

HENLEY IN ARDEN C OF E PRIMARY NEWSLETTER



Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have thoroughly enjoyed the past few weeks of Christmas fever. Last week the whole school enjoyed breakfast with Santa and his choir. We visited St John's Church on Monday where we heard bible readings telling the Christmas story and the school choir sang a lovely rendition of 'All over the World'. KS2 provided a wonderful Christmas Concert with songs, readings and poems. A special well done to those children who sang solos. EYFS and KS1 performed 'It's a baby' with confidence and precision with all children remembering their words. We have also enjoyed Christmas dinner, Christmas jumper day, Christmas parties and the end of term celebration assembly.

As part of our new writing scheme the whole school have engaged with 'The Polar Express' book by Chris Van Allsburg. The children from Reception to Year 6 have responded to the text through various genres of writing. They were also able to use the supporting film to engage them with the story.

We have been pleased with the attendance of many children this term. A huge congratulations to the 19 pupils who have not had a day off this term. Today they received a certificate and prize. 61 children have above 96% attendance which is our school target. Well done to Year 2 who have had 97% attendance this term!

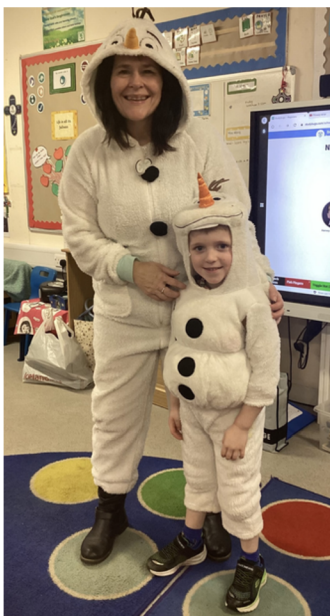
Today is Tara Morris' last day working with us in Discovery Den. We'd like to wish her all the best for the future.

May I take this opportunity to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to seeing you back on Tuesday 7th January 2025.

Kate Adcock

FRIDAY 20TH DECEMBER 2024

Christmas at Henley





Diary Dates can be found on the school website using this link:
<https://www.henleyinardenprimary.org.uk/diary/grid/2024/9/>

COMING UP:

Monday 6th January INSET Day.

Wednesday 15th January Deadline for Reception 2025 applications

Wednesday 22nd January KS1 and KS2 Maths Workshops 9:00-10:30 (Parents Welcome)

Tuesday 28th January EYFS trip to SANS Chinese Restaurant

Thursday 30th January Year 3 and 4 trip to Heart of England

Friday 31st January Year 5 and 6 trip to Tamworth Castle

Thursday 6th February Y1 and Y5 Fire Service in school

Tuesday 11th February Safer Internet Day

Friday 14th February Valentines Day Bake off

Friday 14th February Year 5 and 6 trip to Heart of England

WB 17th February Half Term Holiday

Pupil Survey

In November all pupils across the Arden Forest MAT, including our school, completed a survey. They were asked various questions about how happy they are at school, how safe they feel and how they feel about their learning. Our results were very positive.

86% of pupils said they were 'happy' or 'very happy' at our school

94% of pupils said the rules are 'clear' or 'very clear' at our school

94% of pupils explained their teachers explain things 'well' or 'very well'.

Our next steps from the survey are:

42% of children say they 'sometimes' or 'rarely' read at home

41% of children said they 'sometimes' or 'often' find school difficult.

Reading Army

We are looking for some more volunteers to join our 'Reading Army' to volunteer a couple of hours a week to come and read with individual pupils.

Please contact the school office if you are interested.





Stars of the Week

Ivy	Leo
Leo	Daniel
Joe	Amelia
Billy	Khayri

Value Champions



Romon	Rory
Hrisha	Josh
Frankie	Lucas
	Meabh

Attendance

Year 1	93.1
Year 2	97.7
Year 3	96.4
Year 4	95.1
Year 5	95.5
Year 6	94.7
Year R	92.6



Whole School Target 96%

Overall	95.1
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Arden



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Demontfort

Reporting Concerns

If you have a worry or concern, please speak to the class teacher at the end of the day. If you are not satisfied that your concern has been dealt with then please make an appointment with Mrs Griffin as our Assistant Head teacher. If you are still not happy, then you can make an appointment with myself through the main office. If you have a concern regarding your child's additional needs, please contact our SENCO Mrs Gray.

Values 2024-2025



Collective Worship Our current value is Generosity

During this time of advent we have understood the meaning of an advent wreath and why advent is an important time for Christians as they prepare for Christmas. Each candle has a special meaning; peace, joy, love and hope.

We also learned about the Christingle.

We enjoyed our whole school visit to St John's Church in Henley in Arden where we held our Christmas Carol Service.



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 Wright 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 law states a leave of absence may only be granted by a school if an application is made in advance and if it considers there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application. Schools must judge each application individually considering the specific facts and circumstances and relevant background context behind each request.

A leave of absence is granted entirely at the school's discretion. Generally, a need or desire for a holiday or other absence for the purpose of leisure and recreation would not constitute an exceptional circumstance.

Where a leave of absence is granted, the school will determine the number of days a pupil can be absent from school.

When making an application for Leave of Absence 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. The school may also request further information on the application and supporting documentation where appropriate. It is advised that if the resident parent has not received notification or a response regarding the leave of absence application, it is the parents' 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 ie the parent with whom the child normally resides.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child is expected 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. 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. 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'.

All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Warwickshire Attendance Service, part of Warwickshire County Council. Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices and in the first instance, as an alternative to prosecution proceedings.

Leave of Absence taken in the academic year 2024-25

The law relating to Penalty Notices changed with effect from 19 August 2024. Therefore, Penalty Notices issued for Leave of Absence taken from September 2024 will be issued in accordance with the updated legislation.

- 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 – 4 in total).

- o First Leave of Absence offence: The Penalty Notice amount of £160 to be paid within 28 days, this is reduced to £80 each child if paid within 21 days.

- o Second Leave of Absence offence within a 3 year period (from the date of issue of the first penalty notice): The amount of £160 paid within 28 days. No reduced amount.

- Payment plans will not be offered and/or payments received outside of the 28 day period will not be accepted. Where a penalty notice expires unpaid the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider criminal prosecution.

- Third Leave of Absence offence within a 3 year period (from the date of issue of the first penalty notice): A penalty notices will be not be issued and the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal prosecution proceedings under S444 of Education Act 1996. Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority.