

Together Everyone Achieves More



**Exhall
Junior School**

Newsletter

January

“No Winter lasts forever; no Spring skips its turn.”

WELCOME!

Dear Families,

Welcome back to a new term and a new year. Although very belated, we would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of us all, to wish you a Happy New Year, and, although a distant memory, we hope you had a lovely time with friends and family.

For 2023, we welcome Miss Harper and Miss Ahtsham to our staff; they are already very settled in the EJS routines, and are enjoying supporting your children on their learning journey.

It has been a busy first full month back with lots of learning taking place both indoors and out, this is in spite of the cold, frosty and wet weather. Year 3/4 even have a very productive time looking

around the school site during their science lessons for minibeast and plants.

Our opening assembly theme was on New Year resolutions seems a long time ago now – how many good intentions are still being acted on? During the assembly, we discussed if you want to get better at something, what are you **not** going to spend time doing? Often, some think other children are just born being able to read or calculate, but the truth is, they practise a lot. We often hear children wishing to be better, but there’s only so much time in a day, they will need to do less of something else to fit everything in. There’s simply no substitute for having to put the effort in, but creating time to do it will help the success to be greater.

Attendance

Attendance Matters



Our aim is to positively promote attendance at school so that your children can enjoy the very best education.

We had an Attendance Assembly where we celebrated those children who had last term's attendance that was above 94.9%.

Nineteen children received their Bronze Award (95%-96%). A further twenty-six reached the Silver Award (97%-98%). However, an amazing **thirty-seven** children attained their Gold Award (99%-100%), with the majority of these being 100%.

Well done to those children, and their carers/ parents, for ensuring that your children attended, it is appreciated beyond an award.

95%	=	47 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 8 days in total or 1 week and 3 days
90%	=	95 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 16 days in total or 3 weeks and 1 day
85%	=	142 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 24 days in total or 4 weeks and 4 days
80%	=	190 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 32 days in total or 6 weeks and 2 days

BE SMART BE THERE!

Percentages based on 190 academic days

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

WHAT DO YOUR ATTENDANCE FIGURES ACTUALLY MEAN?

Being Active



Developing regular physical activity behaviours in childhood is crucial as we know that children who are active are more likely to become active adults and continue to reap the benefits of an active lifestyle throughout their life course.

Amanda Gardiner, our Chair of Governors has shared this with us, as a Parkrun is a great way to get those activity levels up. Perhaps adults would like to have a go as well, as all ages and fitness levels are catered for. Everyone takes part for their own enjoyment. Please come along and join in whatever your pace!

Bedworth Junior Parkrun [link](#) The event takes place at Miners Welfare Park, Rye Piece Ringway, Bedworth CV12 8JT. See [Course page](#) for more details.

Riversley Park Junior Parkrun - [Link](#) A free, fun, and friendly weekly 2k event for juniors (4 to 14 year olds). It is held every Sunday at 9:00am.



Book and a Brew



Mrs. So has organised some Friday reading sessions at the start of the day. You can come in schools and just read with your child, or just come in a read alongside your child.

We often find that reading at home can have less emphasis in the junior school, compared to when they were in the infants. However, giving time to focus on your child's reading has influences beyond improving their reading skills: comfort and reassurance, confidence and security, relaxation, happiness and fun are just some of the benefits. It builds reading pace, self-esteem, vocabulary, feeds imagination and even improves their sleeping patterns.

SATS Information: change of test dates

Following the announcement of an additional bank holiday on 8 May 2023, the dates for KS2 tests scheduled for that week are changing. The new schedule will be: **Tuesday 9 May to Friday 12 May. ALL Y6 students are required to be in school on those days.**

Library Help



Warwickshire libraries' has large collections of books in different languages, bi-lingual books for children and books to support all learning. Their collection has been recently updated to reflect some of the languages spoken by Warwickshire's established and newly arrived communities.

Libraries offer a welcoming and warm space as well as other events and activities that families may be interested in. [Link](#)

Screen Time

In the UK children aged between 5-16 years spend an average of 2-3 hours per day watching television, 1-3 hours on the internet, 1-2 hour playing video games and over an hour on mobile phones (not talk), a total of 6.3 hours of screen time per day. Reducing the amount of time children spend looking a screen time is something we all must try to do.

In order to support you, in school, we calculate that during the school day, time we aim to have no than more than 1.5 hours of screen time. The majority of this time will be looking at the main teaching screen which is not at a close range, so any effect would be reduced. Please include this time when calculating your child's total screen time allowance.

Booster Seats



Please make sure that your child/ children are transported safely in cars. The local PCSO's often patrol schools and issue advice/ fines if they find children not in the correct seat

Children must normally use a child car seat until they're 12 years old or 135 centimetres tall, whichever comes first.

Children over 12 or more than 135cm tall must wear a seat belt.

You can choose a child car seat based on your child's height or weight.

More information on child car seats can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/child-car-seats-the-rules>

School Uniform and Expectations

I would like to take the opportunity to revisit the uniform expectations. Uniform is an important part of a school's identity. It reinforces who we are as a community and helps allow students to feel pride in their school. It would be fair to say that we have several interpretations of what is and is not acceptable uniform.

When everyone is dressed the same, worrying about what you look like isn't so

important. There is no competition about being dressed in the latest trend, which can put a great deal of financial pressure on carers/parents. In addition, potential issues are reduced as children have one less target for their insults, as it's hard to make fun of what someone is wearing when everyone is dressed exactly the same. Please make sure support us, [Uniform Expectations](#)

Cracking Contraptions

In English lessons, students in Y5 and Y6 created their own 'Cracking Contraptions' - just like Wallace and Gromit.

The contraptions aimed to solve a 'problem' in the classroom; like students needing to write a lot or teachers needing a cup of coffee!

The students designed their contraptions, wrote excellent explanation texts about how they worked and then made models on their machines. Finally, they shared all their hard work with their Y3 and Y4 buddies to celebrate what they had achieved.



Young Voices



We were very proud of our choir who we took to Young Voices in Birmingham. It was an exceptionally well organised and amazing event, full of fantastic performances from the children and of course numerous professional singers – we were particularly starstruck when Heather Small appeared!



Mrs. Nethercot was invited back last week, and met Heather, who was very generous and sent the whole school a 'Be Proud' message. The children were tremendous throughout the whole event and after speaking to them, it appears that we will now have many keen students who want to carry on with the choir.

A huge thank you to all EJS staff; from the admin team through to the staff who attended. This event couldn't have happen without you.

Free School Meals

Did you know that just registering your child for Free School Meals means that the school gets extra money?

For every child registered at Exhall Juniors, the school will receive additional money.

With this money we can provide more interventions to accelerate children's academic progress as well as interventions to develop self-esteem, self-confidence and social emotional skills. If your application is successful, not only will it mean your child will receive a free school meal but we can also help in these other areas as well.

Please follow the link to find out more or alternatively contact school and we will be willing to help with any issues or paperwork that needs to be completed. [Click here](#)



Please let us know if have queries, issues or questions.

If we've got something wrong, please let us know, it's important for us to help and support.

Just call into the office or call tele 024 76313375

Exhall Cedars Infant School



Exhall Cedars is a small, nurturing Infant School, in the heart of the Exhall community, serving Exhall, Bedworth, Hawkesbury Village, Brindley Edge and the Warwickshire/Coventry border.

Cedars provides an **excellent educational experience** for children aged 2-7 years.

Ofsted March 2020:

"Nurturing relationships exist between adults and children in the setting. Children get off to a good start." "Leaders have created a warm and welcoming environment for pupils and staff. Pupils like school and they feel safe."



Pre-school & Nursery

We provide sessional term time provision for 2-4yrs. We support 2Help and 3yr old NEF, including 30 hr provision for working parents.

Nursery 3-4yrs: am/pm or all day sessions

Pre-School 2-3yrs: Flexible to your needs.

Wraparound for 2-4yr olds is available, through school, at an additional cost

We accept Tax Free Childcare and Childcare Vouchers