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Wootton Wawen
C of E Primary School



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

Monday 13th January 2025

NEWSLETTER

Nurture, Inspire, Achieve!

"Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ." - Corinthians 12

Happy New Year to all our families, children and staff at Wootton Wawen! As we begin 2025, we are excited to welcome everyone back for the spring term.

We hope you had a joyful and restful holiday and enjoyed family time together.

This is a time for new beginnings and opportunities to grow, both in and out of the classroom. As we embark on this journey, let's remember the words from 1 Corinthians 12: "For just as the body is one and has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ." Together, we are a wonderful and unique community, each with our own strengths and talents. Let's work together, support one another, and make this term an excellent one!

Our Value for this term is Perseverance and at our school, we believe that perseverance is one of the most important values we can have. It means never giving up, even when things feel tough, and always trying our best, no matter the challenges. Whether it's in the classroom, on the sports field, or at home, perseverance helps us keep going and reach our goals. As a school community, we support each other to stay positive and keep trying, knowing that with hard work and determination, we can achieve great things together.

Our Kites (Red) House won the half term challenge in Autumn 2. I am sure that all the other House Teams will be persevering and working together and striving to win this half term- good luck everyone!

Mrs O'Shea

Peace Perseverance Truthfulness Courage Compassion Respect



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New Roof

We are delighted to let you know that work has begun on putting a much needed new roof on the school building and The Beech Hut this month.

This project will take approximately 25 weeks (weather dependent) to complete.

The site office and the storage of materials will take up much of the staff car park with staff parking at the Village Hall site from .

There will be no movement of vehicles during the start and end of the school day which will ensure the safety of children and parents.

It may be, due to the noise made when taking sections of the old roof off, staff and children will need to move classrooms on a temporary basis. We have been assured that the roofers will keep any disruption to a minimum.

The school playground will still be accessible at all times and therefore lunch and playtimes will not be disrupted.

The company are also going to replace external facias, so the school will be watertight and also look very smart when they have finished.

We will update you as the work progresses.



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NEWSLETTER

Our School Houses and House point running total for Spring 1

Falcons (Yellow)

116



Well done to Hawks-
Miss Bradshaw
Mrs Coldicutt, Miss
Barnett and team
Hawk- the winning
House so far!

Buzzards (Blue)

105



Red Kites (Red)

78



Hawks (Green)

128



Stars of the week



A huge well done for displaying great learning skills and SMART behaviour goes to: Eine D, Myla C, Emme G, Anna D, Charlotte C, Alora T, Albie N, Tadhg C, Freddie H

You are doing a great job inspiring others!



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St Peter's raises £2000 for The Shakespeare Hospice

Mrs Khawaja, Annabel and Dexter joined me on Tuesday 9th January along with Dilly Wilkinson, a member of St Peter's PCC to present a cheque for £2,220 to Tracey Sheridan, CEO of The Shakespeare Hospice. The funds were raised during October's annual Wootton Wawen Harvest Supper, held at the Village Hall and organised by Amanda Elliott and her family. As part of the event, children from school contributed items for hampers, which were auctioned to support the fundraising efforts celebrating the 25th Anniversary of The Shakespeare Hospice. Thank you all for your kind donations!



Attendance Corner

Our school attendance target is **96%** - this week our total was **93.2%** which is **fabulous news- Well done to everyone.**

Sycamore class—95%

Chestnut class— 90.8 %

Willow class- 92.1%

Oak class were the winners with 97.5% Well done!



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Dates for your diary

Monday 13/01/25	Roofing work to start
Tuesday 14/01/25	Choir to take part in Young Voices
Tuesday 14/01/25	Forest School starting for Chestnut Class Lunchtime clubs and After School Football club starts
Friday 31/01/25	Willow Class to Selly Manor
Friday 07/02/25	After School Cake Sale (Chestnut Class to donate cakes)
Tuesday 11/02/25	Sycamore Class to Hatton Locks
Tuesday 11/02/25	Last Forest School for Chestnut Class
Friday 14/02/25	2:40 Celebration Assembly (Parents invited)
Friday 14/02/25	Break the rules day
Half Term (Saturday 15/2/25 until Sunday 23/2/25)	
Monday 24/02/25	Children return to school
Thursday 06/03/25	World Book Day (detailed information nearer the time)
Monday 17/03/25	Class Photographs
Thursday 20/03/25	Parents Evening (detailed information to come via Studybugs nearer the time)
Monday 28/03/25	2:40 Willow Class Assembly (parents welcome)
Thursday 10/04/25	9:30 Easter Service at St Peter's Church (parents welcome)
Friday 11/04/25	2:40 Celebration Assembly (parents welcome)
Easter Holiday (Saturday 12/04/25 until Sunday 27/04/25)	



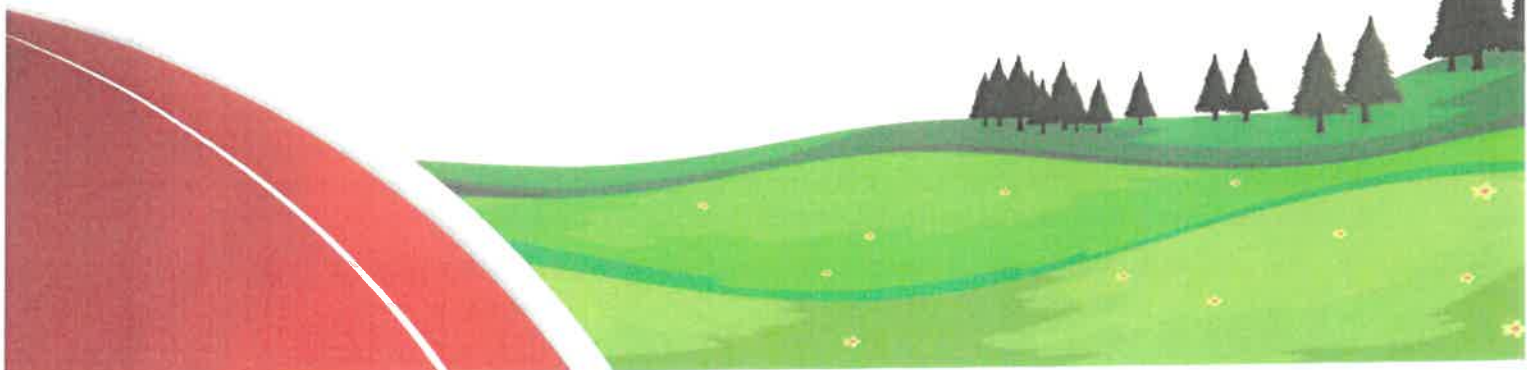
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ATTENDANCE- LEAVE OF ABSENCE

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 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.

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.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO RETURN TO ROUTINE

Most of us look forward to the school holidays as an opportunity to slow down and relax, stay up later, sleep in and generally approach life in a more leisurely fashion. However, this does mean that returning to normal school-day routines can feel like an uphill battle. Here are some practical tips to ease that transition, reduce stress and set children up for success.

1 START SMALL AND EARLY

Begin reintroducing elements of the school routine at least a few days before term starts. Gradually adjust bedtime, wake-up times and mealtimes to be more in line with school-day rhythms. Small changes can make a big difference in avoiding last-minute panic and helping children to readjust smoothly.

2 REVISIT THE SCHEDULE

Involve your child in mapping out their daily routine so they understand what's going to change. Visual tools like charts or calendars can help keeping to that schedule feel more engaging. When children understand and anticipate their personal timetable, they feel more secure and in control.

3 CREATE A SLEEP PLAN

Sleep can present one of the biggest challenges, as children can sometimes become night owls, prone to staying up late during the holidays. Limit screen time before bed and encourage winding-down activities like reading or listening to calming music. A restful night's sleep improves focus, mood and overall wellbeing, making mornings much smoother.

4 ENCOURAGE FRIENDSHIPS

Help your child to reconnect with school friends by organising playdates, catch-ups or arranging to go to after-school clubs. Re-establishing social bonds can make the return to school more exciting and less intimidating, allowing youngsters to focus on the positive aspects of the new term.

5 GRANT RESPONSIBILITY

Give children control over some aspects of the morning routine. Maybe they could be in charge of waking everyone up, serving breakfast or choosing the radio station that everyone listens to while getting ready. Something that gives them a sense of ownership over their morning schedule can help them view the task as one they've chosen to do, rather than being told to do it.

6 FOCUS ON NUTRITION

Make sure children are receiving balanced meals (with regular healthy snacks to boost energy and concentration), putting them in the best possible state to return to education. A nutritious breakfast is particularly crucial for a positive start to the day, involve children in meal planning to make it enjoyable and collaborative.

7 COMMUNICATE OPENLY

Talk with your child about how they're feeling about returning to school, whether they're excited, anxious or a mix of both. Validating their emotions helps them feel supported and understood. Try asking them about the things they're looking forward to at school, such as seeing their friends again. Focusing on the positives can be useful for children struggling with change.

8 RECONNECT WITH LEARNING

Ease children back into a learning mindset by incorporating fun, educational activities into their home life. Reading a favourite book, playing games that involve maths or discussing an interesting topic can gently reawaken their focus and prime their minds to learn, which can have helpful impacts on their academic performance.

9 PREP TOGETHER

Turn preparation into a shared activity, to shoulder the responsibility together and provide support where needed. Pack school bags, lay out uniforms and plan lunch the night before. This not only reduces early morning stress but also gives children a sense of ownership over being ready for school.

10 BE PATIENT AND FLEXIBLE

Transitions take time, and every child adjusts differently, so it's important to stay calm and supportive, especially if they're reacting adversely to the change in their daily life. Be ready to tweak routines as needed, and work with the child to make the return to education as easy as possible for them. Patience can go a long way to setting a positive tone for the new school year.

Meet Our Expert

Becky Dawson is an education expert with a focus on mental health and wellbeing. Passionate about empowering adults who spend time with and care for young people, Becky specialises in creating practical strategies that promote wellbeing and resilience in children during life's transitions.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

