



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

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

9th October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of another busy week, I would like to take a moment to celebrate some of the wonderful learning experiences and community events that have taken place across our school.

On Monday, Year 3 enjoyed an exciting Stone Age Day, bringing their History learning to life through a workshop with a range of hands-on experiences. It was fantastic to see the children so engaged and enthusiastic as they explored what life may have been like during this fascinating period of history. Experiences such as these help to make learning memorable and deepen children's understanding of the topics they study.

Today, Year 4 led our Harvest Service at Church. It was a lovely occasion, filled with thoughtful reflections and wonderful singing. The children represented the school brilliantly and should be very proud of themselves. A huge thank you to everyone who donated food items for our Harvest collection. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. All donations will now be passed on to Birmingham City Mission, a Christian charity that supports vulnerable individuals and families across Birmingham through a range of practical services, including food provision, children and family support, and community outreach work. We are grateful that our Harvest donations will help make a difference to those who need support.

Parents' Evening Booking: You will receive an email today containing a code to book your Parents' Evening appointments. This year, we are introducing a new booking system which we hope will provide a smoother and more flexible experience for families. One of the key benefits of the new system is that it allows separated parents to book appointments independently, ensuring that both parents have the opportunity to meet with their child's teacher if they wish. We look forward to sharing your child's progress and celebrating their achievements with you.

Supporting Positive Behaviour: Finally, I would like to ask for your continued support in reinforcing our behaviour expectations at home. At Tanworth, we keep our expectations simple and clear through our three school rules:

- Ready
- Respectful
- Safe

These three rules are easy for both children and adults to understand and follow, and they help us create a calm, positive environment where every child can learn and flourish. Recently, we have noticed that we have been having to remind children more than usual about the importance of making positive choices throughout the school day. We would greatly appreciate your support in discussing these expectations at home and encouraging children to think about how they can be ready to learn, show respect to others and keep themselves and those around them safe. When school and families work together, children receive a consistent message that helps them develop positive habits and contribute to our caring school community.

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

Mrs Shelley Bamford
Headteacher

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Online Safety

As part of our ongoing commitment to keeping children safe, please take a few moments to read this month's Online Safety Newsletter, which is attached to this newsletter.

This edition highlights a number of online platforms, apps and games that parents may wish to be aware of, including AI companions, Discord and CapCut. The newsletter explains how some of these services can expose children to inappropriate content, encourage the sharing of personal information or allow interaction with unknown users. It also provides helpful advice about age ratings, privacy settings, parental controls and the importance of maintaining regular conversations with children about their online activity.

The newsletter also raises awareness of content that may appear child-friendly at first glance but contains themes that are not appropriate for children, reinforcing the importance of checking age ratings and monitoring what children are accessing online.

At Tanworth, we know that technology offers wonderful opportunities for learning, creativity and communication. By working together and maintaining open conversations about online safety, we can help ensure that children develop the knowledge and confidence they need to navigate the digital world safely and responsibly.

Thank you for your continued support in helping keep our children safe online.

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.

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CELEBRATION WORSHIP

Tuesday 6th October 2026

Year 1:

Kit is a shining example to everyone in Year 1. He is always doing the right thing and shows kindness and respect to those around him. He regularly helps others to make positive choices and leads by example with his excellent attitude. He is kind to everyone and even offers to help Mrs Hall and I when we are doing jobs. We are incredibly proud of the wonderful role model he is and feel very lucky to have him in our class. Kit, we hope you are just as proud of yourself.

Charlie loves science and I know this because of the cheer he does in the morning when he sees science is on our timetable. Charlie showed fantastic scientific thinking when investigating the strength of different types of paper, making thoughtful and accurate predictions before carrying out the test. He worked carefully and methodically throughout the investigation, demonstrating excellent focus and curiosity. We are incredibly proud of the enthusiasm and determination he brings to our science lessons. What a wonderful young scientist!

Year 2:

Frankie is a wonderful role model to others in our class. He always tries his very best and approaches his learning with a positive attitude. Frankie consistently remembers and lives out our school rules of being Ready, Respectful and Safe, making good choices throughout the school day. He is kind, caring and considerate towards others and makes a real effort to include everyone, helping others to feel welcome and valued. Frankie should be very proud of the example he sets to those around him.

Heidi has really impressed me with the effort she is putting into her learning. She keeps trying and perseveres even when she finds something challenging, and she doesn't let difficulties get her down. I was particularly impressed with her maths work last week when we were estimating numbers on a number line. Heidi showed a really good understanding of where numbers should be placed and was quick to work out which numbers belonged in the missing parts of the number line. Her determination and growing confidence are really shining through – well done, Heidi!

Year 3:

Eleanor consistently demonstrates excellent behaviour and always uses wonderful manners. She is polite, respectful and considerate towards both adults and her classmates. She listens carefully, follows instructions sensibly and sets a fantastic example to others through her positive attitude. She is kind and thoughtful, always willing to help others and makes sure that everyone feels included. Her respectful and caring nature makes her a pleasure to have in the classroom, and she should be extremely proud of the excellent example she sets each day.

Grace consistently demonstrates excellent effort in all areas of her learning and takes great pride in everything she does. She always tries her very best and shows a positive attitude towards new challenges. Her hard work has led to some fantastic achievements, and she should be extremely proud of the progress she has made so far. She also takes great care with the presentation of her work, which is always neat, organised and beautifully presented which sets a high standard to her peers. Her dedication and effort to her learning are a wonderful example to others.

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CELEBRATION WORSHIP

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:

Charlotte, you are an absolute star! You could quite easily receive this certificate every single week. Not only are you always polite, well-mannered and respectful, but you also demonstrate such fantastic learning behaviours. You show incredible resilience and perseverance, never giving up and always trying your very best. When you are given feedback, you listen carefully and use it to make your work even better. You never let a challenge or a mistake stop you; instead, you keep going and give everything your best effort. You are conscientious, organised and take great pride in your learning. You always know what needs to be completed and get on with it without needing reminders. Charlotte, your determination, positive attitude and wonderful manners make you a real role model to others. Keep shining, you are amazing!

Ethan has been chosen for this certificate because of his fantastic determination and effort in every lesson. He is a conscientious learner who takes great pride in his work, asks questions when he is unsure and always strives to do his very best. I have been particularly impressed by his writing. Ethan is becoming a creative and imaginative writer who enjoys expressing his ideas, and he is working hard to improve his punctuation and respond to feedback. What makes Ethan stand out is his positive attitude and determination. He never gives up when something is challenging and always tries to improve. He thoroughly deserves this recognition. Well done, Ethan! Keep up the brilliant work!

Year 6:

Isla is a wonderful role model for what it means to have a positive attitude towards learning. She works hard in every lesson and no task is too big or too much effort. Over the last few weeks, her determination in maths has been particularly impressive because she doesn't give up when she makes a mistake. Instead, she carefully checks her work, corrects any errors and takes the time to understand exactly where she went wrong so that she can improve next time – often without being reminded or asked. Her presentation is always beautifully neat and she often leaves herself thoughtful notes to help her remember important learning points. Isla listens attentively, applies herself fully and is always quietly eager to take on new challenges. Her commitment to her learning every day is something to be very proud of. Well done, Isla – you're a star!

Jack is truly a ray of sunshine in our classroom and brightens the day of everyone around him. From the moment he arrives each morning, he takes the time to check on others, often asking how they are and making sure they feel seen. Throughout the day, he consistently shows kindness, thoughtfulness and respect to both his classmates and adults. Jack goes out of his way to support his friends when they need help and is always ready with encouraging words, friendship and a smile. (Something we all noticed and appreciated during our bell-boating trip!) His genuine care for others shines through in everything he does. Jack makes our classroom a happier place to be and we are very lucky to have him as part of our school community. Well done, Jack!

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Supporting Birmingham City Mission



Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Harvest collection this year. Your generous donations will be given to Birmingham City Mission, a Christian charity that has been serving communities across Birmingham for over 50 years.

Birmingham City Mission works with some of the city's most vulnerable children, families and individuals, providing practical support, food, resources and pastoral care. Their work includes supporting families experiencing hardship, helping children through schools and community projects, and offering hope and encouragement to those facing difficult circumstances.

Our Harvest donations will help the charity continue this important work and make a real difference to people in need across the region.

If you would like to support Birmingham City Mission further, there are many ways to get involved, including donating food, volunteering, fundraising or making a financial contribution. More information about the charity and its work can be found on their website at <https://birminghamcitymission.org.uk/>

As a school community, we are incredibly proud of the kindness and generosity shown by our children and families. Through simple acts of giving, we demonstrate our values of compassion, service and love for others, helping to make a positive difference beyond our school gates. Thank you once again for your support and generosity.

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

Monday 12th October PTA meeting The Bell 7pm all welcome
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
Thursday 22nd October Open Day 9.30m
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

Autumn 2

Monday 2nd November School & Nursery open
Monday 16th November Year 2 trip to Warwick
Wednesday 2nd December Reception Nativity am
Thursday 3rd December Reception Nativity pm
Friday 4th December Year 4 trip to Bishops Wood
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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Warwickshire
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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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