

NEWSLETTER

19th December 2025

Ephesians 3:17 Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love

Message from Mrs Herrero

So today is our last day in school of 2025 and the odd thing is that 2025 still feels like a new year to me!

This year has flown by with such speed, and this term in particular! Later this afternoon we will be lighting the final candles in the advent wreath. It's a special moment where the children are invited to carry the light of Christmas into their hearts and into their homes.

We have really felt the true spirit of Christmas in our school over the last few weeks, not just through our performances but also through the acts of kindness that have been shared amongst the children and from our parent community.

The birth of Miss Adams little boy, Archie, is such a great joy to us all. We are so happy the baby and family are all doing well. You will even get a glimpse of the gorgeous baby later on in this newsletter.

I wish you all the most wonderful Christmas and Happy New Year.

ATTENDANCE

Well done to the following classes who had the highest attendance since the last newsletter;

EYFS and KS1— Alpacas 99.1%

Lower KS2 – Alligators 96.75

Upper KS2 – Seahorses 98.3%



Important Attendance Information to all Parents

All unauthorised Leave of Absence requests and any other unauthorised absences will be referred to the Warwickshire Attendance Service, part of Warwickshire County Council

Please also note medical evidence is required for us to be able to authorise absences due to illness of more than 4 days.

Girls Football Tournament

On Friday 5th December, our girls football team ended this calendar year by competing in a multi school tournament hosted at Stratford Town Football Club. The afternoon was focused on inclusion and enjoyment, whilst having the opportunity to play as much football as possible.

During the afternoon, we competed against 5 other schools - winning 4 matches and drawing 1. The progress on show from this team was nothing short of outstanding. Resolute goalkeeping and defending from Ellie, Freya and

Lottie resulted in conceding just 1 goal during 1 hour of football! Our forwards of Ruby, Erin, Ornella, Fleur and Scarlett combined to form some fantastic attacking phases resulting in some beautifully scored goals. For Erin and Scarlett, this was their first time representing the school and they both proved themselves to be wonderful additions to our already excellent squad.

We are very much looking forward to see what 2026 holds for this delightful team to coach.



PRESCHOOL NEWS

Preschool had a break from the Christmas festivities on Tuesday with a visit from a local dentist. Jazz from Pennington Dental came in to talk to the children about the importance of looking after our teeth. The children really enjoyed brushing the giant teeth that Jazz brought with her, and listened really well to a story with her too.



RECEPTION NEWS

Reception have been feeling wonderfully festive as they've been busy enjoying a range of Christmas activities!

Our children gave a super Nativity performance of "We're Going On A Baby Hunt" singing and speaking with lovely confidence. On Monday we enjoyed a trip to Warwick Arts Centre to watch The Tiger Who Came To Tea. The children represented our school

beautifully, with members of the public commenting on their exceptional behaviour and super manners.

Back in the classroom we have also enjoyed getting creative by making Christmas cards, calendars and making magical reindeer food ready for Christmas Eve.

Reception classrooms have been full of sparkle, smiles and festive fun!



YEAR 1 NEWS

Key Stage One Nativity – Year 1

Our Key Stage One children put on two wonderful nativity performances this week. Year 1 worked incredibly hard learning their songs, lines and cues, and their confidence and enthusiasm really shone through on the day.

A big thank you to our parents and carers for their continued support, especially for providing such fantastic costumes during this very busy time of year.

Well done to all the children – both performances went extremely well and we hope they brought plenty of festive cheer to everyone who came to watch. 🎄 ✨



YEAR 2 NEWS

Key Stage One Nativity – Year 2

For the past few weeks, Year 2 have worked incredibly hard to prepare for their nativity performances. They all worked so hard to learn their lines, songs and actions! I'm sure you will all agree

that the performances were truly wonderful and got everybody in the festive spirit. Year 2 would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a lovely Christmas holiday.



YEARS 3 & 4 NEWS

Years 3 & 4 Church Service

Last Tuesday, Year 3 and Year 4 performed their Christingle Service at Holy Trinity Church. The children led a packed congregation through the history and meaning of the Christingle, while Reverend Emma guided the service beautifully.

The children were perfectly behaved and spoke and sang with great confidence throughout the service. The service ended with all the Christingles being lit in the darkened church, a truly magical start to Christmas.



YEAR 5 & 6 NEWS

Years 5 & 6 Church Service

Last Thursday, years 5 and 6 had their church service at Holy Trinity Church. It was a wonderful service telling the story of The Night Before Christmas from year 5 and The Nativity Story from year 6 and a finale of Feliz Navidad!! There was a festive performance from the handbells choir and gorgeous singing from the children. It was made even more special by Mrs Herrero's beautiful accompaniment on piano. Well done to all the children, especially those that had solo performances – you

were brilliant! They had been practicing a lot, along with their day-to-day learning, so they have all earned a well-deserved break!

This was year 6's last Christmas performance so was even more emotional for the children and parents too.

We have to thank Mrs Smith, our wonderful music teacher, her love and knowledge of music is immense and the children are privileged to have such a fantastic music teacher.



YEAR 6 NEWS

Year 6 Handbells Choir

Our lovely year 6 handbells choir were very kindly invited by Orbit Homes to Rosalind Court Assisted Living to bring in the festive spirit.

The children performed Christmas carols which turned into a festive sing along which was enjoyed by everyone.

Well done to the children for their wonderful festive performance.



They also played at Scholars Mews and Briar Croft on Monday



Year 6 English lesson

In English, year 6 watched an amazing David Attenborough documentary about snow leopards. This was for inspiration to write a descriptive journalistic news article about these beautiful, majestic large cats. In her own time, Jasmine in Seahorses, drew an amazing pencil drawing of a Bobcat. As you can see, Jasmine is a very accomplished young artist who has natural, creative abilities. Wow! Well done Jasmine!



YEAR 6 NEWS

Year 6 Trip to Stratford High School

As part of our Science topic - on the respiratory system - year 6 once again were invited by the high school science department to get up close to a real pair of lungs and heart!

The children learnt all about how the respiratory organs work and then were able to touch and explore them. The children loved this opportunity, some a little too much, we think!

A big thank-you to the high school science department for inviting us back again as they do every year for this amazing science lesson!



Reward Day

Year 6 have been having an end of term dress down reward day. Mrs Townson and Taylor have dressed up as Grinch and Cindy Lu.



Reverse Advent Calendar

A massive Thankyou to all the children who have brought in donations for our Reverse Advent Calendar.

Thanks, too, to the Year Six elves who have diligently been collecting items from classes and filling the calendar daily. The Stratford Foodbank will be collecting the items today and will be distributing it to families in need.



GENERAL NEWS

Christmas Jumper Day

Last Thursday, the school took part in Save The Children's Christmas Jumper Day 2025! As you can see the children looked very festive and bright. The school raised £254.27 for this wonderful charity. Thank you to the parents and staff for your contribution.



Pupil Achievement

Message from Annie Jones in Geckos

Thank you so much everyone for donating. We have raised £37.54. I am going to be cutting my hair in January. So thank you so much for helping me and the Little Princess Trust. It is much appreciated.



Christmas Tree Decoration Competition

Thank you to everyone who entered this year's Christmas tree decoration competition. Every entry, helped make our school trees look beautiful! However, our two winners were Angela Qungu in Puffins and Charlotte Oakes in Alligators. Congratulations!



Christmas lunch

Huge thanks to our wonderful catering team, midday supervisors and also Willows Friends for providing Christmas crackers for the children to enjoy during the Christmas lunch on Wednesday.



GENERAL NEWS

Peace Light from Bethlehem

Each year, Scouts around the world share a candle lit from the Nativity scene in Bethlehem. This light is passed from country to country by lighting one candle from another, symbolising peace and unity. Earlier this week, the light arrived at Gilwell Park, where a representative from Warwickshire collected it and brought it back to the county.

The local Scout group in Alcester has now lit a candle from this flame and will keep it burning until Christmas. The aim of this tradition is for Scouts worldwide to share the light with as many people as possible, and we have been proud to display the candle here at school.



Mrs Scott, our Midday Supervisor



In the last days of term, our wonderful Mrs Scott, our own Christmas delight, who cheers us up every day, especially over the festive season, surprised us in one of her many homemade fabulous costumes! As you can see, we have had a Christmas tree, snowman, angel, elf, and of course the very busy Mrs Claus! The staff are also spoilt with her wonderful home baking too - last week we were treated to festive jumper cookies! We are so lucky to have Mrs Scott! She is a star!



GENERAL NEWS

Congratulations to Miss Adams

We are delighted to announce the arrival of Miss Adams' baby boy. Alfred 'Alfie' Rupert John Hoy was born on 15 December at 21.10, weighing 8lb 6oz.

Both Miss Adams and baby are doing really well.



Housekeeping reminders

Lunch Orders

If your child is going to be late or has a medical appointment and will arrive after 9.30am and requires a school lunch, please could you let us know their order in advance.

Sickness and Diarrhoea

Children may return to school 48 hours after their last bout of sickness or diarrhoea.

Uniform

Please ensure all uniform is clearly labelled. Lost property can be found in the front entrance of school. At the end of each term, this will be cleared away and any items labelled will be returned to their owner.

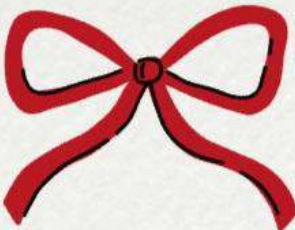
Also make sure that your child has everything they need when coming to school, ie. coats, hats, gloves, water bottles, lunches etc.

Reporting absence

You are able to report an absence either through Studybugs or by leaving a voicemail message

General

Please do not smoke on the school premises and please avoid smoking on the paths and gateways leading into school. Dogs are not allowed onto the school site.



WE WOULD LIKE YOUR UNWANTED NATIVITY OUTFIT

Help us create a more
sustainable nativity, saving
time and money for next year's
families.

Drop off your unwanted nativity
outfit in the box outside the front
office by Friday afternoon.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING
THE WILLOWS FRIENDS



DATES FOR THE DIARY

2025

22 Dec—2 Jan 2026 Half term—School closed

2026

5 January 2026	Training Day—School closed
6 January 2026	Return to school
23 January 2026	Disco
9-3 February	Year 6 residential
13-15 February	Willows Friends Panto
16-20 February	Half Term
23 February	Return to school
16 March	Year 5 trip
30 Mar—10 Apr	Half term
13 April	Return to school
4 May	Bank Holiday—School closed
25-29 May	Half Term
1 June	Training Day—School closed
2 June	Return to school
17 July	Last day of school year
20 July	Teacher training day—school closed

School and Activities Centre

Looking for Flexible Work That Fits Around School Hours? Join Our Team!

Do you enjoy meeting new people and helping children learn? We're looking for friendly, organised individuals to support our Learning and Community Engagement Team in Warwick.

This is a casual role—perfect for parents who want work that can fit around family life.

What You'll Do

- Welcome school groups to our three Warwick sites: Market Hall Museum, St John's House, and the County Record Office.
- Make sure teachers have everything they need for their workshops.
- Help set up resources and assist during activities.
- Escort groups to the right places for workshops and lunch.
- Keep rooms tidy after visits.
- Support fun family activities during school holidays and occasional special events like our Haunted House experience.

What We're Looking For

- A warm, welcoming personality.
- Good organisational skills and timekeeping.
- A team player who communicates well.
- Interest in heritage is a bonus, but not essential.

Join us in helping children and families discover Warwickshire's history and nature! Apply now and make a difference in your community—on a schedule that works for you.

Pay: £14.62 per hour (includes 12.07% enhancement on top of your basic hourly rate of £13.05 to cover holiday and sick pay).

Please visit the [WM Jobs: Relief Schools and Activities Assistant](#) page for more information or search for 'Relief Schools and Activities Assistant' on WM Jobs (reference: RA0007330)

Stratford-upon-Avon Foodbank Christmas opening hours for food collection

Mon 22 December	2pm-3pm
Bishopton Community Centre	
Tues 23 December	10am-11am
Meon Vale Village Hall	
Tue 23 December	5pm-6.30pm
Escape Arts Heritage Centre	
Thu 25 December	Closed
Escape Arts Heritage Centre	
Fri 26 December	Closed
Ken Kennett Centre	
Mon 29 December	2pm-3pm
Bishopton Community Centre	
Tue 30 December	10am-11am
Meon Vale Village Hall	
Tue 30 December	5pm-6.30pm
Escape Arts Heritage Centre	
Thu 1 January	Closed
Escape Arts Heritage Centre	

Normal opening hours resume on
Fri 2 January 2026



Clothing Donation Drive

We are collecting **men's** clothing for a community of young men, thousands of miles away from home, alone and with no possessions whatsoever.

We desperately need clean, S/M/L donations of:

Coats

T-shirts

Joggers

Shoes

Jeans

Sweatshirts



W.A.R.M
WARWICK ACTION FOR
REFUGEES AND
MARGINALISED GROUPS



Working in conjunction with:



☎ 07504 529 399

✉ warmwarwickshire@gmail.com

@WARM_Warwickshire

COMMUNITY NEWS



SPRING TERM WORKSHOPS & PROGRAMMES 2025 - 2026

Workshop/ Programme	Date and Time	Venue
Working it Out 4 week programme	12th January 9.30 - 11.30	Virtual
Solihull Approach 10 week programme	13th January 9.00 - 11.00	Whitnash Primary School
Understanding Your Teenager	13th January 13.00 - 15.00	North Leamington Secondary School
Sleep	14th January 9.30 - 11.30	Virtual
Solihull Approach 10 week programme	16th January 09.30 - 11.30	Virtual
Parenting Together	19th January 17.30 - 19.30	Virtual
Understanding Children's Behaviour	21st January 9.30 - 11.30	St Paul's C of E Primary School
Understanding Children's Behaviour	26th January 13.15 - 15.00	Barford St Peter's C of E Primary School
Boundaries and Rules	27th January 13.00 - 15.00	North Leamington Secondary School
Sleep and Routines	4th February 09.30 - 11.30	St Paul's C of E Primary School
Parenting Together	6th February 12.30 - 14.30	Virtual

Workshop/ Programme	Date and Time	Venue
Understanding Children's Behaviour	9th February 09.30 - 11.30	St Joseph's Primary School
Boundaries and Rules	11th February 9.30 - 11.30	St Paul's Primary School
Sleep and Routines	17th February 10.00 - 12.00	Virtual
Understanding Children's Behaviour	18th February 09.30 - 11.30	Virtual
Understanding Your Teenager	19th February 13.30 - 15.30	Virtual



**Book your
free place**

For Warwickshire
parents only.

For further information about this
programme please email
ehparenttrainers@warwickshire.gov.uk



FRIDAY YOUTH NIGHT AT STRATFORD LEISURE CENTRE

Access to Ninja Tag Active and table tennis.
4-6pm up to 11 years | 6-8pm for 12-15 years

BOOK YOUR TICKETS TODAY
on the Everyone Active app

