



Dream big, shine bright

St NICHOLAS

C of E Primary School, Alcester

Weekly What's On

w/c 4th May 2026

Whole school Reminders

Fire Drill	Just a quick note to let you know that we carried out a fire drill in school today. These drills are an important part of checking our emergency procedures, and we're pleased to share that everything went smoothly. The children responded brilliantly, and staff did a great job supporting them — especially as the drill is a surprise for staff too! We're proud of how calmly and sensibly everyone conducted themselves.
Lost property	If any of the items below belong to your child, please come to the office to collect. Many thanks. 
Water Safety Reminder	 As we welcome warmer weather, we know that many children are spending more time outdoors. Rivers, streams, and other bodies of water can seem particularly inviting at this time of year, and it can be tempting for children to play or jump in. However, we want to remind all our families about the importance of staying safe around water.



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Why water safety matters

Even if children are confident swimmers, open water like rivers and lakes can present serious risks. Please talk to your child about:

- Hidden dangers: Rivers can hide strong currents, sudden drops, slippery banks, and debris under the surface.
- Cold water shock: Even on hot days, the water can be much colder than expected and may cause muscles to cramp, making it hard to swim.
- Unpredictable conditions: Water levels, currents, and weather can change quickly.
- No lifeguards: Most rivers and lakes are unsupervised, so help may not be available in an emergency.

Top tips for keeping your child safe near water

- Always supervise children closely near rivers, lakes, or ponds.
- Remind your child never to swim or jump into rivers, lakes, or canals.
- Encourage them to stay away from the edges of rivers or steep banks.
- Make sure children know what to do in an emergency – call 999 and ask for the fire and rescue service if someone is in difficulty.
- Set a good example by following safety guidelines yourself when near water.

What to do next

- Take a few minutes to have a conversation with your child about the dangers of playing near water.
- Take a look at the Canal & River Trust for water safety advice for primary school age.

Let's work together to ensure all our children enjoy the warm weather safely.

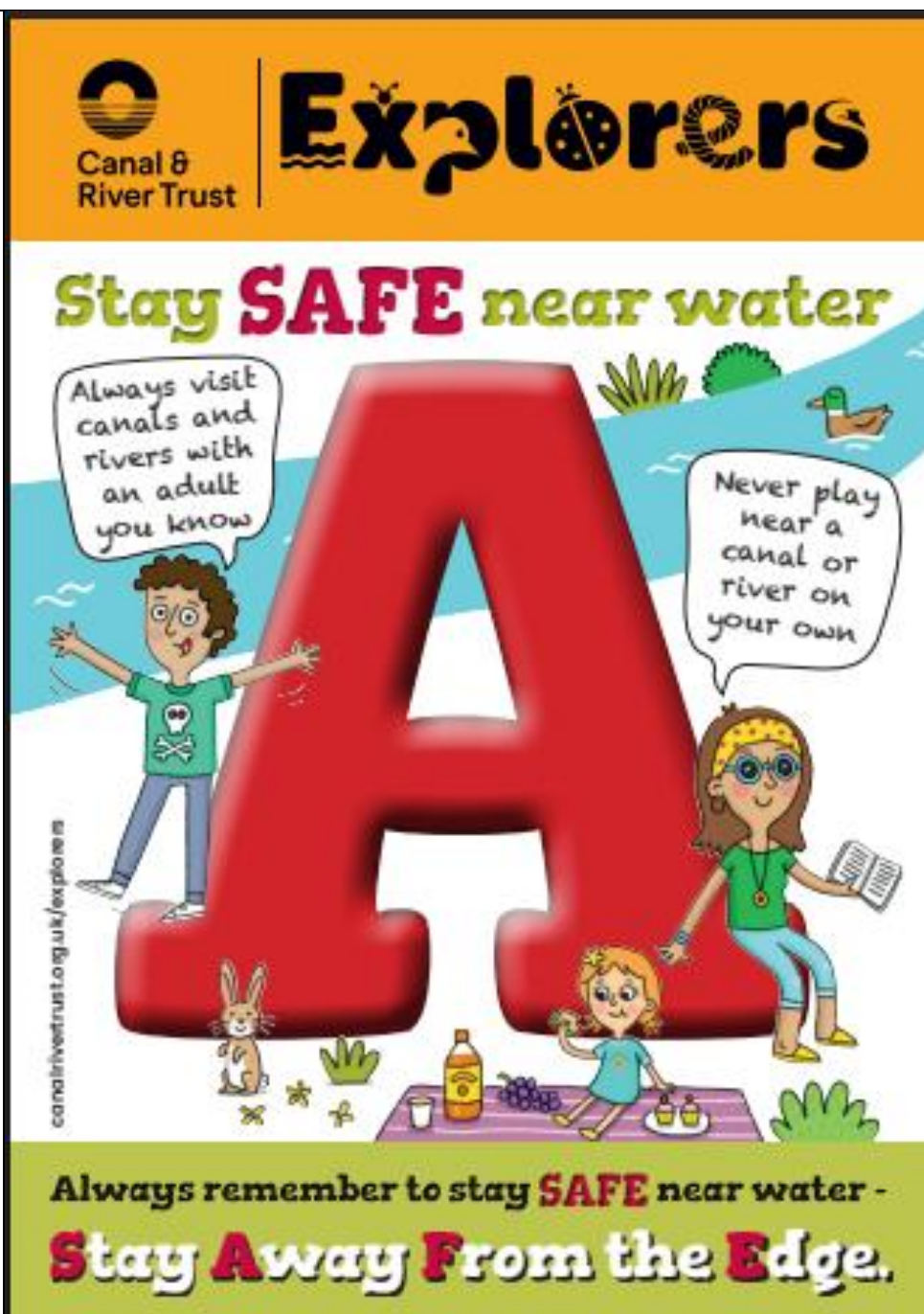
<https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/explorers/schools/water-safety/information-and-advice/water-safety-information-for-children-of-primary-school-age>



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Book Sale	The Year 6 students are hosting a book sale at school on Friday 22 nd May 2026. All monies raised will go towards the Year 6 Leavers event in July. More information to follow.
Online Safety	May's Online Newsletter is LIVE on our website: https://www.alcesterstnicholas.co.uk/stream/newsletters/full/1/-//



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Bags2School



The Friends of St Nicholas have organised a clothing & shoe collection with Bag2School for the morning drop-off on Wednesday 20th May 2026, which is an easy way to raise funds. The children will come with a Bag2School bag today.

Items can include adult and children's clothes, shoes (tied together please), belts, handbags and bags as well as jewellery, household linens and soft toys. There is no limit on the number of bags so if you are having a massive clear-out, we can accept multiple bags! **Note: they do not accept school or work uniform, soft toys, towels, bedding & curtains.** Please note duvets, pillows and work or school uniform are not accepted.

Thank you -
Bingo

BINGO!

FUNDRAISER SUCCESS!

After expenses, we have raised an
absolutely amazing

£2,839.57

Thank you to everyone who came along,
supported, and made the night such a success!

WE COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOU!



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Summer guidance	As we move into the warmer summer months, we want to make sure all our pupils can enjoy outdoor activities safely and comfortably. Please ensure your child comes to school with the following each day: • Sun cream: Please apply sun cream to your child before school. If you'd like your child to reapply sun cream during the day, please send them in with a clearly labelled bottle (with their name and class). • Sun hat: A wide-brimmed sun hat or cap to protect your child's face and neck. Labelled with their name. • Sunglasses: If possible, sunglasses with UV protection to shield their eyes. Labelled with their name
Book Fair – Thank you	Thank you to everyone who supported the book fair last week. It was a pleasure to see so many children and parents enthused and engaged, especially as we live in a time when reading for pleasure is not always prioritised. The book fair was a huge success and has raised £986 to spend on books for our children to enjoy in the library and classrooms.



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SAVE THE
DATE –
Sports Day



We wanted to share the initial arrangements for this year's Sports Day.

We are planning to hold the event on **23rd June** (weather permitting). Due to the longer session required, **KS2 will take place in the morning**, with **KS1 and Reception scheduled for the afternoon**.

In the event that we need to postpone due to weather, the reserve date will be **30th June**. Further details about the organisation and running of the day will be shared in due course.

Thank you all for your support.



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Coming up next week	
Reception	
Year 1	
Year 2	
Year 3	
Year 4	
Year 5	
Year 6	
Other news	
Useful Links	
Vacancies	We currently have no vacancies.



Diary Dates

We thought it would be helpful to share the diary dates for the whole year. Please note: they are subject to change

Summer

Date	Time	info
04.05.2026		Bank holiday – May Day
05.05.2026	Am	Year 1 church visit – Creation
07.05.2026		Reception Little Owl Farm Park
11.05.2026	All week	SATs week
20.05.2026	PM	Reception Summer Fair
20.05.2026	9.00 am	Bag2School collection
22.05.2026		Year 6 Book Sale
22.05.2026		Children break up
Half term break – 25.05.2026 to 29.05.2026		
01.06.2026	All day	Teacher Training day
08.06.2026	All week All week	Year 4 MTC all week Phonics screening year 1 and year 2 retakes Year 5 Bell Boating
09.06.2026	Am	Year 2 Church visit – world views Year 5 Bell Boating
16.06.2026		Year 1 Water Walk Year 5 Viking Day
23.06.2026		Sports Day
24.06.2026	All day	Year 6 PGL
25.06.2026	All day	Year 6 PGL
26.06.2026		Year 6 PGL Year 3 Fishing
30.06.2026		Reserved Sports Day Date
06.07.2026	All day	Redpoint Mobile Climbing Wall (Year 3 – 6) Year 4 Open Water Swimming
07.07.2026	Am	Year 6 Church visit – worldviews/truth Year 2 Trip to Brean
10.07.2026	All day	Reports out to families Leavers festival (provisional date)
13.07.2026		3J Heart of England
15.07.2026	4pm	Optional parents' consultations (families call office to book) 3L Heart of England
17.07.2026	AM	Leavers performance/awards
17.07.2026		Last Day of term
Break up for summer		



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20.07.2026	All day	INSET day
21.09.2026	AM	Individual school photo's – All Years



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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.

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.



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- 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).
 - 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.
 - 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.



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WHITSUN HALF

TERM MULTI SPORTS CLUB



VENUE: ST NICHOLAS C of E PRIMARY

DATES: TUES 26TH, WED 27TH, Thurs 28TH May

TIME: **DROP OFF** 8.45am – 9 am

PICK UP 3pm – 3.15pm

COST: £19 per day

£10 for half a day 9am-12pm or 12pm-3.15pm

Limited spaces

Payment can be made by cash or bank transfer, please ask for details.

Contact Dave Geden 07990972762 or davidgeden@hotmail.co.uk



Children are required to wear suitable clothing for a wide range of sports. Children may bring football boots and shin pads as football will be one of the sports played. Children are required to bring packed lunch and drinks to the course. **PLEASE DO NOT SEND ANY FOOD CONTAINING NUTS.**

Aims are to introduce, adapt and improve skills in a wide range of Sports e.g. Football, Tennis, Basketball, Cricket, Hockey, Tag rugby, Netball, Archery, Kan Jam and many more. With the emphasis on fun and participation.



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Join us for a buzzing
day of family fun
celebrating pollinators
and nature!

BEE FESTIVAL

free family event
(car parking charges may apply)

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

BEE BOMBS

BUILD A BEE B&B

BEE-AUTIFUL FACE PAINTING

GARDEN TOURS (LIMITED SPACES)

LIVE MUSIC

HONEY THEMED TREATS

PLANTS FOR SALE

FREE WILDFLOWER SEEDS

INSECT HUNT TRAIL

Saturday 30th May

10am until 2pm

Coughton Court,

Alcester, B49 5JA



<https://www.alcester-tc.gov.uk/information/natural-environment/>