



Tanworth-in-Arden C of E Primary School & Nursery

In God's family, learning, loving, growing to be our very best

25th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a busy and exciting week for Year 6. On Thursday, we were invited to attend the APF Exhibition at Ragley Hall, where the children represented the school exceptionally well. As always, they were a credit to both the school and their families, demonstrating excellent behaviour, curiosity and maturity throughout the day. They truly were the very best versions of themselves and reflected our school values brilliantly.

This morning, our Year 6 pupils also led our Open the Book service at St Mary Magdalene Church, sharing the story of The Prodigal Son with confidence, enthusiasm and maturity. We are incredibly proud of the way they took ownership of the service and helped bring this important message to life for the whole school community.

The story links beautifully with our half-term value of generosity. Generosity is often thought of as giving material things, but the message of The Prodigal Son reminds us that true generosity can also be shown through forgiveness, kindness, compassion and welcoming others. It is about being generous with our understanding, giving people second chances and ensuring everyone feels included and valued.

This message resonates strongly with who we are at Tanworth. Inclusivity is one of our greatest strengths and something we take great pride in. Every child is known, valued and celebrated as an individual, and we work hard to ensure that everyone feels a genuine sense of belonging within our school family.

As we move further into the autumn term, it is important that children bring a waterproof coat to school every day, as the weather can be unpredictable.

We also reminded children during Monday's OPAL worship that they will soon need to bring wellies to school so they can continue to enjoy access to the OPAL field at lunchtime. Please ensure that both wellies are clearly named.

Finally, I am pleased to share that our Reception 2027 Open Day dates have now been confirmed as Tuesday 20th October 1.30pm, Thursday 22nd October 9.30am and Tuesday 3rd November 6pm. If you have family, friends or neighbours with a child due to start school in September 2027, we would be grateful if you could help spread the word. We are also able to offer places in our current Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 classes, so please encourage anyone interested in joining our wonderful school community to get in touch.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and for being such an important part of the Tanworth family.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend,

Mrs Bamford

Head teacher

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Keeping Children Safe in a Changing Digital World

At Tanworth, safeguarding is at the heart of everything we do. As technology continues to evolve, we are always reviewing our practices to ensure we are doing everything possible to keep our children safe, both in school and online.

Over the coming weeks, you may notice a change in the photographs we share in newsletters, on social media and across our website. Wherever possible, we will be using images that show children from the side or from behind, rather than clear front-facing photographs.

This change is not because of any specific concern. Instead, it reflects our commitment to staying ahead of developments in digital technology and artificial intelligence (AI). As image technology becomes increasingly sophisticated, we believe it is important to take sensible, proactive steps to protect our pupils' privacy while still celebrating the wonderful experiences, achievements and learning that take place every day at Tanworth.

Please be reassured that we will continue to share the many exciting opportunities our children enjoy. You will still see photographs of school life, special events, trips and learning activities, but in a way that provides an additional layer of protection for our pupils.

As part of this approach, we will also be gradually updating the photographs already displayed on our website. This will be a phased process and will happen alongside our regular website reviews and updates.

We know that parents enjoy seeing the fantastic things their children are involved in, and we remain committed to sharing and celebrating these moments with our school community. By making this small change, we are ensuring that we continue to balance celebration with our responsibility to safeguard every child in our care.

Thank you for your understanding and support as we continue to put children's safety and wellbeing first.

Harvest Service and Collection for Birmingham City Mission

Year 4 will be leading our Harvest Festival Service next Friday, 9th October at 9:10am in church.

As part of our Harvest celebrations, we are inviting families to support Birmingham City Mission by donating items for local individuals and families in need. Every contribution, no matter how small, will help make a difference.

The Mission is especially currently in need of:

- Long-life milk
- Sugar
- Tinned fish and meat
- Tinned fruit
- Pot noodles
- Cup-a-Soups
- Jam

Please note: They currently have plenty of pasta and baked beans, so there is no need to send these items.

When donating, please ensure that all items are in date and have a long expiry/use-by date wherever possible.

Many thanks for your generous support as always.

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CELEBRATION WORSHIP

Year 1:

Harriet has been a fantastic role model through her consistently brilliant behaviour and excellent manners. She listens carefully in every lesson, always showing respect to her teachers and classmates. Harriet approaches her learning with a positive attitude and is a kind, thoughtful, and helpful friend to everyone around her. She is always willing to support others and demonstrates our school values through her caring and considerate actions each day. Harriet should be very proud of the wonderful example she sets for others.

Ava has shown fantastic dedication to her writing and should be very proud of her hard work. Each morning, she approaches her phonics and writing activities with enthusiasm, carefully sounding out words and trying her very best. During our English lessons, Ava worked particularly hard when writing sentences about the frog, cat, and hare, showing growing confidence and independence in her writing. Her determination to keep improving and her positive attitude towards learning have been wonderful to see. Well done, Ava, for all your excellent effort and progress! You should be very proud of yourself!

Year 2:

Jude is genuinely one of the kindest children I have ever taught. He has an incredible ability to notice when somebody is upset, worried or simply not quite themselves, and he is always one of the first people to go over, offer comfort and check that they are okay. What makes Jude particularly special is that he doesn't just check once and walk away. He stays with that person, continues to look out for them and makes sure that they feel safe, cared for and included. Jude also shows real courageous advocacy. If he sees somebody struggling to stand up for themselves, he will quietly and confidently stand alongside them and make sure their voice is heard. And he does this for everyone – whether they are one of his closest friends, someone else in our class or even a child from another class. Jude, your kindness, empathy and courage make our school a better place to be, and I am incredibly proud of you.

Iver has really impressed me with the effort and determination he is putting into all of his work. He tries incredibly hard to complete everything that is asked of him and, even when he finds something challenging, he keeps going and does his very best. I have been particularly proud of the effort Iver has been putting into his English work. While learning about Six Dinner Sid, Iver has been using Widgit pictures to help him think carefully about Sid as a character. He has used these to identify and label Sid's appearance and personality, choosing words to describe what Sid looks like and what he is like. Even more impressively, Iver has then used these ideas to build his own sentences before carefully writing them in his book. He is taking real pride in making sure his handwriting is neat and that his work is the very best he can produce. Iver, your hard work, perseverance and determination are really paying off. I am incredibly proud of the effort you are making – keep it up!

Year 3:

Margaux has received her certificate this week but could have this any week. Each day, week and month she always gives her absolute best in all of her work. She approaches every piece of work with care, determination and a fantastic attitude. She is conscientious and never gives up when something is challenging and always wants to push herself to be the very best. Margaux always takes pride in producing her very best work and her excellent effort is a wonderful example to others. She should feel incredibly proud of everything she achieves especially so early into the year. Well done Margaux, for always trying your best and showing such a fantastic attitude towards your learning. Your behaviour and attitude to learning is exceptional. Keep up the amazing work!

Rex has received his certificate for demonstrating fantastic manners and behaviour. He is polite, respectful and considerate towards everyone around him. He always tries his best to follow instructions whilst treating others with kindness and respect. He has excellent manners and positive behaviour, and he sets a brilliant example for others. He always helps out with any jobs in the classroom which the adults really appreciate whilst spreading his smile which makes him a pleasure to have in the classroom. Rex has also shown his enthusiasm to join the Eco Council and loves sharing his knowledge with the class. Well done for being such a polite, respectful and thoughtful member of Year 3. You should be very proud of yourself, Rex.

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Year 4:

Elliot has demonstrated outstanding manners during my first week. He always says please and thank you. He is a fantastic role model to the rest of the class. He is respectful and is consistently showing that he is ready to learn. He has made me feel welcome and has answered any queries I've had. I've noticed that he is always keen to help others, which demonstrates what a kind and considerate person he is. He is a pleasure to teach and I very much look forward to seeing him excel for the remainder of the time I am here.

Lydia has made an excellent effort with her presentation. She is consistently ensuring that her cursive handwriting is formed correctly. She takes pride in her work and I am really pleased with her dedication. Her work is presented neatly in every lesson, but in English in particular she has outdone herself. I am proud of how hard she has worked and I know she will continue to do so for the rest of her time in Year 4.

Year 5:

Holly, you have made such an amazing first impression since joining Year 5! Even though you have only just started at our school, you have already shown what it means to be a kind, sensible and respectful member of our class. You listen carefully to instructions, stay focused on your learning and never allow unwanted behaviours around you to distract you from doing your best. You work hard, show excellent manners and always do what is expected of you. Holly, you are a wonderful example of how children in Upper Key Stage 2 should behave and you are already a fantastic role model for your classmates. You are an absolute delight to have in our class, and I am so very happy that you have joined us. Well done, Holly!

Bea has started Year 5 with flying colours! She consistently demonstrates excellent learning behaviours and strives to give 100% effort in everything she does. She is focused, dedicated and determined across all areas of her learning. In Maths, she works hard and applies herself to every task; in English, she clearly enjoys writing and challenges herself to make ambitious vocabulary choices; and during Guided Reading, her hand is often up, ready to share her thoughtful contributions. It is impossible to choose just one subject to celebrate because Bea is striving in them all! Keep up this fantastic effort, Bea – your determination and positive attitude will take you far. Well done!

Year 6:

Tilly is receiving this certificate for the fantastic determination she has shown in Maths. Although she doesn't always find Maths easy, you would never know it because of the focus, resilience and positive attitude that she brings to every lesson. Over the past few weeks, she has worked particularly hard during our learning on place value and rounding, listening carefully to explanations and using colour effectively to help her identify and understand the powers of 10. What has impressed me most is Tilly's independence and willingness to have a go, even when she finds something challenging. She approaches her learning with a real sense of determination and never gives up when things become difficult. Her effort and perseverance are already helping her to make good progress and she's setting a great example for the rest of the class. Well done, Tilly!

Sid has only been with us for three weeks but in that short time he has already made a huge impression! He has settled into Year 6 brilliantly and is a wonderful example of the values we encourage at our school. Sid is always polite, respectful and considerate, treating both adults and his classmates with kindness. He approaches every lesson with enthusiasm and consistently gives his best effort, showing a real eagerness to learn. What stands out is how proactive Sid is in his learning. If he is unsure about something, he isn't afraid to ask questions and he takes responsibility for his own progress. Alongside this, he takes great pride in his work, and his presentation is always beautiful! Sid's mature attitude, excellent learning behaviours and lovely manners mean he's a pleasure to have in the classroom and we're very happy to have him in our class! Thank you, Sid.

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DATES FOR DIARIES

Autumn 1

Thursday 1st October Year 6 Bell Boating
 Friday 2nd October School & Nursery Photographs
 Friday 9th October Year 4 Harvest Service in Church 9.10am
 Tuesday 20th October Open Day 1.30pm
 Tuesday 20th October Parents Meetings (evening)
 Thursday 22nd October Open Day 9.30am
 Thursday 22nd October Parents Meetings
 Thursday 22nd October Children break up for half-term
 Friday 23rd October School & Nursery closed Teacher Training

Autumn 2

Monday 2nd November School & Nursery open
 Tuesday 3rd November Open Day 6pm
 Monday 16th November Year 2 Great Fire of Warwick trip
 Wednesday 2nd December Reception Nativity am
 Thursday 3rd December Reception Nativity pm
 Wednesday 9th December Year 1 & 2 Christmas Play am
 Thursday 10 December Year 1 & 2 Christmas Play pm
 Tuesday 15th December Whole school visit to Pantomime at the Palace Theatre Redditch to see Cinderella
 Wednesday 16th December Christmas Lunch and Party Day
 Wednesday 16th December KS2 Carol Service in Church (evening)
 Friday 18th December School & Nursery break up or Christmas
 Monday 4th January School and Nursery closed for teacher training
 Tuesday 5th January School and Nursery open for children

Warwickshire School Term and Holiday Dates - 2026/27

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Aug-26						
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Sep-27						
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Half Term	Days
1	39
2	35
3	30
4	24
5	34
6	33
Total	195

	Total days
Autumn Term	74
Spring Term	54
Summer Term	67

School Holiday
 Public Holiday
 Teacher Training Day (+3 to be set by school)

Secondary School Induction Day



School and Nursery will also be closed on: Friday 23rd October 2026 and Monday 7th June 2027 for Teacher Training

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Warwickshire School Term and Holiday Dates - 2027/28

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School Holiday
 Public Holiday
 Teacher Training Day (+3 to be set by school)

Secondary School Induction Day



Teacher training days will also be on: Friday 22nd October 2027 and Monday 5th June 2028. There is one other day still to be set.

EVERY DAY COUNTS

Good attendance is one of the most important factors in helping children succeed at school. Every lesson provides valuable opportunities for learning, building friendships, developing confidence and feeling part of the school community. Even small amounts of missed learning can quickly add up, making it more difficult for children to keep up with new knowledge and skills.

At Tanworth, we want every child to have the very best opportunities to thrive. Regular attendance helps children establish routines, develop positive learning habits and make the most of the rich experiences available to them both inside and outside the classroom.

We understand that deciding whether your child is well enough to attend school can sometimes be difficult. To support families, we have attached the latest NHS guidance which provides clear advice on common illnesses and whether children should attend school or remain at home. We hope you find this a useful reference when making decisions about attendance.

If your child is unable to attend school due to illness, please remember to report their absence via the Studybugs app before the start of the school day.

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring your child attends school regularly and arrives on time each day.

Together, we can help every child make the most of their education and achieve their full potential.

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LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Generally, the DfE does not consider a need or desire for a holiday or other absence for the purpose of leisure and recreation to be an exceptional circumstance.

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 i.e. 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 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).

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.

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