



Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is hard to believe that we have reached the end of January - often the hardest month of the year! It also means we are nearly half way through the academic year.

This week we had the pleasure of meeting Martin who took part in 'The Clipper Round the World Yacht Race' which is an endurance challenge like no other. Race Crew come from all walks of life and nations around the world tackle one or multiple legs of the record-breaking circumnavigation. He described the challenges he faced during his leg of being at the helm and the children asked fantastic questions about life on board the boat.

This term, the children have also been learning about key celebrations and themes that help them understand the world around them. We recently reflected on Martin Luther King Day, exploring his inspiring message of equality, kindness, and peaceful change. Linking this with our British Values and Oracy skills, we held a speech writing competition. Thank you to all children who contributed towards our speech challenge - our winners were xxx. You can read the winning speeches later on in this newsletter.

Alongside this, we have enjoyed learning about National Storytelling Week which takes place next week, celebrating the joy of imagination, reading, and sharing stories.

Looking ahead, we will also be focusing on Children's Mental Health Week which is week beginning 9th February, helping pupils understand the importance of looking after their wellbeing and supporting one another. The official theme for Children's Mental Health Week 2026 is 'This is My Place'. We know that our sense of belonging as individuals, in our friendships, in school, and in communities plays a vital role in our mental health and wellbeing.

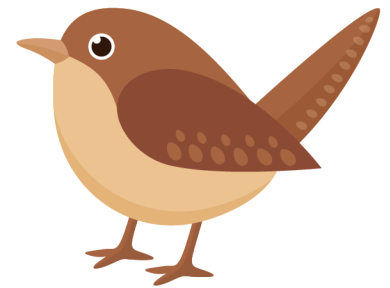
Our Young Enterprise event will be taking place on Friday 13th February, and the whole school is buzzing with excitement! Individual are working hard to plan, design, and create a wonderful range of items to sell. From cakes, cookies, loomband bracelets, tote bags, dog treats, books, sweetie bags, and many more handmade treasures, there will be something for everyone. We are so proud of the children's enthusiasm, creativity, and teamwork as they prepare for this special day. All children are welcome to bring up to £5 to spend at the event which will take place in the hall from 14:30. Parents are welcome to join us too!

Have a lovely weekend
Kate Adcock

FRIDAY 30TH JANUARY 2026

Big Schools Bird watch

We are taking part on this year's Big School Bird Watch. Some classes will be conducting surveys about birds which visit our Forest School area. Tillman Lodge will be working on a project to design and make bird feeders from natural resources such as orange skins and pine cones. We would like to encourage children to conduct a birdwatch at home or making bird feeders - resources can be found on our eco-board outside Year 5 and 6.



World Book Day

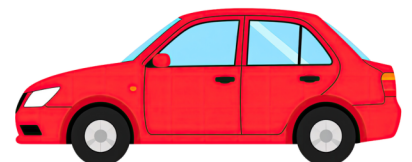


Thursday 5th March 2026

We will be inviting children to dress up as a book character. We have spare costumes in school if anyone would like to borrow one. Please don't feel you need to spend lots of money on a costume – simple, comfortable and practical outfits are perfect. Please ensure your child's costume enables them to sit and play safely throughout the school day. Weapons and covered face masks are not appropriate.

Drop off and Pick Up

We kindly ask for everyone's support in keeping our drop-off and pick-up times safe and calm for all members of our school community. Please take extra care when driving near the school, parking considerately, and modelling respectful behaviour to help create a safe environment for our children. Small acts—such as slowing down, avoiding parking on pavements or zig-zag lines, and showing patience—make a big difference to the wellbeing and safety of our pupils, staff, and families. Thank you for working with us to ensure that every child arrives and leaves school safely each day.



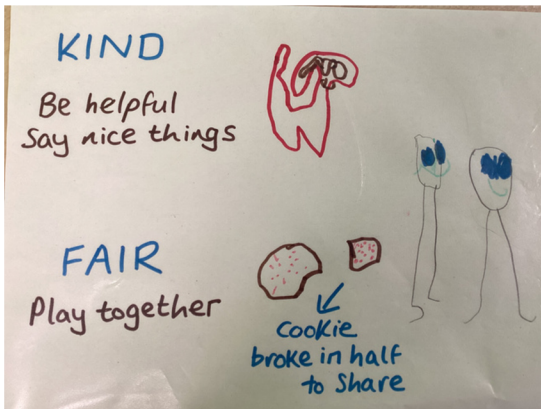
Road Safety Officers

Our Junior Road Safety Officers are currently completing a MINI MISSION for Warwickshire Road Safety Team by writing to them detailing what their role has entailed so far. This will earn us points towards our Platinum Award.

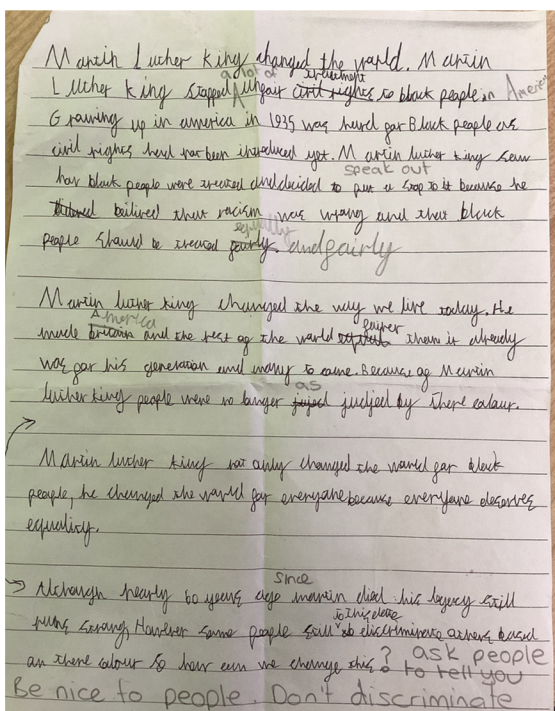


Read our winning speeches which were inspired by Martin Luther King

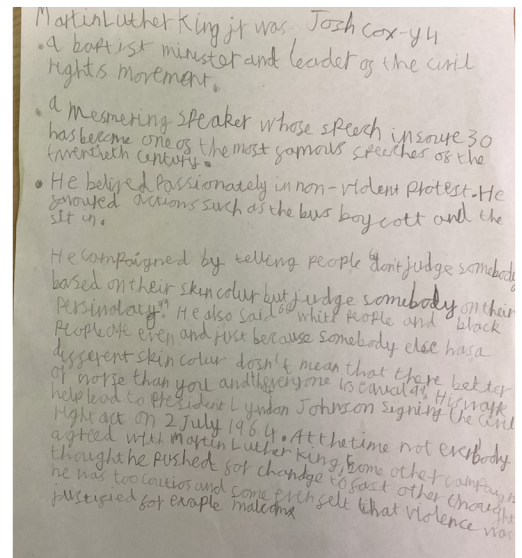
Lottie Smith



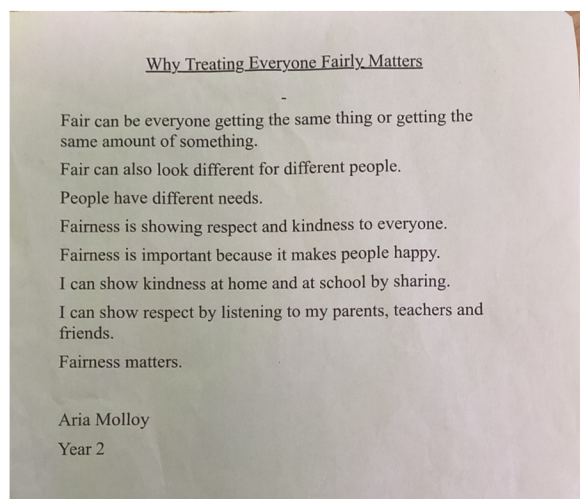
Joe Ray



Josh Cox



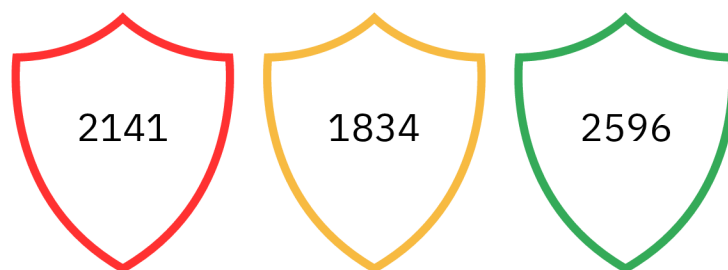
Aria Molloy



Spring Term Dates

Friday 6th February - EYFS Parent Workshop 14:00
 Tuesday 10th February – EYFS trip to SANS Chinese restaurant
 Friday 13th February – Young Enterprise Event 14:30 in the hall (parents welcome)
 Friday 27th February – Year 5 Netball event (pm)
 Thursday 5th March – World Book Day
 Thursday 12th March – Year 1/2 Heart of England
 Tuesday 17th March – Year 3/4 Roman Museum Trip
 Wednesday 18th March – PTA football event
 Wednesday 18th March - Y5/6 BCFC football event (am)
 Thursday 19th March – Y5/6 Heart of England
 Friday 20th March - Athlete visit
 Monday 23rd March – Easter Service at St John’s
 Tuesday 24th/Wednesday 25th March – Parents Evening
 Friday 27th March – End of Term

House Points



Attendance - Target 94%

Punctuality

Year 1	92.5	+0.1
Year 2	94.0	+0.2
Year 3	97.6	-0.5
Year 4	96.1	-0.6
Year 5	91.1	-0.2
Year 6	93.1	-0.1
Year R	95.9	+0.2

We have seen a huge improvement in punctuality this term! It benefits the children hugely when they arrive on time along with their peers. We will continue to monitor this closely, contacting parents directly each time their child is late.

Respect Code

Responsible: for your behaviour and learning

Everyone is: kind, helpful and thoughtful

Show God's forgiveness

Persevere with your learning, always

Empathy: consider others and their feelings

Courage: to make the right choices

Tell the truth



WARWICKSHIRE
PARENT CARER VOICE



SEND Coffee & Chat

Wednesday 4th February

2 - 3pm



Warwickshire Parent Carer Voice (WPCV) is partnering with your school to improve school experiences for children with SEND.

We'd love to hear from you!

Can't make it to the Coffee & Chat, but want to know more?
PINS@warwickshireparentcarervoice.org

Henley-In-Arden CofE Primary School
Arden Road,
Henley in Arden,
B95 5FT

YOUNG ENTERPRISE

Come and see our amazing young entrepreneurs! Children have made their own products to sell, with all money going to our chosen Charities. Each child will run their own stall — creative, fun, and full of fantastic ideas!



The sales event Will Be Held On:



Fri 13th Feb 26



14:30



School hall

ALL CHILDREN ARE WELCOME TO BRING UP TO £5 TO SPEND AT THE YOUNG ENTERPRISE EVENT

THIS IS A CASH ONLY EVENT

LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME UPDATED INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Supreme Court clarified 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 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 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 2025-26

The law relating to Penalty Notices is due to change with effect from 1 September 2024. Therefore Penalty Notices issued for Leave of Absences taken after this date 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.