



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

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

6th December 2024

Dear Parents,

Christmas is now in full swing in school. This week it was Reception's turn to perform their nativity, 'Shine Star Shine' and they did a marvellous job. I was very fortunate to watch it twice and both times it brought tears to my eyes. I hope the family members who joined us enjoyed watching and seeing all of the children 'shine bright'.

At the end of all of our Christmas performances we always do a collection for a charity. You will remember that sadly one of our parents lost their battle with cancer during the Summer and a group of Mums are fundraising for Coppafeel. So, this year we will be supporting the Coppafeel Charity with the money raised from all of our Christmas performances.

Thank you to everyone who supported the Tanworth Christmas Market last Friday. I have had so many positive comments from people about how much they enjoyed it and what a lovely community atmosphere there was. A huge thank you must go to the PTA for all their hard work in creating such a fantastic event.

I would also like to thank everyone who continues to contribute in so many ways, especially when it must feel like that you are always being asked for something whether that be money for non-school uniform, items for the Tombola, items for the Christmas shop, cakes etc. We really do appreciate your continued support.

On that note, it was lovely today watching the children carefully choose an item from the Christmas Shop. I am sure many of you will have a lovely surprise on Christmas Day when you open your gift. Thank you once again to the PTA for giving up their time, especially when we are all so busy, in order for all of the children to be able to take part.

On Thursday this week we had our first ever Home Learning Celebration assembly. We are always amazed by the variety of pieces that are brought in and want to celebrate and recognise the creativity and effort that is put in. We also want to recognise the children who complete their Home Learning independently out of choice, as this will hold them in great stead for when they move on to secondary school. The children recognised this time can be found on the reverse of the newsletter and will each receive a £5.00 Amazon voucher.

Finally, I'd also like to take this opportunity to draw your attention to the monthly 'Online Safety' newsletter that has also been sent out today. I know many of the children will be receiving digital devices or digital games for Christmas so this month's issue is all about keeping children safe and setting up parental controls.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend,

Mrs Bamford, Headteacher

NURSERY NEWS

This week in Nursery we have enjoyed getting into the festive spirit. The children thoroughly enjoyed decorating the Christmas tree, which has made a really cosy addition to our curiosity home corner. Our story of the week has been 'Stick Man' and we have enjoyed finding and making our own stick people. We have also had a visit from Mary this week, bringing us the 'Little Ones' service from church. The children were totally absorbed as Mary told them the story of Christmas. The fun continued today as we made our first visit of the year to church, the children loved the puppets and were incredibly grown up and respectful during the service.



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2024 - 2025



HOME LEARNING RECOGNITION

Year 1

Rex- Well done to Rex who has clearly enjoyed his home learning this term and created some fabulous history work using his reading, writing and history skills. His classmates enjoyed looking at his barrel book with lots of detail about the gunpowder plot and his letter to Lord Montecagle clearly showed his understanding of this key turning point in the plotters plan. When you talk to Rex about his home learning, his face lights up with pride! Well done Rex, we are excited to see what you create next term!

Year 2

Joe- Joe has shown outstanding commitment to his home learning, creating a fantastic model of Big Ben and creating a detailed scrapbook full of interesting facts and information about the topic. His effort to further enrich his knowledge by visiting London and sharing his excitement and experiences demonstrates his passion for this topic. Super proud of you Joe!

Year 3

Mhairi- Mhairi has been chosen for home learning recognition due to her outstanding effort and enthusiasm. Despite initially being worried that she didn't have anything to contribute, she demonstrated incredible initiative by completing a piece of work entirely on her own. She then showed further dedication by asking to take it home over the weekend, where she added even more to it. Mhairi brought back an amazing, thoughtful piece of work that truly reflects her hard work and commitment to learning.

Year 4

Seb - Seb has created a home made replica of the Viking board game Hnefatafl including handwritten instructions, suggestions for set up, counters and a playing board! I can tell lots of research and time has gone into this original idea and Seb knew the rules very well when he was explaining it to others. Great work, Seb!

Year 5

Heidi- Heidi's stands out with her neatly drawn and coloured flags and her scrumptious chocolate brownies that she made and brought in for myself and Mrs Hall to try. They were delicious.

Year 6

Imogen - Imogen got creative in the kitchen and whipped up a traditional Brazilian sweet treat - Brigadeiros! Not only did she put the effort into making them, she kindly brought them into school to share them with all of the teachers and I can confirm they were delicious! Well done, Imogen. It's lovely to see you developing your skills at home!

Nursery

A special mention also to Gi Gi in Nursery, who wanted to be like her big brother Reggie and bring some of her own home learning in. Gi Gi did a beautiful canvas painting and brought it into Nursery to share.

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OPAL



OPAL is now up and running three days a week and the feedback from the children has been great. It has been lovely being outside on OPAL days seeing the children playing across year groups supporting one another, seeing the variety of play interests and just observing children being children. Yesterday a group of children were in the digging area having just the best time digging and creating bridges. Another group were using branches to balance against a tree to create their own den. Then there was another group who were having just the best time playing in 'Dinoland' with the dinosaurs. It's amazing how much fun children can have with a couple of large empty cardboard boxes!

Last week Miss Hodges led the second OPAL assembly where new loose parts are introduced and children discuss how they can be used and the health and safety aspects that need to be considered. Copies of the PowerPoints used can be found on the OPAL page of the school website under the CHILDREN tab.

Miss Chambers as Play Leader and the rest of the Play Team have already been recognising children for their play. This week they have mentioned Jenson and said it was a delight to watch him helping a reception child to access/climb the tyres. Well done Jenson. Then there was Charlotte who had kindly donated her tractor for the digging area (although her face when she saw it was hilarious as she didn't know). Well done Charlotte for sharing this, I know the children enjoyed using it this week.

Next week the 'GOLDEN WELLIES' will be introduced and awarded to the child/class who have been recognised by the Play Team for their play. The 'GOLDEN WELLIES' are a new award which will be presented in a school assembly. The child/class that is chosen will get to keep the 'GOLDEN WELLIES' in their class for everyone to see.



OPAL is really taking off at Tanworth, but there are a few people that we need to say thank you to for their support, help and donations.

Mr Truslove for his donations of the wood chippings, so that we can create dry paths and also to fill in around the canopy so that children can play without getting too muddy.

Mr Hemming who has fixed the shed roof, built the welly shed, made welly removers and is always on hand when we need something doing.

Jayden, my son, who came in on a Saturday to remove old fencing and also delivered the gravel for the welly area.

Miss Hodges, who as OPAL Curricular Lead, is ensuring that the Risk Assessments are done, leading OPAL assemblies and meeting with the OPAL team to ensure everything is in place and running smoothly.

Finally, the biggest THANK YOU must go to Miss Chambers who is really driving OPAL forward. Miss Chambers is the OPAL Play Co-ordinator and was in during half-term clearing out the shed, has spent hours researching for OPAL loose parts, created the different stations for the children to play in and is just amazing at putting the children first and what they would like to do. Miss Chambers is also great at looking at a piece of 'rubbish' and thinking that would make a great addition to OPAL!

Our next wish for OPAL is to create a Mud Kitchen. We have a donation of sinks but now we are looking for someone who would be able to create a large mud kitchen maybe out of old bits of wood or wood pallets. If you think you would be able to help or know someone who could then please let us know or ask them to get in touch.

We also need lots and lots of spare socks and waterproofs. We are currently in the process of buying a bulk of waterproof trousers for the children to use but if you have any old ones at home then please send them in. Spare socks are also needed for when some children change back into their school shoes from their wellies.

Finally, there are still some children whose shoes are not named, please, please name your child's shoes!

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AUTUMN TERM	SPRING TERM
<p>Tuesday 10th December KS1 Christmas Play 2.00pm</p> <p>Wednesday 11th December KS1 Christmas Play 5.30pm</p> <p>Thursday 12th December Y5 Cadbury World</p> <p>Friday 13th December Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day</p> <p>Monday 16th December School visit to pantomime</p> <p>Tuesday 17th December Nursery Christmas Craft event pm (TBC)</p> <p>Tuesday 17th December KS2 Carol Concert in Church 6.00pm</p> <p>Wednesday 18th December Christmas Lunch and Party Day</p> <p>Friday 20th December Y3 Christmas Service in Church 2.00pm</p> <p>Friday 20th December School and Nursery break up for Christmas</p>	<p>Monday 6th January School and Nursery closed Teacher Training</p> <p>Tuesday 7th January School and Nursery open for children</p> <p>Tuesday 14th January Young Voices (details to follow)</p> <p>Tuesday 11th February Parents Evening (in person)</p> <p>Thursday 13th February Parents Evening (virtual)</p> <p>Friday 14th February School and Nursery break up for half-term</p> <p>Monday 24th February School and Nursery open for children</p> <p>Friday 11th April School and Nursery close for Easter</p>

WCC School Term and Holiday Dates - 2024/25

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Half Term	Days
1	40
2	35
3	30
4	35
5	19
6	36
Total	195

	Total days
Autumn Term	75
Spring Term	65
Summer Term	55

<div style="display: flex; flex-direction: column; gap: 5px;"> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> School Holiday</div> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> Public Holiday</div> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> Teacher Training Day (+3 to be set by school)</div> </div>	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; gap: 5px;"> Secondary School Induction Day </div>
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Warwickshire
County Council

School and Nursery are also closed on: Friday 25th October 2024, Monday 2nd June 2025 and Monday 21st July 2025 for Teacher Training .

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TANWORTH – IN – ARDEN TENNIS CLUB

Crowdfunding to carry out necessary court resurfacing

Tanworth-in-Arden Tennis Club need to raise at least £15,000 from 100 people or more to secure match funding from Sport England.

These vital improvements form part of a longer-term project to reinvigorate the Club and ensure this is a thriving community hub for the Village and surrounding area.

The crowdfunding link will be live from **19th November and will be open for 4 weeks**. Please scan the QR code below or enter the URL to donate – any contributions would be welcome!

<http://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/tanworth-in-arden-tennis-club>



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Please see below a letter from Stratford Climate Action/Stratford Net Zero

To all the children of Stratford upon Avon,

I need your help!

After years making toys, the world is so full of them that I'd like to use my magic to help us share them, instead of just making more.

So, in the first week of December, I need you to do a very important job. Please find some things you no longer play with and take them to a charity shop where my elves and I will collect them. Then, on Christmas eve when I visit your house, I can include some things that other children have loved and that I think you will love too.

If we all share what we have, we'll make the world a better place - but I can't do it without you... Will you help me?

Love from,
Circular Santa



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