### Emscote Express

Issue 5, 17th November 2023



Dear parents and carers

It has been another busy fortnight here at Emscote.

We enjoyed hosting two sessions of afternoon tea for Grandparents last week. Children joined with extended family members to enjoy sandwiches and cake in the hall. Thank you to the school kitchen for the wonderful selection of food and thank you also to the volunteers who supported this event. This week is Anti-Bullying week, and schools across the UK have been talking to children about positive relationships and feeling safe. We started the week with an assembly, led by Mr Queralt, and everyone was able to show off their odd-socks, celebrating what makes us all unique.

Today is the annual Children in Need day and we encouraged pupils to wear non-uniform or something spotty to support this charity event. The children all looked fabulous and we have raised a total of £142.32.

The PTA Bonfire last week was a huge success and it was great to hear so many positive comments from new parents, joining one of their first PTA events. The next one will be the Emscote Christmas Fair on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December, after school (details to follow), we hope to see you there!

### Request

If anybody has any houseplants that they no longer want or would like to donate, we would be grateful to receive them. Research shows that the presence of plants in school, supports a feeling of calm and well-being, alongside the benefits of teaching responsibility through caring for them and supporting clean air.

### <u>Punctuality</u>

The school day starts promptly at 8.55. This is the time the teachers take the register and any children arriving after this time will be marked as late. The gate is opened at 8.45 for families to allow a staggered drop off, it will be closed at 8.55 and any pupils who arrive after the start of the school day will need to enter through the office and parents and carers will need to sign them into school. We want all children to enjoy a calm, settled start to the day so we would encourage parents and carers to be mindful of the school start time.

### Private referrals and assessments

If you are pursuing a private assessment for your child for a learning need, we would kindly ask that all requests for staff input into these go through the office. If a hard copy has been supplied, again, please provide them to the office. Please complete the standard personal information (name, address etc.) before submitting these. We will then be able to allocate staff time for these to be completed accordingly.

### Reception 2024

A reminder if you have a child due to start school next year, applications for applying for a Reception school place close on 15<sup>th</sup> January. You can apply for a place for your Pre-School age child through the Warwickshire admissions portal (or the local authority in your home area).

https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/admissions

### Sign of the week



Mrs Nicol

### **Blue Peter Badge Winner!**

Seren has earned her first Blue Peter badge by sending in a picture she drew of her garden at home and the flowers she helped plant this Summer. Well done Seren! What a super achievement!



### Dates for the Diary 2023/24 Flu Immunisations - all Please see email sent on 23rd October for consent

for. Consent form expires 12th November.

Fri 24th Nov

Tues 9th Jan

Children return to school

year groups

Tues 5th Dec	Year 1 trip to John's Museum	Victorian Christmas Workshop. Consent form and payment details have been sent out. Please pay at www.eduspot.co.uk by 1st December.
Wed 6th Dec	Reception year Christmas craft day	Parents will be invited to join their child/ren for a Christmas craft event, this will be a morning or afternoon session. More details to follow.
Tues 12th Dec	Reception Year Christmas Performances 10am and 2pm	We kindly ask that parents and carers make
Wed 13th Dec	Year 1 Christmas Performances 10am and 2pm	alternative arrangements for younger siblings, as from experience, younger children can be disruptive to our young performers. We appreciate your help on this matter.
Wed 13th Dec	Year 2 Carol Service 5.30pm at All Saints' Church	tilis matter.
Thurs 14th Dec	Christmas Church Service	9.15am at All Saints' Church, parents welcome to join us for refreshments straight after morning drop off.
Fri 15th Dec	PTA Christmas Fayre	5-7pm
Mon 18th Dec	Book sharing	Parents are invited to look through their children's books in the classroom from 2.30pm
Wed 20th Dec	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	

### **Year 1 Diwali Celebrations**

The children enjoyed dressing in Indian clothing, making clay divas and symmetrical rangoli patterns last week.









The Chelys Consort of Viols performed for us in school. We enjoyed listening to the music and learning about the stringed instruments.

7th November 2023



### **Grandparents Afternoon Tea**

Thank you to all the grandparents who were able to attend, the school kitchen for the wonderful selection of food and thank you also to the volunteers who supported this event.





Some photos from this week in Reception and supporting Children in Need!











### 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!

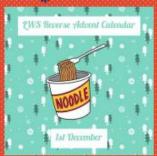
LWS Night Shelter will have a donation point in Leamington where you can bring the box the week before Christmas.

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 <a href="https://www.lwsnightshelter.org">https://www.lwsnightshelter.org</a> and of course, they are happy to answer any questions you may have.



### Reverse advent calendar 2023





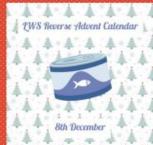












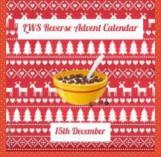








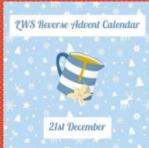




























May 2023

### 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 <a href="www.warwickshire.gov.uk/haf">www.warwickshire.gov.uk/haf</a> 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 <a href="mailto:hafprogramme@warwickshire.gov.uk">hafprogramme@warwickshire.gov.uk</a>

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 <a href="mailto:hafprogramme@warwickshire.gov.uk">hafprogramme@warwickshire.gov.uk</a>

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





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

### APPRECIATION

Showing appreciation not only has mental and physical benefits for the receiver, but also the person expressing gratitude. Therefore, appreciating the things and people around us can improve our wellbeing!

Benefits of showing appreciation include higher levels of happiness and optimism; improved sleep; less stress; improved ability to cope with difficulties; increased self-esteem; reduced depression; fewer physical problems; improved resilience.

### Our tips for appreciation:

- **1- Daily gratitude reflection** at the end of the day, think of 3 things you are grateful for (no matter how big or small). You could share these with your family at the dinner table, or write them in a journal at bedtime. If you cannot think of 3 things, try just 1 to start with!
- **2- Jar of appreciation** whenever someone in your family appreciates something, write it down and put it in a jar. At the end of the week, sit down together and read what you are all grateful for in your life. This can help you connect and share appreciation!
- 3- Random acts of kindness notice when you have been kind to others and celebrate this! Did you comfort a friend when they were feeling sad? Did you hold the door open for someone? You could write a card to a friend and tell them how much you appreciate them, bake cookies for your neighbour, or help your parent/carers at home to tidy the house!
- **4- Say thank you** using manners helps us to express our appreciation for others, which can also boost our own positive feelings.

#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:

### **LAUGHTER**

"Laughter is the shortest distance between two people" – Victor Borge

Our wellbeing benefits from laughing regularly, as it builds and strengthens social connections and can release stress. Laughter has short-term benefits as it can create physical changes in your body and soothes tension. It can also support us in the long term by improving our immune system, relieving pain and improving our self-esteem.

It can feel difficult to start laughing if you are feeling low, but a good place to begin is to remember what has made you laugh in the past!

### Our tips for laughter:

- 1- Smiling is contagious, just like laughter. Try smiling more often, as it has a positive effect on you and the people around.
- **2-** Share a laugh. Make a conscious effort to spend time with friends who make you laugh. Return the favour by sharing funny stories or jokes with those around you!
- **3-** It can be difficult to know where to start, so try preparing to laugh. Create a collection of funny movies, tv shows, funny photos and videos for when you need a humour boost.
  - **4-** Try laughing yoga, which is prolonged voluntary laughter that is designed to create positive energy. It will feel forced at first, but it will eventually become spontaneous.

#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!

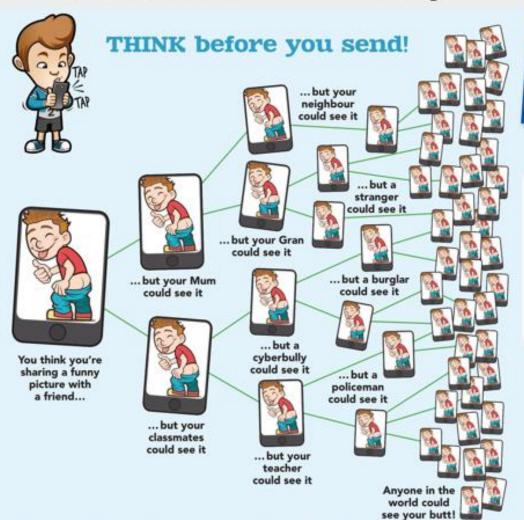
thankskids@covwarkpt.nhs.uk

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### Keeping children safe online

### **Parent Guides to Online Safety**







scan the QR code with your phone's camera for Parent Guides on how to help keep your children safe online





### If you share it, you are involved

If you have, or forward an indecent image of someone under 18, it is a criminal offence. It can affect your future.

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

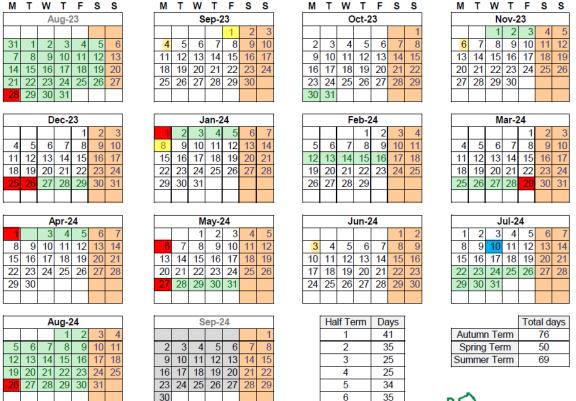
















Total

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







# 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

### household bills Help to pay your

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

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

Call 0800 408 1448 between 4 and 22 April 2022.

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/ localwelfarescheme



need of support can help households in The Household Support Fund





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

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/facinghardship

## Warwickshire Local Welfare Scheme

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

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

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

or 01926 359182





### prestomusic

## Pre-Instrumental Musicianship Strings Project





Scan this to Register! www.prestomusic.com/stringsproject

Enjoy a Free Trial Session!

Or wait

project is led by experienced teacher and violinist Barbara O'Reilly. Running Saturday mornings in term time, the

## What will my child be doing?

concepts. The children develop the musical skills required for age (4-5 years), our violin class is based on Kodaly and Dalcroze Pre-Instrumental Musicianship: designed for children of reception holidays and half terms) and is the ideal preparation to beginning percussion. The class runs during school terms (excluding school learning an instrument through singing, movement and hand-held the violin class in September 2024.

9.15 - 9.45 Pre-instrum	Saturday Class
strumental 4-5	Ages
Reception	School Year
£6/week	Cost

Please note a parent must stay with their child every week

### Where?

Learnington, CV32 4NN In our purpose-built studio at Presto Music, 23 Regent Grove,

### When?

November 11th, 18th 25th, December 2nd and 9th

### Financial Support

everything we can to assist to opportunities. If you need help please contact us and we will do Presto Music strongly believes that money should not be a barrier

# Enjoy a Free Trial Session!

To register, visit:

or scan the QR Code and fill out the online form! www.prestomusic.com/stringsproject



## INTERESTED IN OTHER CLASSES?

Please visit www.prestomusic.com/classes to register an interest.



# ofrings t

(typically in Reception, Year 1 and 2) Suitable for Children aged 4–7

# Starting September 2023

Helping to create the next generation of musicians and young string players in Warwickshire

Limited places available

Running Saturday mornings in term time (10 sessions per term and including extra mini-concerts at the end of the Christmas and Summer terms), the project is led by experienced teacher and violinist Barbara O'Reilly.

What will my child be doing?

on Dalcroze and Kodály concepts, uses singing and movement to develop the musical skills required for learning an instrument. Pre-Instrumental Musicianship - Foundation Stage: The pre-instrumental class, based

continuing to develop their musicianship. Violin and Musicianship - Stage 1: The children begin group violin lessons whilst

Violin and Musicianship - Stage 2: The children build on their early experience of violin playing technically and musically, learning both aurally and through written music.

Saturday	Class	Ages	School Year	Cost
9.15 - 9.45 (30 min)	Pre-Instrumental Musicianship	4-5	Reception	£6/week
9.50 - 10.40 (50 min)	Violin and Musicianship Stage 1	5-7	Year 1-2	£10/week (or £12 including violin rental)
10.45 - 11.35 (50 min)	Violin and Musicianship Stage 2	5-7	Year 1-2	£10/week (or £12 including violin rental)

Please note a parent must stay with their child every week

### Where?

In our purpose-built studio at Presto Music, 23 Regent Grove, Learnington, CV32 4NN

### When?

Autumn Term: from 16th September to 2nd December (excluding Half term) plus extra

Christmas play-together on 9th December

Spring Term: Summer Term: from 13th April to 29th June (excluding Half term) plus extra summer concert on 6th July from 6th January to 23rd March (excluding Half term)

Financial Support

need help please contact us and we will do everything we can to assist Presto Music strongly believes that money should not be a barrier to opportunities. If you

### To register, visit:

or scan the QR Code www.prestomusic.com/stringsproject and fill out the online form!



INTERESTED IN OTHER CLASSES?

Please visit www.prestomusic.com/classes to register an interest.