



Wootton Wawen
C of E Primary School



Inspiring Educational Excellence for Everyone
ARDENforest
C of E Multi Academy Trust

Friday 16th January 2026

NEWSLETTER

Nurture, Inspire, Achieve!

Welcome back everyone — we hope you and your families had a peaceful and joyful break!

It's been wonderful to see the children return refreshed and ready for the new term. During Collective Worship over the last two weeks, the children have been learning about Epiphany, exploring the theme of Jesus as the Light of the World, thinking about New Year's resolutions and thoughtful reflections as we begin 2026 together.

All of our classes have started new and exciting topics, and the children are already fully engaged with their learning. Please keep an eye out on the website for your child's curriculum documents so you are able to talk with your child about what they have been learning and ensure you're fully up-to-date with what they will be covering:

<https://woottonwawenprimaryschool.co.uk/curriculum/>

Our four Houses — Red Kites, Blue Buzzards, Green Hawks, and Yellow Falcons — have been coming together for Collective Worship in the classrooms, sharing in reflection and teamwork. Our school Bible verse, 1 Corinthians 12:12, is truly being lived out as children took part in last term's House competition to write a new school prayer. The School Council has now chosen the new prayer, and we look forward to revealing it soon!

We are also pleased to invite all members of our school community to join us for another SEND Coffee Morning on Friday 13th February, where we will be focusing on Anxiety and Well-being. All are welcome — please come along and join the conversation.

Here's to a term filled with learning, growth, and community spirit — Nurture, Inspire, Achieve!

Keeping Safe online

On Tuesday 10th February at 2:30pm, we will be holding a parent workshop around Online Safety. All parents and carers are invited to find out more about ways in which to support their child in keeping safe online, as well as finding out about what we teach in school.

If you'd like to attend, please let the Office know by Monday 9th February.



01564 792574



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SCAN ME

Peace Perseverance Truthfulness Courage Compassion Respect





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Punctuality and attendance

We have noticed an increase in pupils arriving late for school. Please note that the gates and doors open at **8:40am in the morning** and shut at **8:55am**.

Whilst we understand there are times where unforeseen circumstances mean we are running a little behind schedule, persistent lateness can have an adverse effect on children's confidence and self-esteem within the classroom, as well as missing out on key learning.

We aim to promote high levels of attendance and punctuality to prepare the children for their transition through the school and onto Secondary school.

If you are struggling with getting children to school on time, please come and speak to either myself, Mrs Ellard or Mrs Agar in the office; we are more than happy to offer support or advice.



Owing to the guidance from the DfE on Attendance, term time holidays will not be authorised. Leave of absences must be declared using the Leave of Absence form from the school office. A leave of absence will only be authorised in the most **exceptional circumstances**.

Attendance



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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.



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House point totals so far...

Falcons (yellow)

Mrs Wood
Mrs White & Miss Lovell
Mrs Hartwright



183

Buzzards (blue)

Mrs Woods
Mrs Grimley
Mrs Agar & Mrs Folkes



190

Red Kites (red)

Mrs Khawaja / Mrs Gair
Mrs Ellard
Mrs Ross



209

Hawks (green)

Miss Bradshaw
Mrs Coldicutt
Miss Barnett



223

Stars of the Week!

For: Teacher's choice: 09.01.26:

Reed, Ebe, Bertie, Thomas A, Oscar, Chloe, Johnny W, Thomas C and Ann Marie.

For: Attitude to learning, on:

16.01.25:

Laurie, Hallie, Elora, Cathrena, Annie, Casey, Esmae, Archie (in Sycamore) and Nyla.

Well done, we are very proud of you!

Don't forget to join us next time on Thursday
12th February at 2:30pm.

SEND and Thrive Coffee morning

We will be continuing to hold our SEND coffee mornings and the next event is on **Friday 13th February from 9—10:30am.**

The topic of discussion will be Anxiety and well-being, hosted by Mrs Grimley and Mrs Ellard (Thrive Practitioner). If you'd like to come along, please let the office know.

We look forward to seeing you there.



Let's help every child

thrive





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Diary dates

06.02.26	9:15am—Worship at St. Peter's Church—all parents and families invited
09.02.26	Children's Mental Health week
10.02.26	Safer Internet day 2:30pm—Parent Workshop—Online Safety; please ring the office to book a space
11.02.26	Parents' evening—information to follow
12.02.26	Celebration Worship—2:30pm—all parents and families invited
13.02.26	Thrive Day—more information to follow
13.02.26	9—10:30am—SEND & Thrive Coffee morning—Anxiety and wellbeing—all parents and families invited
Half-term—16th February to 20th February 2026	
23.02.26	Back to school
02.03.26	Writing Week—more information to follow
05.03.26	World Book Day—keep your eyes peeled for more info!
13.03.26	2:40pm—Willow class worship—all parents and families invited
20.03.26	Comic Relief - children can come into school in non-uniform for a donation
20.03.26	9—10:30am—SEND coffee morning—all parents and families invited
26.03.26	Easter Service at St. Peter's Church – 9:30am- all parents and family invited
27.03.26	Celebration Worship at 2.30pm- all parents and family invited



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PE days—Spring term 1

Oak—Weds & Fri

Willow—Tues & Thurs

Chestnut—Mon & Tues

Sycamore—Weds & Thurs



SafeguardED

Most parents & carers think their children and young people spend too much time on devices. **DON'T FEEL BAD!** Lots of it is perfectly healthy anyway. Instead, follow these tips to keep them safe, happy and healthy.

Don't worry about screen time; aim for screen quality

Scrolling through social media isn't the same as making a film or story, or video calling Grandma. Use the Children's Commissioner's 'Digital Five A Day' to plan or review each day together.



Check the safety settings are turned on

Whether it's your home internet, mobile devices, consoles, apps or games, there are lots of settings to make them safer. The key ones are - can they chat to strangers, can they video chat or 'go live', are their posts public? What about safe search and Youtube? See parentsafe.lgfl.net for more.



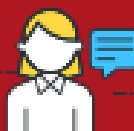
Get your children to show you their apps and games

You don't need to know all about the latest app or game, but if your child shows you what they are doing and with whom, you'll probably see if it's appropriate or not. Remember 18 games are not more advanced - they are harmful to children! For parent guides to apps, including recommendations for kidsafe apps and video platforms, search for **Common Sense Media** reviews.



Don't try to hide news about scary things in the news

If you don't talk about it, your children might read inappropriate pages, believe scare stories or simply catastrophise in their heads. Why not watch **Newsround** together and talk about how they feel - there is guidance from **Childline** to help you.



Remind them of key online safety principles

There are too many to list, but remember human behaviour is the same online and offline. Remind your children to be a good friend, to ask for help if they are worried or if someone is mean, not to get undressed on camera and most important of all... if somebody tells them not to tell or ask for help because it's too late or they will get in trouble, **THAT'S A LIE!**

If you aren't sure, ASK!

Your school may be able to give you advice, but there are plenty of other places to ask for help as a parent or a child, whether it is advice or help to fix something. Lots of sites are listed at reporting.lgfl.net, including ones to tell your kids about (they might not want to talk to you in the first instance).

