsall FC**

**Lloyd Contracting**

**Beauchamp Skin and Beauty**

**Jess Bowen Photography**

**Studley Leisure Centre**

**Spotty Pots**

**The Throckmorton**

**Budget Shipping  
Containers**

**Solihull Moors FC**

**Coughton Court**

**Tesco Extra, Redditch**

**...and Shepard Consulting  
for the  
Christmas Tree**



We would also like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who volunteered at the Fair, came and spent Coughton Cash, bought raffle tickets or donated to the tombolas!

All of this combined meant we raised.....

**£2005!**

# Information

## Being safe at Christmas

Please remind children about the importance of not playing on ice. Given recent tragic events in Solihull I have shared a link to a website that offers safety advice.

<https://www.rospa.com/leisure-water-safety/water/advice/ice>

## Studybugs

The studybugs app is a great way of recording pupil absence. On occasion we may also send out parent communications with you via this method. This enables us to send larger file sizes.

The logo for the Studybugs app, featuring the word "Studybugs" in a white, rounded, sans-serif font on a blue rectangular background. To the right of the text is a green shield icon with a white plus sign inside.

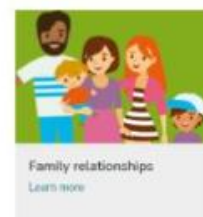
# Support for parents/carers

## Family Information Service

### Universal support

Family Information Service offer information, signposting, and referrals to support families.

FIS can refer to domestic abuse support agencies and offer support around finance, housing and mental health.



The team can be contacted on 0800 408 1558

or emailed at [fis@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:fis@warwickshire.gov.uk).

For a wide range of safe, accurate and up to date information including the Warwickshire childcare finder, parenting courses, workshops, support services and much more

please visit

[www.warwickshire.gov.uk/childrenandfamilies](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/childrenandfamilies)

[www.warwickshire.gov.uk/domesticabuse](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/domesticabuse)

## Health and wellbeing support

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

## Mental Health and wellbeing

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

**on**side®  
COACHING.CO.UK

REDDITCH & ALCESTER

AGES  
5-12

# Christmas Holiday Club

4 days of  
Christmas Fun



COURSE DATES

Mon 19th December to  
Thurs 22nd December

COURSE TIMES

Drop off 8.30am  
Pick up 3.30 - 4pm

**4 DAYS**  
for only **£72**

Come along and join us at St Benedicts High School for 4 days of Christmas fun and games. All the usual activities and plenty of Festive fun to keep your children entertained.

PROUD TO BE  
A PART OF THE

**HAF**

HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES  
& FOOD PROGRAMME

[onsidecoaching.co.uk](http://onsidecoaching.co.uk)

REDDITCH & ALCESTER



On behalf of all staff and Governors, I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.