

Together Everyone Achieves More



**Exhall  
Junior School**

Newsletter

**FEBRUARY**

*“February sits quietly  
in the margins  
between winter  
leaving and the  
waiting spring.”*

**WELCOME BACK AFTER THE HALF-TERM BREAK!**

Dear Families,

Best wishes to all parents and carers as we reach the second spring half term. We hope you had an enjoyable break now the days are getting brighter, and hopefully sunnier and warmer. The government is working towards the removal of Covid regulations soon, our hope is that we will return to some sort of normality in the near future.

During this half term, staff are writing their mid-term reports for your child. This should help you get a picture on how well your child is doing and give some targets that we can work on together. Our aim is to meet you in the summer term to summarise the year, share the progress your child has made and to look at what areas will be targeted next year.

Please be aware that recently we have had an incident involving children’s internet use that caused upset amongst groups of children:

- Please monitor your child’s internet use at home, and also what comments they make on them.
- Be aware that most sites/games have a function that allows participants to message each other.
- Please ensure that older brothers/sisters do not contribute to any conversations negatively – please do not contribute yourself as an adult. Before half term we had a Safer Internet Day in school and more information is contained later in this newsletter on how to use the internet safely.



## Reading at Home

Homework makes an important contribution to a child's progress at school. As well as reinforcing learning in the classroom, homework helps children to develop the skills and attitudes they will need for successful, independent lifelong learning.

There is an expectation that you will read with your child at least three times a week, and children tell us that they love reading to someone at home, or being read to. Home reading books are sent home daily and will be changed when a child has read the text, usually with an adult at home. Year 6 are currently trialing an online reading record, if it is successful, we will be sharing it further.

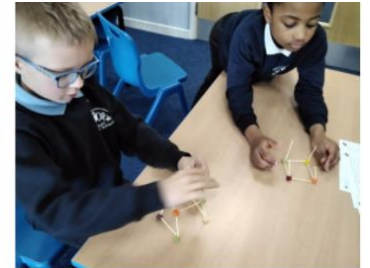
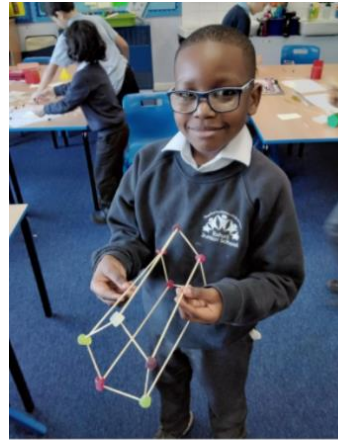
## Attendance

Attendance levels are regularly monitored as it is important for pupils' well-being, progress in learning and for reaching potentials.

We send out letters to notify parents/ carers highlighting an initial cause for concern where a pupil's attendance has dropped below 96%. Please make sure you contact the school if your child is going to be off, and respond to any letters / meeting we arrange regarding attendance – thank you.

## NSPCC Number Day

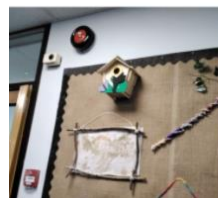
A fortnight ago, we celebrated NSPCC Number Day in Year 3. We find it gives the children the opportunity to apply their Maths skills to everyday scenarios.



*During Number Day, we looked at the properties of shapes and created our own 3D shapes using sweets and cocktail sticks!*



Year 3 had a great time spotting and working on 2D and 3D shapes.



## Online Safety Week

Safer Internet Day 2022 was celebrated on Tuesday 8 February with the theme 'All fun and games? Exploring respect and relationships online'.

From gaming and chat, to streaming and video, young people are shaping the online spaces they are a part of. During our Safer Internet Day we looked at how young people have a role in creating a safer internet, whether that is whilst gaming and creating content, or interacting with their friends and peers.

### As a parent or carer you play a key role in helping your child to stay safe online.

You don't need to be an expert on the internet to help keep your child stay safe online. There is lots of advice and resources to help you as you support your child to use the internet safely, responsibly and positively.

The best way to keep your child safe is to chat with your children on an ongoing basis about staying safe online.

Not sure where to begin? These conversation starter suggestions can help.

*What games do you and your friends like to play online?*

*Can you show me the websites you visit the most?*

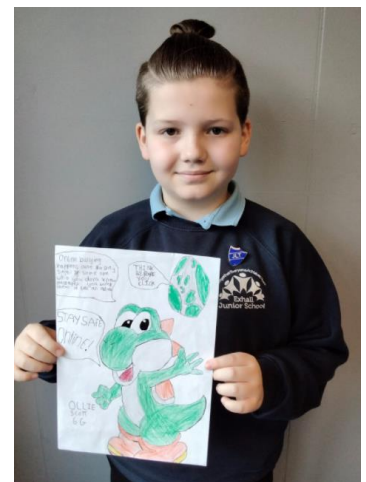
*Shall we play your favourite game online together?*

Ask them if they know where to go for help or think about how you each use the internet. What more could you do to use the internet together?

More ideas on the link below

### [UK Safer Internet Centre](#)

Here are the photos of the first-place winners of our Online Safety poster competition and a photo of the posters who won 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>! Well done, everyone 😊



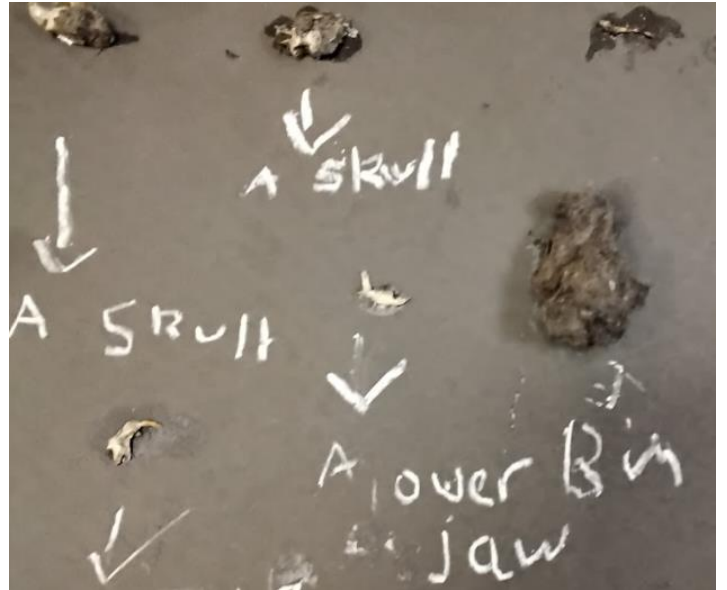


## Investigations and Gruesome Dissections In Year 6

As part of their work on Skellig, Year 6 students had a chance to investigate how animals have adapted to their environment, and also to participate in an owl pellet dissection lesson using sterilized barn owl pellets.



Owl pellets are neat little packages of mostly fur and bones that are regurgitated by an owl after it has finished digesting everything else.



The students were fascinated to discover what the barn owls had been eating by dissecting their pellets. Cries of, 'I've found a skull!', were often heard across the classroom, and by carefully sorting and organizing the bones they found, students were able to reconstruct skeleton parts of various rodents.

## VALENTINE DISCO



### Valentine's Disco

The Friends of Exhall Juniors put on another brilliant disco on Monday 14 February 2022 that was well attended. There was plenty of opportunities for the children to show off their 'moves' and some of the staff even joined in!

The Friends raised £278.85 at the disco.



Thank you to all the parents/carers and staff who organised and supported this event. It wouldn't take place without you!



## Governors News



We still have places vacant and hope that either you, or someone you know, would consider being part of the school team so we can support the community and its learners. To find out more about being a

governor, come and speak with us or write a short covering email telling us what you could bring to the role and send to [admin2571@welearn365.com](mailto:admin2571@welearn365.com)

## Year 7 Secondary School Offers

Year 7 Secondary school offers for September 2022 will be released by WCC Admissions on Tuesday 1 March 2022. If you applied online you should receive an email by 2.00 pm on Tuesday 1 March asking you to go to the WCC Admissions website to view the offer.

You need to accept or decline your child's school offer by emailing [admissions@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:admissions@warwickshire.gov.uk) or calling them on tel: [01926 414143](tel:01926414143)

The deadline for responding to your offer is **Tuesday 15 March 2022.**

## Mothers Day Craft Event

On Friday 25 March 2022 mums, grandmas or female carers of Exhall Junior School pupils are invited to come to Exhall Junior School at 1.45 pm to take part in a craft event with your child.



If you also have a child at Exhall Cedars Infant school you are welcome to collect your child at 1.30 pm and bring them along to join us at Exhall Junior School.

If you are able to attend please email [admin2571@welearn365.com](mailto:admin2571@welearn365.com) to confirm:

- Your child's name and class
- If a sibling from Exhall Cedars will be joining you, and their name.

We look forward to seeing you there.

## Calendar

- <https://exhalljunior.org.uk/calendar>