Emscote Express

Issue 7, 15th December 2023



Dear Parents and Carers,

We are in full festive mode here this week, with performances from every year group that have been enjoyed by many.

Reception started the week with their wonderful Christmas play, full of songs (written by Mrs Vallins) and Year One then performed their version of the Nativity story. Year Two followed this with their delightful carol service at the Church and finally our Christmas assembly on Thursday. Thank you to all of the parents and carers who have contributed to costumes and a huge thank you to the staff who have worked so hard to prepare the performances. If you were lucky enough to see one or more, I am sure you will be full of festive joy! A special thank you to Eldhor, mother of Jason in Year 2, and Ania, our Family Link worker, who joined with Year 2 to sing their version of *Halleluiah* in Church yesterday.

Tonight we are looking forward to the annual PTA Christmas Fair (5.00-7.00). There will be stalls, games and prizes and even a special visitor from The North Pole.

Next week we welcome a visiting theatre company, who will be performing a Pantomime of Dick Whittington for the children, and a group of Year Two children will be visiting a local care home to perform some carols for the residents and share their beautiful singing. We also have our Christmas Jumper day and Christmas Dinner on Wednesday, followed by class parties on Thursday.

Book Sharing

On Monday 18th December at 2.30 you are invited into school to look at your child's books with them to see some of their learning from this term. You will then be free to take your child home, or they may go to ScallyWags as normal, if booked in. We will open the gates at this time.

Goodbye

It is with sadness that I write to inform you that we are losing a much loved member of staff at the end of this term. Mrs Dawe who has worked at Emscote since 2000 is leaving. She begin working in the Pre School and then joined Emscote Infant School. Over the years she has worked with many different staff and families; she's now even teaching the children of some of our past pupils! We know she will have had an enormous impact on hundreds of children's lives with her care and compassion. She has however, expressed a wish to pop back for her 'girls' - Speckle, Ava, and Speedy our chickens! We wish her well for the future as she will have more time to devote to her Granny duties.

Mathletics competition

We will be running a Mathletics competition in January, with some fantastic prizes of Lego to win! Thank you to *Little Journeys* for the Gift Card. If your child gains a certificate (any level) throughout January their name will be put into the tombola and names chosen in an assembly.

This is a great way to fill some of that time at the start of January when the excitement of Christmas has run out!

A reminder that we finish for the winter break at 3.00 on Friday 22nd December and school will reopen to pupils on Tuesday 9th January.

I wish all our families a restful and enjoyable break.

Mrs Nicol



Dates for the Diary 2023/24

Fri 15th Dec	PTA Christmas Fayre	5-7pm
Mon 18th Dec	Rook sharing	Parents are invited to look through their children's books in the classroom from 2.30pm
	Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day	On 20th December, we will be taking part in Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day. Children can wear their Christmas jumpers and donate £1 (or however much you can give), to support children in the UK and around the world
Thurs 21st Dec	Christmas Parties	Children come to school in party clothes and enjoy a party food lunch all together in the hall. After lunch each class enjoys a Christmas party.
Fri 22nd Dec	Last Day of Term	
Mon 8th Jan	Inset Day	
Tues 9th Jan	Children return to school	
Innirs 1st Fen	Willow Class Sharing Assembly	
Fri Ind Fen	Cherry Class Sharing Assembly	
Tues 20th & Wed 21st Feb	Parents Evenings	
Wed JXth Feh	Reception Year height and weight checks	More info to follow
Iniirs /th Fen	Oak Class Sharing Assembly	
eri atn een	Chestnut Class Sharing Assembly	
	Maple Class Sharing Assembly	
ieri zzna iviarch	Sycamore Class Sharing Assembly	

After School Clubs Spring 2024

We are running a range of clubs next term, details of how to enrol have been emailed out this week. We have included below a summary of clubs on offer and the dates they start in the new year.

Please note that drama club will no longer be available at Emscote. Instead, Arts Insight will be running a club for years 3-6 at All Saints Junior School. We are really pleased that they are able to continue working with us within our federation.

Day	Club	Time	Year Group	Provider/Teacher	Cost/Booking	Start Date
Monday	Bayleaf Cookery	3-4pm	Y1 and Y2	Bayleaf Cookery	www.eduspot.co.uk	15/01/2024
	Lego Club	3-4pm	Y1 and Y2	Miss Hewitt	www.eduspot.co.uk	15/01/2024
	Fiery Feet	3-4pm	Y1 and Y2	Fiery Feet	Book directly via Fiery Feet	15/01/2024
Tuesday	Football	3-4pm	Y1 and Y2	Warwick School	www.eduspot.co.uk	09/01/2024
	Arts and Crafts	3-4pm	Y1 and Y2	Miss Sandhu	www.eduspot.co.uk	16/01/2024
	Violin	9.30am-12pm	Y1 and Y2		Book directly via Warwickshire Music Hub	09/01/2024
Wednesday	Lifeskills for Kids	3-4.30pm	Y1 and Y2	Miss Hewitt	www.eduspot.co.uk	17/01/2024
Wednesday	Tennis	3-4pm	Y1 and Y2	Coolsportz	Book directly via Coolsportz	10/01/2024
Thursday	Choir	3-4.15pm	Y2	Mrs Hart	www.eduspot.co.uk	11/01/2024
Thursday	Mini Movers	3-4pm	Reception	Jo Bartlett	www.eduspot.co.uk	11/01/2024

Christmas performances and Warwick Lights of Love Service

Mrs Hart would like to say a big thank you and well done to the Federation Choir for their performance at the Warwick Lights of Love (Rotary Club) and the Cancer Research fundraising where they helped to raise just over £1000. We've also received a lovely letter from the organisers to express their gratitude.











Year 1 visited St.John's Museum to experience Victorian preparations for Christmas and also a session in a Victorian classroom!

PIC.COLLAGE



Mental Health in Schools Team (MHST) Tips For Wellness:

BOUNCING BACK

Bouncing back is all about 'having another go' after we are faced with challenges, this is also called resilience! We will all need to bounce back at times, so it is important to maintain a growth mindset and practise how we can be more resilient.

Our tips for bouncing back:

1- Watch this short video on 'bouncebackability' and how to build resilience.
Scan the QR code to load the video and other lesson resources.



2- Practise problem solving as a strategy to overcome practical difficulties and help you bounce back! Follow the steps below:

1.What is the problem?
2.How does it make you feel?
3.What are the possible solutions?
4.What are the positives and negatives of each solution?
5.Select the best solution and make a plan to try out!

- 3- Think about a time when you have faced a challenge in the past...how did you overcome it? Would you do anything differently if you came across the same challenge again? You could discuss this with a friend to share ideas.
- 4- Build your support network. Having people that you trust around you through difficult times can help you to bounce back! Try to share how you are feeling with friends, family, teachers and other trusted adults in your life.

#ThanksKids recognises the efforts and kindness of children and young people, and thanks them with personalised #NHSStars certificates. If you know a child or young person that deserves recognition for going above and beyond, don't wait, nominate!

thankskids@covwarkpt.nhs.uk

MHST are available to support you and your school throughout the school year including term time and school holidays. Please contact your school's Mental Health Lead for information and advice.



Mental Health in Schools Team (MHST) Tips For Wellness:

LEARNING

Learning a new skill can be exciting and incredibly rewarding. You might have lots of questions: 'Will I be good at it?' 'Will I get it wrong?' 'Where do I start?'

However, when we have a go at learning something new it can help us to feel happier and healthier, as well as distract us from everyday worries and events. Learning also gives the mind a chance to switch off, it gives us a sense of purpose, an opportunity to connect with others, and can boost our self-belief and confidence!

Our tips for learning:

- 1- Upskill: you could improve a skill you already have, such as learning a new football trick, dance move, baking a new recipe, or learning a new sewing technique.
 - 2- New skill: learn something new altogether! Ideas for new skills could be origami, coding, a musical instrument, photography, tai chi, or learn a new language.
 - 3- Skill swap: with a friend or family member, take turns to teach each other a new skill!
- 4- Re-discover a skill: re-discover a hobby you used to enjoy when you were younger, e.g., you could join a sports club that you used to play, practise puzzles, colouring, or playing piano.



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Measles and the Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccine

Dear Parent / Carer,

There has been an increase in measles cases across the country including recent cases in Birmingham, Solihull and Coventry. Most of the measles cases are children who have not had the measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine.

This letter is to give you information about measles and encourage you and your family to have the MMR vaccine.

About measles

Measles is a disease which spreads very quickly and easily in communities such as schools and nurseries where people have not had two doses of the MMR vaccine. Measles can cause serious illness and can be fatal. People in certain at-risk groups, including babies and small children, pregnant women, and people with weak immunity (immunosuppressed) are at increased risk of complications if they catch measles.

Vaccination with two doses of MMR is the only way to give people maximum protection from this serious disease.

The first signs of measles are:

- High temperature (fever)
- Cold like symptoms such as runny or blocked nose, coughing, sneezing
- Red, sore, watery eyes
- A non-itchy, blotchy red brown rash. This usually appears a few days after cold-like symptoms (sometimes starts around the ears before spreading to the rest of the body). The rash can be harder to see on darker skin tones.
- Small white spots appearing inside the cheeks and on the back of lips (for a few days)

Anyone who contracts measles is infectious for four days before any rash appears and for at least four days after the start of the rash.

Anyone with measles symptoms is advised to stay at home and phone their GP practice or NHS 111 for advice. After contacting the GP or NHS111, you should try to rest and stay at home.

If you do need to visit a GP or hospital, you must call ahead to let them know that it could be measles. The staff will make special arrangements to see you and/or your child so that, if they have measles, they won't pass it to others.

If your child has measles, they cannot attend nursery/school or group activities for 4 days after the start of the rash.

Important information about the MMR vaccine

The MMR vaccine can be given to anyone who missed their MMR vaccinations when they were younger. People can 'catch-up' by booking in for MMR vaccination at their GP practice free of charge.

The first dose of MMR vaccination is offered to children soon after their first birthday. The second dose is normally given before your child starts school.

- If your child has not received two doses of MMR vaccination as part of their childhood immunisation programme, you should take up the offer of the MMR vaccine for your child.
- If you are not sure if your child needs an MMR vaccine, you can check their Red Book (personal child health record or you can contact your GP to check.

It is never too late to get vaccinated. MMR vaccination is very important when there are cases of measles in the community. This is because any child or adult that has not had at least one dose of MMR and comes into contact with a person with measles cannot attend nursery/school or group activities for 21 days after contact with the infected person. This is the time it can take for measles to develop.

Did you know?

- One person with measles can infect 9 out of 10 unvaccinated close contacts.
- For people who do not touch any pork products, there is a version of the MMR vaccine which does not use porcine gelatin in its production.

More information about measles and MMR vaccination can be found on the NHS website at www.nhs.uk/conditions/measles/.

Thanks for your support.

Best wishes,

apper

Dr Shade Agboola Director of Public Health

Warwickshire County Council

Johnny Kyriacou Director of Education Warwickshire County Council

It's Christmas Time!



A Parent's Guide to Social Media



A Parent's Guide to Sharing Pictures



A Parent's Guide to Gaming



A Parent's Guide to Online Grooming



scan the QR code with your phone's camera to see the guides on our website



A Parent's Guide to Live Streaming



A Parent's Guide to Online Influencers



A Parent's Guide to Fake News



A Parent's Guide to Privacy Settings

It's always best to be prepared

Many parents may be planning to give electronic gadgets to their children this festive period.

Our guide is designed to help parents take a realistic approach to help keep their children safe when using the internet, social media and playing online games.

Scan the QR code to find out more.

Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.

Parents please contact your school to enquire attending their next e-safety workshop or have any concerns.

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

Skips Educational Email: info@skipsed.com Tel: +44 121 227 1941

Developed in partnership with









Help boost our budget with the My School Fund initiative

We're pleased to announce that Emscote Infant School is part of the My School Fund initiative. This innovative scheme allows for us to be able to boost our school's budget with your help.

How does it work?

Parents, guardians and carers can sign up to the scheme for free and start earning cashback on the things they buy in participating retail stores, including Sainsbury's and Argos. As you spend you'll receive 2% cashback in the form of eGift vouchers that can be redeemed in participating stores. By linking your spend to our school on the My School Fund website we'll also earn 1% cashback on your spend.

Add that all up across our school's network of families and together we can all make a big difference!

This term, thanks to the scheme, we have purchased a new storage unit for second hand uniform which is on display in our main reception area as well as a new Henry Hoover.

How to get involved

Visit myschoolfund.org to register for free and link to Emscote Infant School. From there, everything you spend in participating stores will go towards helping boost our budget, plus your own!

Sign up today at myschoolfund.org





Join us this christmas!

3rd Sunday of the month at 10.30am



Contact Ania for more details:









Christmas Evo

4pm - Crib & Christingle "The Donkey's Story" (45mins-1hr)

9pm - Midnight Mass
"Bethlehem Time"
Christmas Communion
to welcome the Christ Child

WS NIGHT SHEITER Reverse advent Calendar 2023

Every day from 1st-24. December, , LWS Night Shelter will be posting an item on social media that they need most for the shelter. The idea is that people, households or schools/classrooms put each item in a box each day - just like an Advent Calendar but instead of getting something, you give something!

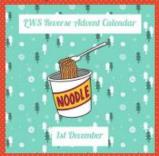
LWS Night Shelter will have a donation point in Leamington where you can bring the box the week before Christmas.

LWS Night Shelter provides a hot meal and safe place to sleep for homeless and vulnerably housed people of Leamington Spa, Warwick and the wider area. They currently provide meals for between 60-70 people each weekend, overnight accommodation for 10-15 people on Friday and Saturday and provide an average of 40-50 food parcels each weekend for the community.

All items received from the Reverse Advent Calendars will be given out to the LWS community. Further information about LWS Night Shelter can be found on their website https://www.lwsnightshelter.org and of course, they are happy to answer any questions you may have.



Reverse advent calendar 2023







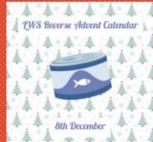


LWS Reverse Advent Calendar



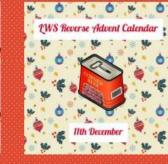










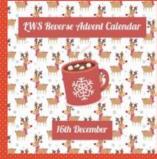


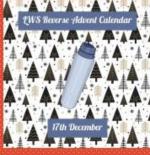










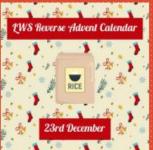




















May 2023

Winter HAF 23/24 Holiday Activities & Food (HAF)

Dear Parent/Carer,

The Department for Education (DfE) funds the Holiday Activities & Food (HAF) programme across the United Kingdom. At it's core, HAF provides young people the opportunity to access enriching activities alongside healthy meals over the main school holidays in Winter, Spring and Summer.

Please note that this programme is entirely separate from the <u>Local Welfare Scheme</u>'s household support funding (i.e. supermarket HUGGG vouchers).

Each eligible young person (in full-time education from Reception to Year 11 who receives benefits-related free school meals) with a HAF code can access a maximum of **4 sessions** over the winter holidays. Families have the flexibility to book with multiple activity providers if desired. All providers can request additional funding for 1-to-1 support if this is required, however this will depend on their staff availability and qualifications. We do have a number of SEND-specific activities which may be a more suitable option.



Family Information Service 0800 408 1558 fis@warwickshire.gov.uk Facebook: @WarwickshireFIS







Eligible families need to request a HAF Code via a brief online form. This can be found at www.warwickshire.gov.uk/haf or you can scan the QR code below. HAF codes are valid for the academic year, so if you've had a HAF code starting with a 'W' before, the same code can be used. If you need codes to be re-sent, just send us an email via hafprogramme@warwickshire.gov.uk

For families not in receipt of benefits-related free school meals, we can release a limited number of HAF codes for each delivery period. A separate referral form will need to be completed on behalf of your family, if you're facing a significant financial barrier and one (or more) of the following criteria apply:

- · Have an allocated family support worker or social worker
- · On an open early help plan
- Your child(ren) acts as a young carer

The referral form is available upon request from a professional/allocated worker on hafprogramme@warwickshire.gov.uk

Winter activity listings will be available online from Tuesday 28th November 2023. Contact providers directly to discuss booking.

Scan the QR code below to visit the HAF website.

Thank you for your continued engagement with the Warwickshire HAF programme. Please contact us directly if you have any queries related to the HAF scheme.



Warwickshire HAF Team

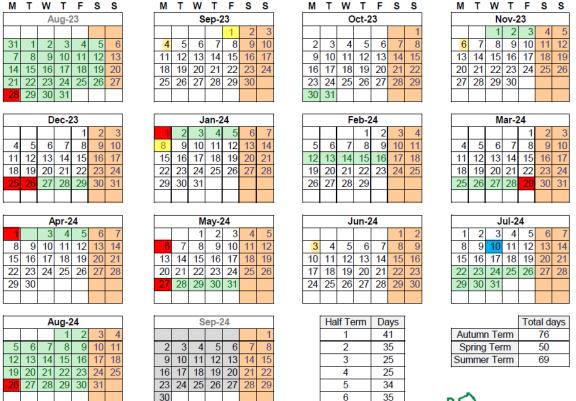


Eamily Information Service 0800 408 1558 fis@warwickshire.gov.uk Facebook: @WarwickshireFIS













Total

195

FREE SCHOOL

School meals are free for lots of families, check if you are eligible to apply!

So much more than lunch...

A free school meal:

- creates healthy eating habits
- improves learning and behaviour
- saves money and time
- helps schools get extra funding

Did you know
that claiming free
that claiming free
school meals
school meals
means that your
means that your
defined will get access
child will get access
child will get access
holiday activities
holiday activities
and food?







Can l apply?

Your child could be eligible for free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support or Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance

child is aged 4-7

You should still apply if your

and receives a universal free

school meal

- Support from National Asylum Support Service (NASS)
- Guarantee Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than £16,190
- Working Tax Credit run-on paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit If you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Find out more and apply at www.warwickshire.gov.uk/fsm











BT) Bishop's Tachbrook

Bishop's Tachbrook C of E Primary School Kingsley Road, Bishop's Tachbrook, Royal Learnington Spa CV33 9RY



CHILDCARE VOUCHERS & TAX-FREE CHILDCARE »







Aylesford School, Tapping Way Warwick CV34 6XR



Clopton Road, Stratford-upon-Avon Warwickshire CV37 6TE

Book now at onsidecoaching.co.uk



LatePickup

Just £5.00 extra

All children will be provided with

lunch. Please ensure your child has two refillable drinks bottles.

the 2nd December

Normal Dropoff

9:00am-9:30am 3:00pm-3:30pm

Early Dropoff

Just £2.50 extra

ising iffance iAct Theatre School

- ★ Specialising in personal, professional ★ and FUN Performing Arts classes!
 - Weekly classes and holiday camps *
 now running near you!
 - ★ Weekly classes ★
 Term time Thursdays, Warwick
 4.30pm 5.30pm, Ages 3 6
 5.30pm 7.45pm, Ages 6+
- iSDATheatreSchool@hotmail.com
 - iSDATheatreSchool isingidanceiacttheatreschool

Contact us for a FREE trial!







Coolsportz January

2024 Camps

8.30-3.30pm or 8.30-12pm Tues 2nd - Fri 5th Jan Ages 4-16 years @ Warwick Tc

Ofsted Registered

Childcare/Tax Free Vouchers accepted and HAF codes

Rounders - Cricket - & more Tennis - Football - Hockey -

Book online www.coolsportz.co.uk

10% OFF IF BOOKED BY 18TH DEC





18 - 22 December 2 - 5 January

Fun short courses and Super Choice for Years 2-7 Multi activities for Reception and Year 1



christmas-activities-2023



Other venues include warwick, Leamington & Coventry!

NETBALL FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN

Brand new weekly netball sessions at Kenilworth School for children aged Reception to Year 6.

Launching in January 2024, our weekly netball sessions on a Thursday evening are aimed at 4 to 11 year-olds.

Session 1 (Reception / Year 1/ Year 2 / Year 3) 6:00-6:45pm Session 2 (Year 4 / Year 5 / Year 6) 6:00-7:00pm

First session for free, sign up now!



What parents say about Kid Squad...

"My daughter is having an amazing time with Kid Squad Warwickshire. She loves her netball training. Can't speak highly enough of the coaches, they are empowering the kids for sure. Highly recommend for anyone looking to start a journey in netball." "This is such a funtastic club. My daughter absolutely loves the training sessions and the league matches. Her knowledge, skills and confidence have improved significantly since joining and this is all down to the quality teaching and care from the wonderful coaches."

"Kid Squad is the netball club that every primary-aged kid needs in their life!"

"My daughter LOVES going to Kid Squad Warwickshire. Kid Squad is a fantastic introduction to netball for primary age school children - something that seemed to be lacking in typical girls team sports in the area. The sessions are run by coaches who are clearly passionate about netball and sport in general. A great opportunity for children to make friends, keep fit & agile, develop hand/eye coordination skills, learn drills & new skills and play together as a team,"

"This has been a fantastic group for my daughter to join. Learning nelball skills, gaining confidence and playing with girls from all different schools. The coaches are fab, always developing them and making them feel special."

ww.kidsquadwarwickshire.co.uk/Kenilworth







WARWICKSHIRE

PARENT CARER VOICE

JOIN YOUR LOCAL PARENT CARER FORUM

with special educational needs and/or disability (SEND)? child or young person aged 0-25 Are you a parent or carer of a





WARWICKSHIRE

PARENT CARER VOICE

CARER FORUM? WHAT IS A PARENT

of disabled children. Their aim is to make sure the A parent carer forum is a group of parents and carers are completely independent of Warwickshire County services in their area meet the needs of disabled Council and the local health services. children and their families. Warwickshire Parent Carer Voice is the recognised forum for Warwickshire. We



young people with special educational needs and to develop and improve services for children and and experiences matter, and gets their voice heard parent carer in Warwickshire feels that their views Warwickshire Parent Carer Voice is a parent care ed organisation working to ensure that every

person (aged 0-25) regardless of their disabilities services) in Warwickshire, with a child or young We welcome any parent carer who lives (or uses (no diagnosis necessary) to join us.

Tell us your experiences | Fill in our surveys | Join our meetings Spread the word | Join us as a Member

or email hello@warwickshireparentcarervoice.org for more information Visit our website: www.warwickshireparentcarervoice.org

WHAT DO PARENT CARER FORUMS DO?

or improvements need to be made. services, processes and commissioners are and other providers to highlight where loca authorities, education settings, health providers working well, or challenge when changes families and then work in partnership with local for our families. We gather the views of local We work with organisations that provide services





GET INVOLVED - YOUR VOICE IS KEY TO OUR SUCCESS!

or email hello@warwickshireparentcarervoice.org for more information Visit our website: www.warwickshireparentcarervoice.org

Help to pay your household bills

Are you, or is anyone you know, struggling to pay energy bills?

If you or someone you know are struggling financially and unable to afford to pay their gas or electricity bill, please call the Local Welfare Scheme in confidence.

Call 0800 408 1448 between 4 and 22 April 2022.

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/localwelfarescheme



The Household
Support Fund
can help
households in
need of support





Do you need help to access food and manage your money?

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/facinghardship

Warwickshire Local Welfare Scheme

The Warwickshire Local Welfare Scheme helps the most vulnerable residents at times of unavoidable crisis when they have no other means of help.

It also administers the Household Support Fund, which provides one-off financial support for people in need as the country continues its recovery from the pandemic. It can help families with children, other vulnerable households and individuals facing hardship this winter, to ensure that they have the support they need to afford food, energy, water bills and associated costs. To enquire or apply call the Local Welfare Scheme.

Visit: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/ localwelfarescheme
Call: 0800 408 1448

or 01926 359182



