



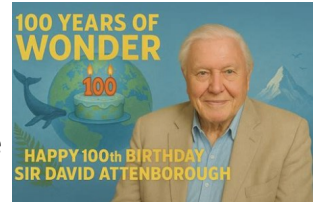
Tanworth-in-Arden C of E Primary School & Nursery

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

8th May 2026

Dear Parents,

During our daily worship on Wednesday, we spent time reflecting on the life and work of Sir David Attenborough as we celebrate his 100th birthday today. We explored how Sir David has helped generations of people appreciate the beauty of the natural world and understand the importance of caring for it. His message reminds us that even small actions can make a big difference when we all work together.



At the end of worship, the children left with an important question to ponder: "What one small thing could I do this week to have a positive impact on our planet?" Their ideas were thoughtful and inspiring — from turning off lights, reducing plastic use and recycling more carefully, to planting flowers for bees, walking to school and helping to keep our local area tidy. We encourage families to continue these conversations at home and perhaps challenge each other to make one small positive change together this week. It is often the smallest actions that grow into the biggest differences.

I'd also like to give a special mention to another Dave this week. Dave Whitehouse who was invited to a Royal Garden Party for running his charity foundation which last year supported 20 charities for a combined total of an amazing £50,000! Dave and his wife Sonia got to shake hands with the King and have a conversation with him. Well done Dave!



On Thursday, I attended a School Effectiveness Review alongside my Deputy Headteacher, Michelle Evens and Chair of Governors, Sam Joseph. The review was led by the MAT CEO, Adam Walsh, the Chair of the MAT Trust Board of Directors, Nick Moon, and the School Effectiveness Partner, Tim Nelson. It was a rigorous and challenging meeting which explored many aspects of school life, including teaching and learning, attendance, inclusiveness, EYFS and leadership. I am delighted to share that the review was very positive, with many strengths of the school recognised and celebrated. Equally importantly, the discussions helped us to identify clear next steps as we continue striving to provide the very best education and opportunities for all of our children. This work will continue in June when the school will take part in a full Teaching and Learning Review, which will further support our ongoing journey of improvement and excellence.

At this time of year, we also ask for parental feedback as part of our ongoing commitment to continual improvement. Parents and carers will have received an email today containing a link to our parent survey, which will remain open until 22nd May. We greatly value your views and encourage you to take the opportunity to share both what you feel we do well and where you believe we can improve further. Your feedback is incredibly important in helping us shape the future direction of the school and ensure we continue to provide the very best for all of our children.

Finally, as I always say at this time of year, next week is an important week for our Year 6 pupils as they sit their SATs. This is an opportunity for the children to show how far they have come in their reading, spelling, grammar and maths. They have all worked incredibly hard to reach this point after seven years of learning and growth. However, your children are so much more than a test score. They are creative, sporty, musical, philosophical, artistic, thoughtful and caring individuals. Most importantly, they are children who demonstrate and live out our Christian values every single day. These values — kindness, perseverance, compassion, courage and respect — are what truly matter and what will ensure they leave Tanworth as the very best versions of themselves, regardless of what any test result may show. For that reason, I will always be incredibly proud of each and every one of them.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Mrs Bamford, Headteacher

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NURSERY NEWS

Over the last couple of weeks we have followed the children's interest and have focused on spiders. Our stories 'Walter's Wonderful Web' and 'Spinderella' have supported our continued learning of shapes and numbers while also nurturing the children's interest in spiders. The children have enjoyed painting spiders, counting spiders, creating shape webs and playing football just like the spiders in the story. However the children's most engaging and exciting activity has definitely been searching for and successfully finding many spiders during our Forest School sessions! The Nursery Team.



OPAL

Thank you to the many parents and carers who joined us today for our OPAL Stay and Play session. It was lovely to watch parents join in the many types of play that our OPAL now offers your children and for you to see first hand the creativity, engagement, teamwork and joy playtime now brings at Tanworth.

Miss Hodges has been working with the children who are OPAL Play Leaders and have come up with our own OPAL Play Charter for us all to follow.

Tanworth-in-Arden's OPAL Play Charter

Our playground is a place to play, choose, belong and feel safe

Ready

- Go out for play calmly
- Come in from lunch sensibly
- Tidy away equipment
- Listen to others and Play Leaders
- Include others and try new things

Respectful

- Look after equipment
- Use kind words and kind hands
- Listen to children and adults
- Take turns and share
- Respect everyone's play

Safe

- Check equipment before using it
- Report problems or breakages
- Solve problems calmly
- Follow OPAL rules
- Look out for each other

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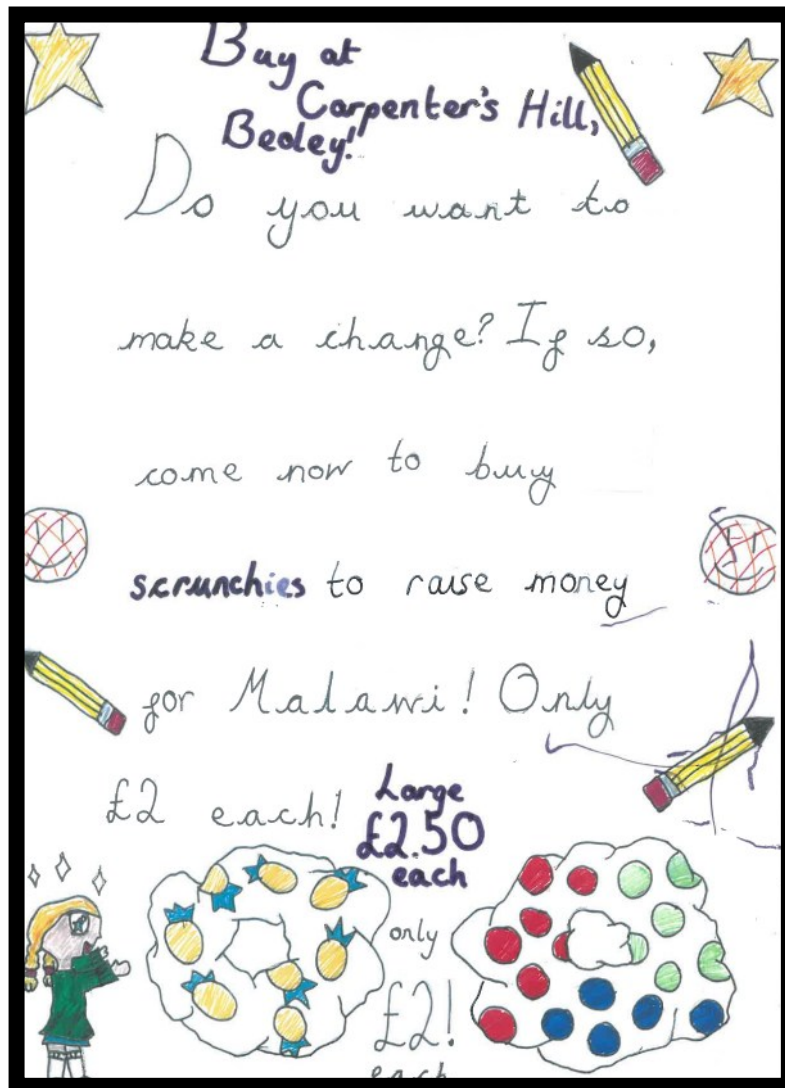
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RAISING MONEY FOR MALAWI

On Friday 15th May we are holding a 'Break the School Uniform Rule' fundraising day to raise funds so that each class in school can sponsor a child at South Lunzu School in Malawi. The funds raised will help to support children directly, contributing to their education and wellbeing and making a real difference to their daily school experience. Many of these children are orphans and we will be joining with the efforts of the Tanworth Community in supporting them. We will also be building links with the children in the classes to buddy up with classes here at Tanworth.

Isla C in Year 5 has taken it upon herself to also help raise money for Malawi by making Scrunchies to sell. These will be on sale next Friday at school.



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Smartphone Free Childhood



We have remained in 7th place for Primary schools in Warwickshire who have signed up to the Smartphone Free Childhood Pact, with an amazing 56 families signing up. These are the year groups and the number of parents that have currently signed the pact. Well done to Year 3 who are still leading the way with almost 1/2 of the class signing the pact. Which is amazing!

Year / Age	Pacts
Pre-school (2 - 3)	3
Pre-school (3 - 4)	3
Reception (4 - 5)	6
Year 1 (5 - 6)	5
Year 2 (6 - 7)	12
Year 3 (7 - 8)	15
Year 4 (8 - 9)	4
Year 5 (9 - 10)	8

DATES FOR DIARIES

SUMMER 1	SUMMER 2
Monday 11th May-Friday 15th May KS2 SATS week	Monday 1st June Teacher Training Day
Friday 15th May Lent Project 'Break the School Uniform Rule Day' Details to follow	Tuesday 2nd June School and Nursery open
Tuesday 19th May School Promotional video recording	Friday 5th June Non-school uniform donations for Father's Day shop
Friday 22nd May Class Photos	Monday 8th June Year 3 Roman Day
Friday 22nd May break up half-term	Friday 12th June Sports Day (details to follow)
	Friday 19th June Father's Day Shop £2.50
	Monday 22nd June Home Learning Gallery 3.15pm
	Tuesday 23rd June Home Learning Gallery 8.30-9.00
	Friday 26th June Year 6 Big Sell pm
	Monday 29th June - Friday 3rd July Year 6 Residential
	Friday 3rd July Shine Day Reception to Year 5 (details to follow)
	Wednesday 8th July Move up day/Secondary induction
	Thursday 9th July School discos and Year 6 Leavers Disco
	Friday 10th July Music Concert pm (TBC)
	Friday 10th July End of year reports
	Monday 13th July Year 6 production pm
	Tuesday 14th July Year 6 production evening
	Friday 17th July Year 6 Leavers Service am
	Friday 17th July Children break up for Summer Holidays
	Monday 20th July Teacher Training Day

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CELEBRATION NAMES

Children who were presented with certificates on Tuesday 5th May 2026

Year 1:

Freddie has been a shining star in Year 1 and always uses his lovely manners. He is kind, polite and respectful to everyone he meets, and this makes our classroom a happy place to be. Freddie is a very good friend. Last week, we were playing a four-in-a-row phonics game and his partner wasn't sure of the rules. Freddie helped them by explaining where they should go to stop him from winning. This showed excellent behaviour, kindness and thoughtfulness. Freddie is a wonderful role model who always tries his best to be kind and courteous. We are very proud of him and the caring choices he makes every day. Well done, Freddie!

Maisie has been chosen for this certificate for making brilliant progress in her phonics. At this time of year in Year 1 we are absolutely phonics mad, and Maisie has truly risen to the challenge. Maisie has embraced the extra phonics sessions with enthusiasm and determination. She is working hard to solidify her sounds, and her growing confidence is really beginning to shine through in her reading. Maisie is becoming more assured when blending and recognising sounds, which is wonderful to see. We are all so proud of the effort she puts into her learning. Keep up the fantastic hard work, Maisie — well done!

Year 2:

Emmy began Year 2 with a massive smile on her face and that smile has greeted us every single day since! She has a wonderful way of lighting up any room she walks into with her big beaming smile. Emmy is always polite and well-mannered, yet confidently shows her cheeky, funny side, which brings such warmth and happiness to our classroom. She consistently goes out of her way to check that both her peers and adults are happy and okay, showing genuine kindness and care for others. Thank you, Emmy, for being such a joy to teach this year. May you continue to smile your way through life and spread sunshine wherever you go!

Archie is someone who could have this certificate week after week because of the consistently high level of effort he puts into all of his work. He is incredibly conscientious and always aims to give his very best and I want him to know how much this dedication is noticed and appreciated! I have chosen Archie this week, particularly for his achievements in writing. Archie's quiet confidence has grown steadily over the year and the effort he puts into his work is paying off as he is thoughtfully using descriptive language and taking great care to use punctuation correctly. Throughout the whole of Year 2, Archie has worked with determination and care, setting a wonderful example for others. Keep up the hard work, Archie!

Year 3:

George has been chosen for the Effort and Achievement award for his enthusiastic approach to writing. In his recent persuasive letter to the Prime Minister, George showed a clear understanding of formal letter writing and organised his ideas thoughtfully using paragraphs. He made a strong effort to engage the reader by using questions and carefully chosen language to support his views. This was a purposeful and well considered piece of work that reflects the effort George puts into developing his writing skills. Well done George!

Olivia has been chosen for the Behaviour and Manners award for her consistently polite and respectful attitude. She always shows excellent manners, and I have been especially pleased to notice how much her learning behaviours have improved in recent weeks. Olivia is engaging more confidently in class discussions, putting her hand up to answer questions, and showing real enthusiasm when sharing her thinking. This positive change has been wonderful to see and is something that truly deserves recognition. Well done, Olivia!

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CELEBRATION NAMES

Year 4:

Phoebe has been chosen this week for the Behaviour and Manners Award for consistently demonstrating kindness, inclusivity, and excellent learning behaviours. She is a hardworking and thoughtful member of our class who always approaches her learning with a positive and determined attitude. Phoebe is incredibly inclusive and respectful towards others, making everyone feel welcome and valued. Her gentle, calming presence has a very positive impact on our classroom environment, and she is a pleasure to teach. Well done, Phoebe!

Corey has been chosen this week for the Effort and Attainment Award for the consistent effort he puts into every lesson. He is trying hard across the curriculum, and this determination is helping him to make good progress in his learning. Corey shows a genuine desire to do well for himself and is becoming increasingly independent. This term he has shown a new level of maturity and focus, which has been lovely to see. His positive attitude and commitment to learning are really paying off. Well done, Corey!

Year 5:

Isla has been chosen for her outstanding behaviour and wonderful manners. She could honestly receive this award every week as she consistently shows kindness and respect to everyone around her, including both adults and other children in the school. She has fantastic learning behaviours: she always listens carefully, gives everything a go, and has become really confident at putting her hand up and contributing more to class discussions. Isla is kind, polite, and a calming presence in the classroom, and she always wishes me a lovely lunch and says a warm goodbye. She is a true role model, and we are all very proud of her. Well done, Isla!

Remi –Mae has been recognised for her wonderful effort and achievement. Remi is fiercely independent and loves to do things for herself, and she has made fantastic progress in learning to accept help and listen carefully to feedback. She has been working hard in all areas of her learning, and her amazing progress, especially in reading, is a real credit to her determination. On top of this, the effort she puts into presenting her work is outstanding and it is a joy to see her beautifully presented learning. Keep it up, Remi I am really proud of how hard you are trying. Well done Remi-Mae!

Year 6:

Blythe has been chosen this week for the effort she is showing every day, in every lesson. In the run-up to our SATs tests, Blythe has shown great determination and a fantastic work ethic, really pushing herself to take on more challenging tasks and do her very best. She approaches her learning with care and attention to detail across all subjects. In maths, she is diligent in spotting where she has gone wrong and learning from her mistakes; in reading, she focuses on giving thoughtful, detailed answers; and in writing, she is working hard to ensure her grammar and punctuation are accurate. This positive approach is helping her to make excellent progress. Well done, Blythe!

Eva is being recognised for her positive learning behaviours this week. Since the start of term, Eva has shown fantastic focus and a really mature attitude to her learning, especially in the lead-up to our SATs. She approaches her work with determination and resilience, working hard even when she finds something challenging and never giving up. Eva is thoughtful in the way she learns, asking for help in areas she feels unsure about so that she can grow in confidence and understanding. It has been so lovely to see her develop a strong sense of self-belief, recognising that through hard work she can achieve great things. Eva's commitment and perseverance are a wonderful example to others, and we are very proud of her!

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LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME

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.

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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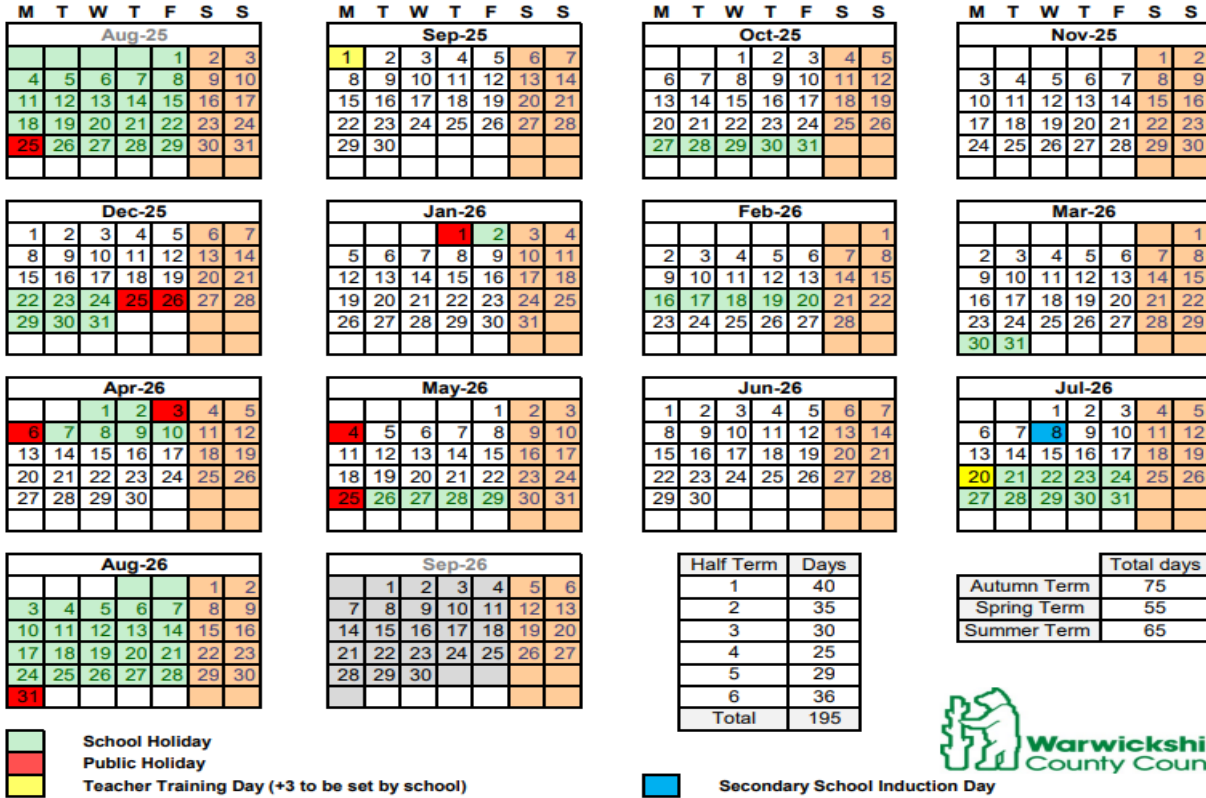
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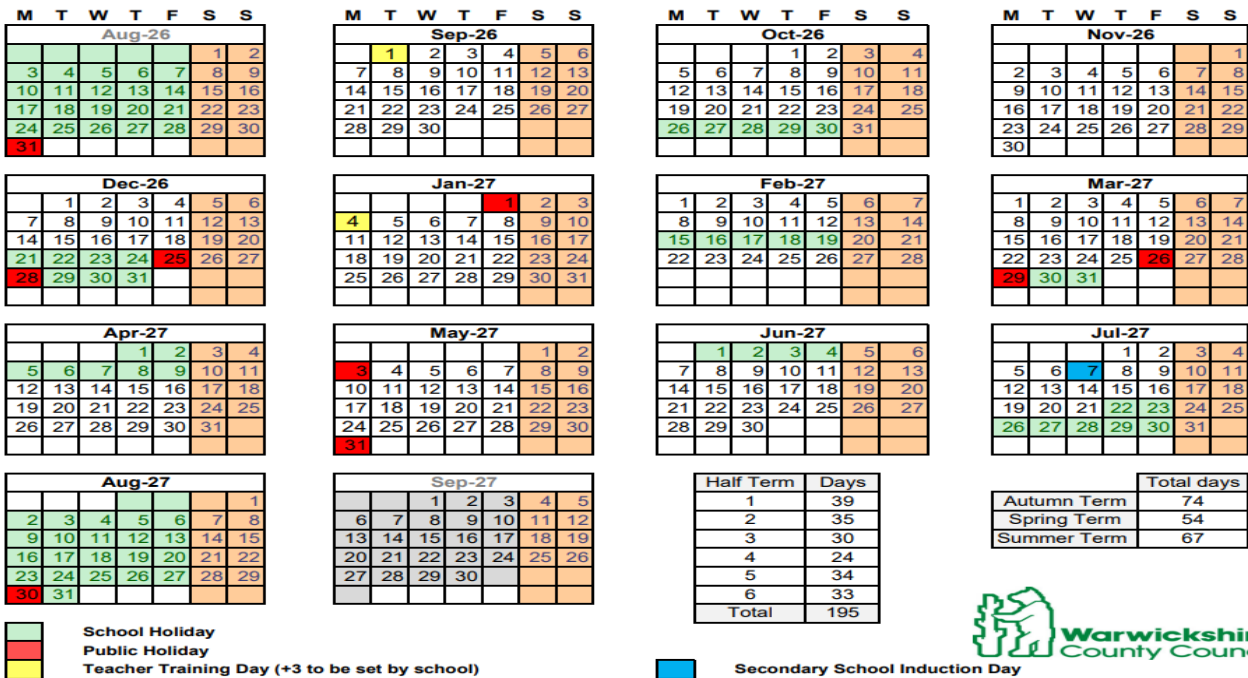


Warwickshire School Term and Holiday Dates - 2025/26



School and Nursery will be closed on: Monday 1st June 2026 for Teacher Training

Warwickshire School Term and Holiday Dates - 2026/27



School and Nursery will also be closed on: Wednesday 2nd September, Friday 23rd October and Monday 7th June 2027 for Teacher Training

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