



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

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

6th September 2024

Dear Parents,

A warm welcome to you all as we start the new academic year. I hope that you all had enjoyable summers and that your children are feeling refreshed and ready for a new and exciting school year. The staff have asked me to pass on their sincerest thanks for the cards, gifts and kind words that they received at the end of the school year. Thank you so much to you for your generosity and taking the time to say thank you and wish them a lovely summer I know like me they really appreciated the sentiments.

This week we have welcomed 22 children to our Reception class. I am sure you will join with me in welcoming the new children and their families to Tanworth. We will be holding an Open Day for Nursery and Reception later on this term, so if you know anybody who will be looking for a school place for September 25 please let them know.

We have also welcomed a new member of staff to our teaching team, Miss Emilia Battey, who is class teacher in Year 2. I am sure you will join with me in also welcoming her to the Tanworth family.

You may have noticed that Steve (caretaker) is not around at the moment. Sadly, Steve will not be in school for 4 weeks but we are wishing him a speedy recovery.

I am sure many of you are aware that sadly, Anjlee, one of our much loved parents here at Tanworth lost her battle with cancer over the summer. I am sure you will all join with me in sending our sincere condolences to the whole family at this very sad time.

A polite reminder about school uniform. A copy of our uniform policy can be found on the website so please make sure that your child has the correct uniform. Towards the end of last term there was some slippage in standards, partly due to children out growing or wearing out uniform, and whilst I understand and support parents not wanting to buy new shoes/uniform at the end of term I expect all children now to be wearing the correct uniform and shoes. We do have a large amount of good quality second hand uniform, so if you need anything then please let us know. We will arrange for the uniform to be out next Wednesday at the meet the teacher session so please take a look. Our uniform policy also includes our hairstyle expectations. I know that children may experiment with hairstyles over the summer or whilst on holiday, but now school has resumed our expectation is that hair is their natural colour, no 'extreme' styles including tramlines or designs cut into hair. Please also note that long hair must be tied up for both girls and boys.

Next week on Wednesday 11th, we will be holding our annual 'Meet the teacher/Head teacher' sessions. This is for parents with children in Years 1 – 6. These are a chance for parents (children should not attend) to meet their child's class teacher, gain an insight to life in their year group and also listen to a short talk about Tanworth's achievements and priorities for the year ahead. As always teachers will repeat their session twice to allow parents with two children to attend both.

5.30-6.00 Meet class teacher in classroom

6.00-6.20 Presentation in hall 'School priorities for this year'

6.20-6.50 Meet class teacher in classroom

Presentations will be uploaded to the class page on the website if you are not able to attend.

Don't forget that we do operate an 'Open Door' Policy at Tanworth, this simply means that if you need to chat to your child's class teacher then please pop into class either to have a quick chat or to arrange a time that is convenient to all.

I am sure you have heard in the news about the new regulations that have come into force regarding school absence requests during term time. On the reverse of this newsletter you will see the new guidance that has been issued to us and to be shared with parents. A copy of the school holiday calendar can be found on the Parents page of the school website, you will also find a copy of our attendance policy.

We are looking forward to working with you all over the coming year and hope that 2024-2025 will be a really successful year for everyone at Tanworth.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend, Mrs Bamford, Headteacher

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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 Wight 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.

#### Leave of Absence taken in the academic year 2024-25

**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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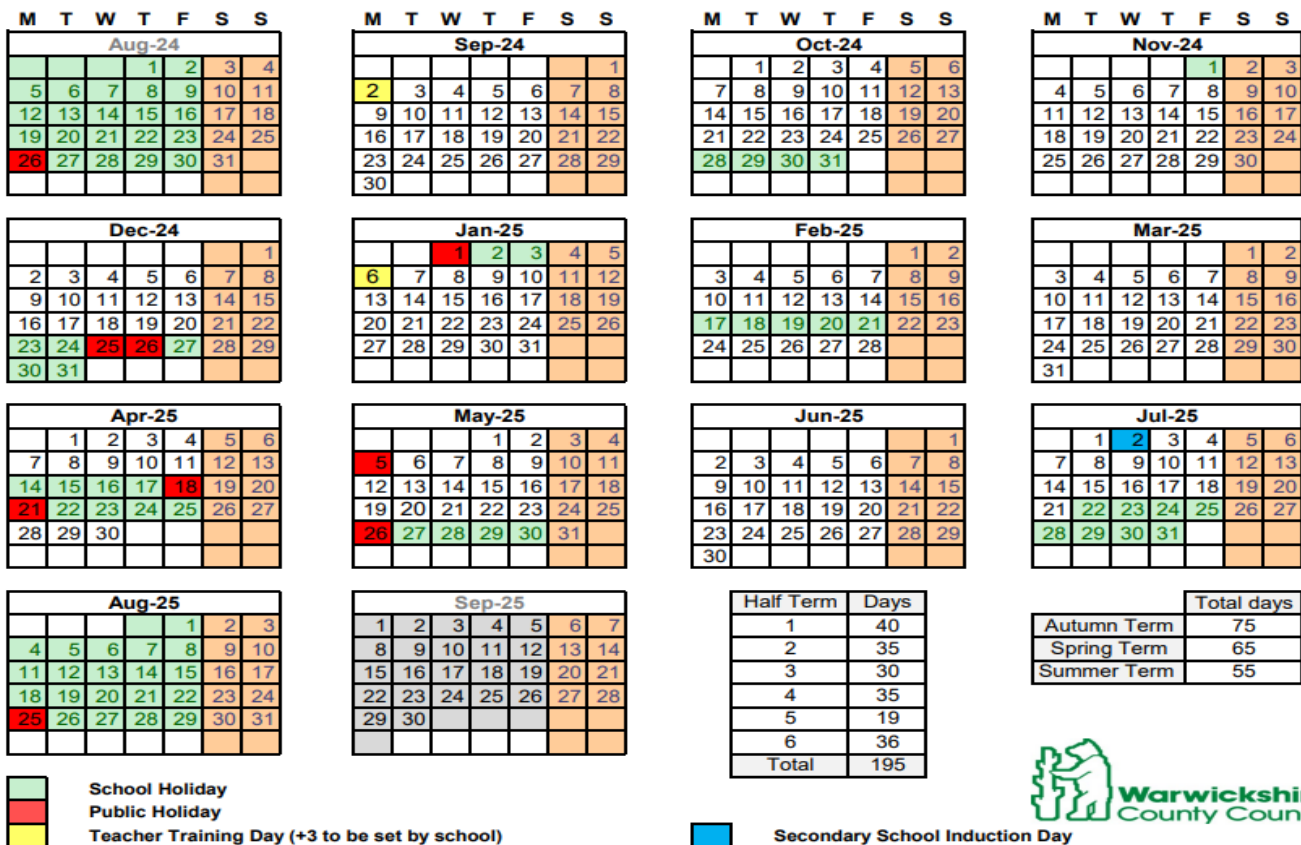
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| AUTUMN TERM   | SPRING TERM   |
|---|---|
| <p>Wednesday 11th September Meet the teacher sessions 5.30pm</p> <p>Saturday 14th September Tanworth Flower and Produce Show 2.15-4.30 (please see over)</p> <p>Friday 20th September Year 3 Prehistoric Workshop</p> <p>Monday 23rd September Flu Vaccinations</p> <p>Friday 27th September KS2 Times Table Rock Star Day</p> <p>Tuesday 8th October School and Nursery photographs</p> <p>Monday 21st October Science Week in school</p> <p>Tuesday 22nd October Parents Evening</p> <p>Thursday 24th October Parents Evening</p> <p>Thursday 24th October Break up for half-term</p> <p>Friday 25th October School and Nursery closed Teacher Training</p> <p>Monday 4th November School and Nursery open for Autumn 2</p> <p>Monday 16th December School visit to pantomime Sleeping Beauty</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>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**



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 Flower and Produce Show

**Saturday 14th September 2024**  
2:15 - 4:30

Tanworth Village School  
Admission £1.50  
Children under 16 free

**Chair:** June Hemming,  
The Bungalow, Nuthurst Lane,  
Hockley Heath B94 5PR Tel: 01564 742148

**Show Secretary:** Tracey Higham,  
Abbeville, Vicarage Hill, Tanworth in Arden,  
Solihull B94 5AN Email: [cjhtah@btinternet.com](mailto:cjhtah@btinternet.com)

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>Pre School (4 years and under)</p> <p>143 Anything you have made or drawn</p> <p>144 Duplo Model</p>   | <p>5-7 Years</p> <p>150 Anything you have made or drawn</p> <p>151 A lego or Duplo Model</p> <p>152 5 decorated fairy cakes (recipe supplied)</p>  |
| <p>8-11 years</p> <p>160 Anything you have made or drawn</p> <p>161 A lego or Duplo Model</p> <p>162 5 pieces of flapjack (recipe supplied)</p> | <p>These are the classes for children. If your child would like to enter then please pop into the office for a programme which contains the entry form and the recipes for the baking classes. It is free for children to enter.</p> <p>Please note entry forms need to be returned to the committee</p> |

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## Is your child eligible for free school meals?

# FREE SCHOOL MEALS



School meals are free for lots of families, check if you are eligible to apply!

## So much more than lunch...

A free school meal:

- creates healthy eating habits
- improves learning and behaviour
- saves money and time
- helps schools get extra funding

Did you know that claiming free school meals means that your child will get access to free school holiday activities and food?



To find out more and for help to apply for free school meals, please contact: [freemeals@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:freemeals@warwickshire.gov.uk) or call 01926 359189



## Can I apply?

Your child could be eligible for free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support or Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support from National Asylum Support Service (NASS)
- Guarantee Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than £16,190
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

You should still apply if your child is aged 4-7 and receives a universal free school meal

Find out more and apply at [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/fsm](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/fsm)



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