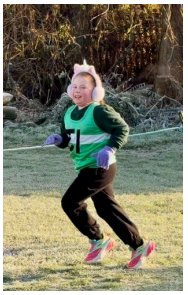
Tanworth-in-Arden C of E Primary School & Nursery

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

20th November 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week has been one of those weeks that perfectly captures the spirit of our school community, with children embracing challenge, showing determination and representing Tanworth with pride.



Firstly, a huge well done to the 17 children who braved a frosty morning last Saturday to take part in the first South Warwickshire Sports cross-country event of the academic year. With over 260 children competing from more than 20 schools, it was a fantastic achievement simply to step onto the starting line. The resilience, perseverance and enthusiasm shown by all of our runners made me incredibly proud. Here is Chloe, representing Tanworth with determination, positivity and a smile all the way round the course.

On Monday, I then had the pleasure of accompanying eight of our Year 5 children to a School Sports dodgeball event in Alcester. Competing against five other schools, the team finished in an impressive second place. What made this achievement even more special was that the scores were not based on who won. The opposing teams awarded points for the sporting values of respect, honesty and teamwork, and our children excelled in all three areas. They were wonderful ambassadors for our school and demonstrated exactly what it means to be part of the Tanworth family.

A special thank you must also go to the parents who helped with transport to and from the event. Your willingness to give up your time enables us to offer these opportunities and is a wonderful example of the partnership between home and school.

On Thursday, we launched our latest Power Up initiative, with children taking part in a series of physical challenges and activities. Over the coming weeks, they will continue to practise these activities before being assessed again, with the aim of improving their strength, speed and stamina.

As parents, staff and educators, we all know how much of modern life revolves around screens and technology. While technology brings many benefits, it is more important than ever that we encourage children to be active, enjoy being outdoors and develop healthy habits that will stay with them throughout their lives. Being physically active supports not only children's physical health but also their confidence, mental health and overall wellbeing. Through initiatives such as Power Up, alongside the many sporting opportunities we offer, we hope to help every child discover the enjoyment that comes from movement, challenge and personal achievement.

Before I finish, I would like to take a moment to thank both our staff and our families. The opportunities our children enjoy, whether sporting, academic, creative or pastoral, only happen because of the commitment of so many people working together. Our staff continue to go above and beyond to support and inspire the children each day, while our families provide invaluable encouragement, support and partnership. It is this shared commitment that makes Tanworth such a special place to learn, grow and flourish.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support, and I wish you all a restful and enjoyable weekend.

Mrs Shelley Bamford
Headteacher

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NURSERY NEWS

The nursery children would like to say a huge thank you to Ann and Steve for building and installing our wonderful new outdoor kitchen. We are absolutely thrilled with it and the children have already been busy cooking up some wonderful creations in there. The Nursery Team.











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It's always lovely to celebrate the achievements of our children beyond the school day. Whether it's sporting success, charity work, music or drama achievements, community involvement, or any other accomplishment, we would love to hear about it. Please email details and, where possible, a photograph, and we will be delighted to share and celebrate these achievements in our weekly newsletter with the wider school community.

Living Our Values



Emily and Chloe have once again been demonstrating our Christian value of generosity. They recently visited the Guide Dogs National Centre to learn more about where guide dogs are are born and raised and the incredible work that goes into training them.

As part of their fundraising efforts, they were also delighted to present a donation of £1,500 to support this wonderful charity. We are incredibly proud of their commitment, kindness and determination to make a difference to others.

Well done, Emily and Chloe!

We look forward to hearing about your next fundraising challenge.

Musical Achievement



A huge well done to Nate, who has achieved a Distinction in his Grade 1 Drumming Exam.

Mum has shared that Nate had worked incredibly hard over the summer in preparation for the examination. It is clear that his dedication has certainly paid off.

Well done Nate we are all so proud of your achievement.

An Inspiration to Us All

Joe's parents recently shared this wonderful tribute from S&W Football Academy, and they are incredibly proud of everything he has achieved. We are delighted to celebrate Joe's success with them. His journey is a powerful reminder of what can be achieved through courage, perseverance and self-belief, and we are immensely proud of him too. *"Joe joined our academy towards the end of 2025. When Joe arrived with us he had no confidence in football and couldn't even make it on the pitch to start the session. Joe's journey would turn into one of the most successful stories ever to come from the academy. We worked with Je, not on football to start with, but with the confidence he needed to take part in the sessions. In doing this Joe took a huge leap into something new and he continued those steps every week since.*



Joe is now an important player and well loved by us and all of his teammates. His football ability has really come well and is a brilliant defender. From where Joe started to now is incredible and a real heartfelt success story from our academy. We are so proud of Joe and the player he has become."

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Children in Need

A huge thank you to all the children and families who donated their 1p, 2p and 5p coins for our Children in Need Coin Run. The children thoroughly enjoyed competing against one another in their classes to see who could create the longest coin run.

Here are the results:

CLASS	LENGTH	VALUE
Nursery	16m	£20.63
Reception	61m	£69.80
Year 1	33m	£27.04
Year 2	84m	£60.50
Year 3	93m	£52.09
Year 4	119m	£99.18
Year 5	103m	£65.72
Year 6	110m	£93.73



Congratulations to Year 4, who created the longest coin run and raised the most money.

Together, we raised an amazing £488.69, all of which will be donated to Children in Need, in addition to the donations made through ParentPay**.** We also had lots of euros and an old Penny!

DATES FOR DIARIES

Autumn 2	Spring 1
Friday 27th November PTA Christmas Market **children may wear Christmas Jumper with their school uniform**	Monday 4th January Nursery and school closed for training
Wednesday 2nd December Reception Nativity am	Tuesday 5th January Nursery and school reopen
Thursday 3rd December Reception Nativity pm	Tuesday 9th February Spring Parents evening
Friday 4th December Year 4 visit to Bishop's Wood	Wednesday 10th February Spring Parents evening
Tuesday 8th December Year 5 visit to Cadbury World	Thursday 11th February PTA Valentine's disco
Wednesday 9th December Year 1 & 2 Christmas Play am	Friday 12th February Nursery and school close for half-term
Thursday 10th December Year 1 & 2 Christmas Play pm	Monday 22nd February Nursery and school open
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	

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CELEBRATION WORSHIP

TUESDAY 17TH NOVEMBER 2026

Year 1:

Connor is an absolute superstar he consistently demonstrates exceptional behaviour and outstanding manners in everything he does. He is always polite and respectful, using kind words such as "please" and "thank you" without being reminded. Connor is a wonderful role model in Year 1, showing consideration for others by listening carefully, making sure everyone is included, and following instructions straight away. His positive attitude, excellent behaviour, and thoughtful actions make him a valued member of our class. Well done, Connor; we are very proud of you. Keep being your Golden self!

Maven may be a little surprised to be standing up here today for her writing because English is not always her favourite subject. However, she has shown fantastic determination and persistence, always trying her best and never giving up when she finds something challenging. We have been especially impressed with the effort she has put into her writing recently, including beginning to use exciting adjectives to make her work more detailed and interesting. Maven, you should be very proud of the progress you have made through your hard work and positive attitude. Well done, Maven. Keep up the fantastic effort!

Year 2:

Alfie is receiving this certificate for the fantastic effort, enthusiasm and curiosity he showed during our Remembrance Week learning. He was particularly engaged when creating his commemorative portrait of Walter Tull, where his artistic talents really shone through. Alfie showed wonderful focus and determination, working carefully to apply his understanding of shading to create the light and dark areas of Walter Tull's face. He took real pride in his work and produced a fantastic piece of artwork. Well done, Alfie!

Maisie is receiving this certificate for her wonderful attitude towards learning. She is always kind, considerate and polite, but recently I have been particularly impressed by the way she consistently goes above and beyond to improve her work. Maisie listens carefully, shows fantastic focus during lessons and approaches every subject with a positive attitude and a determination to do her very best. She is a brilliant role model for others and should be incredibly proud of the effort she puts into everything she does. Well done, Maisie!

All of Year 2 I would also like to give a very special mention to the whole of Year 2 for their wonderful behaviour on our school trip to Warwick. Every single child represented our school brilliantly! They listened carefully, asked thoughtful and curious questions and showed respect and excellent manners towards all the adults and workshop leaders. They were an absolute pleasure to take on the trip and a real credit to our school. I was incredibly proud of them all. Well done, Year 2!

Year 3:

Isla consistently shows excellent behaviour as she is polite, respectful and kind. She always makes sure that she treats everyone with respect, including adults and offers to help out when she can.

She listens carefully, follows instructions and always tries her very best. She also shows a positive attitude towards her learning. She is a good friend who makes good choices and helps to make our classroom a happy place to be.

You should be incredibly proud of yourself. Keep being the kind person you are and setting such a wonderful example to others. Well done!

Year 4:

Nancy is a kind, helpful and friendly member of Year 4. She takes pride, not just in her work, but within shared spaces, keeping her desk area tidy and is respectful to those around her. Nancy never interrupts when peers or teachers are speaking and values other people's ideas. Nancy demonstrates that "manners cost nothing" each and every day. She is patient, courteous and considerate to her peers and adults alike. Well done, Nancy, we are proud of the maturity which you have shown during this first half-term and hope you continue to be the excellent role model we can see you are already proving to be.

Leo is a superstar. He is achieving well in his Accelerated Reading and has persevered when he may find an area difficult. Leo completes the quizzes to his absolute best every time. We are beyond proud of how Leo puts all his effort into English lessons, contributing well during class discussions and showing real initiative rather than taking an easy route. Leo demonstrates this award daily and is keen and eager to learn. Leo enjoys his maths lessons and is starting to take pride in his presentation. Well done, Leo, keep up the excellent start to Year 4. We notice your efforts and these efforts will reap rewards as you continue on.

Year 5:

Jude is a true all-rounder when it comes to effort and attainment, and I could choose him for this award in any of our lessons. However, it is in maths that he has particularly wowed me! He has been my stealthy mathematics genius – quietly getting on with things, thinking deeply and often saving his contributions until just the right moment. On several occasions, he has confidently come to the front of the classroom to share how he has tackled a problem, talking us through his methods step by step. His hard work, determination and perseverance to challenge himself and reach the problem-solving tasks in each lesson have been truly impressive. Jude, your progress in maths has absolutely skyrocketed, and you should be incredibly proud of everything you have achieved. Keep that brilliant mathematical mind working!

Hendo is an absolute delight to have in the classroom! I am so proud of the positive attitude he brings to school each day. I particularly love how he is always willing to give everything a go. Whatever question I ask, he is always prepared to have a try, even when he is not entirely sure of the answer. This shows fantastic resilience and a brilliant attitude towards learning. He consistently demonstrates excellent learning behaviours by listening carefully, knowing exactly what he should be doing and always giving his very best. To top it all off, he is incredibly polite and considerate towards both adults and his friends. Hendo is a wonderful role model for others and thoroughly deserves this certificate!

Year 6:

Olivia has shown amazing determination and resilience in her maths learning, particularly during our recent work on long division. What has impressed me most is her perseverance when faced with a challenging process. Long division can be time-consuming and demanding, but Olivia has refused to take shortcuts, instead showing the patience to work through each step carefully and accurately. Her hard work is beginning to pay off and it has been wonderful to see her confidence in maths growing week by week. Olivia should be incredibly proud of the progress she has made because of her hard work and fantastic effort.

Seb is someone who can always be relied on to do the right thing. His manners are exceptional and he uses them so naturally because they are a genuine part of who he is. Whether he is helping a classmate or speaking to an adult, he does so with maturity, kindness and respect. Seb is also someone who sets the tone for those around him by encouraging others to work hard and make good choices too. It is no surprise that his outstanding behaviour has been noticed by other adults in school, including our sports coach and supply teachers. Thank you, Seb for being such a responsible, caring and hardworking member of our class.

Warwickshire School Term and Holiday Dates - 2026/27

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Aug-26						
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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

Warwickshire County Council

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

Warwickshire School Term and Holiday Dates - 2027/28

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Aug-27						
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Dec-27						
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Feb-28						
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Mar-28						
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May-28						
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Jun-28						
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Jul-28						
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Aug-28						
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Half Term	Days
1	38
2	35
3	28
4	35
5	24
6	35
Total	195

	Total days
Autumn Term	73
Spring Term	63
Summer Term	59

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

Secondary School Induction Day

Warwickshire County Council

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.

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Platinum Award 2026 - 2028

LYFTA LEARNING LEADERS

ARDEN forest C of E Multi Academy Trust

We pledge that every girl has equal access to football in school

PRIMARY SCIENCE QUALITY MARK SILVER AWARD

Fundraising in aid of ROALD DAHL'S marvellous children's charity

2027 CHARITY DINNER

Join us in supporting **Roald Dahls Marvellous Childrens Charity** at the Pure Staff Foundation's Annual Charity Dinner on **27th February 2027**.

Hosted at **The National Motorcycle Museum**, this will be an evening packed with entertainment, gourmet dining, and rewarding company.

TICKET PRICES

£49.50 per person

£470 for a table of 10

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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 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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