



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

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

16th October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we move through another busy and exciting half term, I wanted to take a moment to share some of the wonderful things happening at Tanworth and a few important reminders for the week ahead. It has been another week full of learning, opportunities and community connections.

We have been delighted to welcome two teaching students from Birmingham City University to our school community. Mr Iqbal will be working alongside our Year 6 team, while Miss Lazenby will be joining Year 2. We know that the quality of education in our schools depends on developing the next generation of talented teachers. Schools play a vital role in providing trainee teachers with high-quality placements where they can learn from experienced practitioners and gain valuable classroom experience. We are proud to support this important work and know that our pupils, staff and wider school community will help make both Mr Iqbal and Miss Lazenby feel welcome during their time with us.

On Tuesday evening, we held our latest Governing Body meeting. Governors play a crucial role in supporting and challenging me, helping to shape the strategic direction of the school and ensuring the best possible outcomes for our children. We are currently looking to recruit one new parent governor and would encourage anyone who may be interested to find out more about the role. An email was sent this week to parents explaining what being a school governor involves and how you can express an interest.

On Thursday, we were pleased to welcome to Tanworth Mr Sam Smith, the new Diocesan Director of Education for the Birmingham Diocesan Board of Education. While we are proud members of the Arden Forest Multi Academy Trust, we also continue to be part of the Birmingham Diocese as a Church of England school. Mr Smith visited as part of his introduction to schools across the Diocese following his recent appointment. During his visit, he toured the school, met staff and learned more about life at Tanworth. He was particularly impressed by the extensive range of personal development, wellbeing and enrichment opportunities we provide for our children, alongside our commitment to ensuring every child is known, valued and supported to flourish.

Next week is set to be another very busy one! Firstly, we have our Parent Teacher meetings. We hope that families found our new online booking system straightforward and easy to use. As this is the first time we have used the system, we would really appreciate any feedback you may have so that we can continue to improve the experience for parents.

We also have our Reception Open Days for September 2027 starters. These sessions provide a wonderful opportunity for prospective families to see our school in action and experience what makes Tanworth such a special place to learn and grow.

In addition, next week is Science Week. Children across the school will be taking part in a wide range of exciting scientific investigations and activities. Please do ask your child about their learning and the experiments they have been involved in.

I am also very pleased to share that our Year 6 pupils will be taking part in a Bell-Boating Regatta next week. Following their successful bell-boating experience a couple of weeks ago, the children will now have the opportunity to compete against other schools. We know they will represent Tanworth brilliantly and wish them the very best of luck. PTO

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Finally, a polite reminder that school and nursery will be closed to pupils on Friday 23rd October for staff training. Staff will be taking part in a range of important professional development activities, including Early Years training, Team Teach training and essential first aid training covering the use of EpiPens, CPR, defibrillator use and emergency choking procedures. Investing in staff development helps us to maintain the highest standards of care, safety and education for all children, and we appreciate your support with this important training day.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. I look forward to seeing many of you at Parents' Evening next week.

Mrs Shelley Bamford
Headteacher

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

Secondary School Applications Reminder

A reminder for all Year 6 parents that applications for secondary school places are now open.

The deadline to apply for a secondary school place is 31st October 2026. If you submit your application by this date, you will receive your child's school allocation on National Offer Day, 1st March 2027.

Applications received after 31st October 2026 will be classified as late applications and will not be processed until after National Offer Day. By this point, many schools may already be full, significantly reducing the likelihood of being offered a place at one of your preferred schools.

We strongly encourage all families to submit their applications as early as possible and before the deadline to ensure the best chance of securing a preferred school place.

Reception 2027 Open Days

Do you have a younger child who will be starting school in September 2027, or do you know a family currently looking for a Reception place? We are delighted to invite prospective families to visit Tanworth-in-Arden C of E Primary School & Nursery and experience first-hand what makes our school such a special place to learn, love and grow.

Our Open Days provide an opportunity to tour the school, meet staff and children, explore our learning environment and find out more about our nurturing, inclusive and values-led approach to education.

Open Day Dates:

- Tuesday 20th October at 1.30pm
- Thursday 22nd October at 9.30am
- Tuesday 3rd November at 6.00pm

To book a place, please contact the school office on 01564 742284.

If you have friends, neighbours or family members with children due to start school in September 2027, we would be grateful if you could share this information with them. We look forward to welcoming new families and showcasing all that Tanworth has to offer.

Places are limited, so early booking is recommended.

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VALUES WORSHIP

This half-term we have been celebrating generosity and thinking about the many ways we can give to others through our kindness, time and actions. A huge well done to the children who were recognised for living out this value and received their certificates in church today

Reception:

Matilda is a little ray of sunshine in our class and is someone who shows generosity every day in many different ways. She is kind with her words, willingly shares resources, and makes time for everyone, including the adults she works with. Matilda has learnt that generosity isn't just about sharing things; it is also about sharing time, friendship and kindness. She is one of our class's great organisers and at times, is like an extra teaching assistant! She is always offering to help tidy areas, pick up and clean resources and reset our role-play areas. Matilda was also incredibly welcoming and friendly to a new classmate who recently joined our school, helping them to feel part of our class community. Thank you, Matilda, for sharing your wonderful personality with our class and school. We are so lucky to have you

Year 1:

In Christianity, generosity means giving willingly and kindly to help others, sharing what we have without expecting anything in return. **Connor** demonstrates this in every aspect of his school life. He is always willing to help others, share with his classmates, and shows kindness through his actions. Connor is always ready for his learning, to help a friend who is sad or to make sure his friends aren't left out. His thoughtfulness and genuine care for his friends makes a positive difference to those around him, and he is a fantastic example of what generosity looks like. Thank you, Connor for helping your friends feel valued, supported, and loved.

Year 2:

Orla is a wonderful example of our Christian value of generosity. She has such a generous spirit and is always thinking of others, often putting their needs before her own. Orla shows us that generosity isn't just about giving things, but also about giving our time, kindness and support. Whether she's helping someone find their reading record, offering a helping hand or carrying out little jobs around the classroom, she is always willing to help without being asked or expecting anything in return. Her thoughtfulness and selflessness never go unnoticed and are genuinely appreciated by both her classmates and the staff. Orla, you have such a kind and generous heart, and we are very lucky to have you in our class!

Year 3:

We are very proud of **Poppy** for showing our school value of generosity this half term. She is always willing to share, help others and think about the needs of those around her. She shows kindness through her actions and understands that generosity is not just about giving things, but also about giving our time, care and support. She is a wonderful example of how we show generosity as she listens carefully and considers the people around her. She is an excellent role model and such a thoughtful and generous member of our school family! Well done, Poppy.

Year 4:

Mrs Rakib, Mrs Hemming and I chose **Emily** for the value of generosity because she is always willing to give to others. She is kind and thoughtful, often putting the needs of others before her own and is often one of the children who offers to help share before anyone has asked her to. Emily shows compassion towards those who may be feeling sad, lonely or worried, giving them her care and attention and this is evident both in class and on the playground. She understands that generosity is not only about giving things but also about giving friendship, time and support. However, the most important quality is that Emily gives freely, being generous to others because it is in her nature to help others, expecting nothing in return. Well done Emily, you are a real role-model.

VALUES WORSHIP

Year 5:

Natalie has been chosen for our Christian value of generosity, both by her classmates and because of the lovely ways she demonstrates this value every day. She is always looking out for others, offering help and advice, and noticing when someone might be struggling. Natalie never waits to be asked; she spots when something needs doing in the classroom and quietly gets on with it, without expecting praise or recognition. She and a classmate have even taken it upon themselves to keep our pencil crayons neat and tidy after every use! What makes Natalie so deserving of this award is that her generosity comes so naturally; she genuinely cares about others and wants to make things better for the people around her. She reminds us that generosity is not just about giving things, but about giving your time, kindness and thoughtfulness to others. Natalie is a wonderful example of how small, thoughtful actions can make a big difference to our school community, and she should be very proud of herself!

Year 6:

Leyton shows us that being generous is about so much more than giving things to others. He is thoughtful and considerate, always willing to give his time to those around him. Whether he is stopping to help a classmate with their learning, lending a hand with tidying up, or helping his teachers with jobs around the classroom, Leyton is someone who can always be relied upon. He is also generous with his ideas, confidently sharing his thinking with the class and often inspiring others with his thoughtful contributions. Just as importantly, Leyton is generous with his words. He is quick to offer encouragement, cheer others on and reassure someone when they are feeling unsure. Perhaps most importantly of all, Leyton is generous with his friendship. His kind-hearted and inclusive nature means that he makes time for everyone, values others for who they are and helps those around him feel appreciated. Leyton demonstrates generosity in so many different ways every day and is a wonderful role model for us all.

CELEBRATION WORSHIP

Last week there was an error on the newsletter in the names of the children receiving certificates in our weekly celebration worship. The following children received certificates on Tuesday 6th October.

Year 4:

Toby is a fantastic member of our class, he consistently uses his manners throughout the day. He is respectful to all those around him. He is a kind and caring friend and is often great at resolving conflicts. He is considerate of those around him and often ensures that the people around him are doing the right thing also. He is a pleasure to teach as he is always ready to learn. He is keen and eager for knowledge and that is demonstrated daily. I am sure he will continue to be a delight throughout his time in Year 4.

Phoebe is a wonderful member of our class. She gives every piece of work we complete her hundred percent. Her work in every single lesson is presented beautifully. Even though she has been celebrated for her effort and achievement she could easily get the behaviour and manners award. She is hardworking and is always looking at ways to improve her work. She is a joy to teach and fantastic role model to those around her. Keep shining and I know you will have a fantastic year!

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PTA NEWS

A special thanks to those who joined us at the meeting on Monday, it was lovely to see new faces as well as regular helpers! We had lots of ideas and can't wait to continue raising for an Outdoor classroom this year. Thank you as always for supporting us.

From your PTA.



A vibrant autumn-themed poster for a doughnut sale. The background is a warm yellow-orange gradient with scattered autumn leaves in shades of red, orange, and brown. At the top left is the Tanworth in Arden Church of England Primary School logo. The main title 'AUTUMN DOUGHNUT SALE' is written in large, bold, green letters with a yellow outline. Below the title is a stack of three doughnuts: the top one has white icing and colorful sprinkles, the middle one has white icing and chocolate drizzle, and the bottom one has chocolate icing and white drizzle. Below the doughnuts, the text 'After-school treat' is written in a green, cursive-style font. At the bottom, there is a white banner with four sections, each containing an icon and text: a calendar icon for 'Wednesday 21st October', a playground icon for 'Junior playground', a large '£1' icon for 'Cash only', and a clock icon for '3.15-3.45'.

AUTUMN DOUGHNUT SALE

After-school treat

 Wednesday 21st October	 Junior playground	£1 Cash only	 3.15-3.45
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October Active Kids Club with Onside Coaching

All places booked online – www.onsidecoaching.co.uk

October Half term is creeping up fast and we have another holiday club running at Tanworth-in-Arden Primary School. Join us for 3 days of Active kids fun, plenty of sports, games, challenges and activities that keep children entertained during the school holidays. Book now to secure your space.



Dates: Tuesday 27th to Thursday 29th October

Times: 09:30am to 15:30pm

Early Drop Off: Available from 08:30am for £3 additional cost

Cost: £22 per day. 3 days for £60

Active Kids Club: Sports, Crafts, Forest Schools, Nerf Wars and more.

Book Via our Website:

www.onsidecoaching.co.uk

Set Location to Redditch and Alcester, select Holiday Childcare, then Tanworth in Arden as the venue.

What will children need? Children will require suitable clothing for outdoor activities including tracksuits and suitable footwear.

Children should have a refillable water bottle and packed lunch.

Share Your Good News!

We love celebrating success in our school community. If your child or a family member has an achievement, award, sporting success or other special news to share, please let the school office know so we can include it in a future newsletter.

DATES FOR DIARIES

Autumn 1

Friday 16th October 3.15pm Reception Classroom Open Doors, Reception parents please pop in to explore your child's classroom.

Tuesday 20th October Open Day 1.30pm

Tuesday 20th October Parents Meetings 3.30pm-5.30pm

Wednesday 21st October Year 6 Bell-Boating Regatta

Wednesday 21st October PTA after school treat

Thursday 22nd October Open Day 9.30am

Thursday 22nd October Parents Meetings 3.30pm -7.00pm

Thursday 22nd October Children break up for half-term

Friday 23rd October School & Nursery closed Teacher Training

Tuesday 27th October to Thursday 29th October ONSIDE Holiday Club (see flyer)

Autumn 2

Monday 2nd November School & Nursery open

Wednesday 2nd December Reception Nativity am

Thursday 3rd December Reception Nativity pm

Wednesday 9th December Year 1 & 2 Christmas Play am

Thursday 10th December Year 1 & 2 Christmas Play pm

Tuesday 15th December Pantomime R-Y6

Tuesday 15th December Nursery Xmas Craft pm

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

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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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