



Newsletter

NOVEMBER

*"In November you begin to know how long the winter will be."*

WELCOME!

Dear Families,

As we approach the festive season, I hope that you are all ready for the celebrations that will be happening in school before we break up. As always, we have a lot planned in the build up to Christmas over the next few weeks. We look forward to the children wearing their Christmas jumpers, some children will be visiting Exhall Cedars Infants, Nursery & Preschool to see their Christmas production, we have our own Christmas service at St Giles Church and our Community Carol singing as well will be taking place in school.

### Thank You

Thank you to all those who attended our first carer/parent Pride Assembly. It was lovely for the teachers to share your child's learning and progress with you. Thank you

also to those who took the time to fill in the survey - we are able to share with you the results in this newsletter.

Thank you for your overwhelming support for the very worthwhile cause that is Children In Need. Your generosity raised over £300! A further thank you on behalf of the Poppy Appeal for your generosity for this cause - once I know I will of course pass on the total we raised.

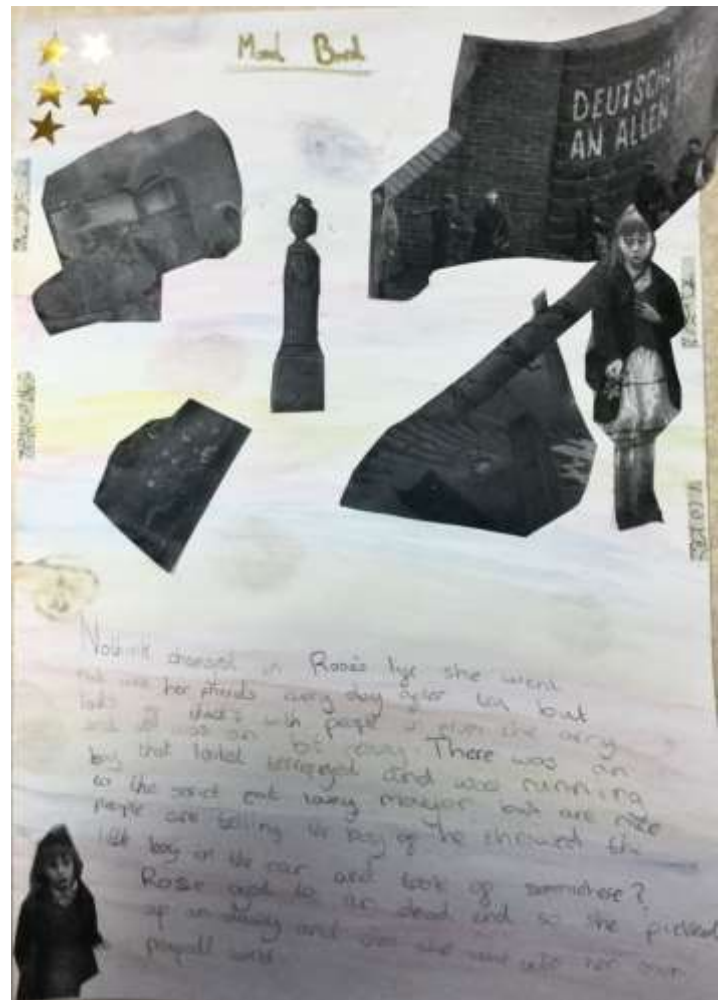
### **SATS Information: change of test dates**

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.

## Adult and Community Learning Event

Catherine West from Warwickshire's Adult and Community Learning team visited the school

Over the four sessions, children and parents worked on picking out language to support predictions, looking at characters and developing the writing into an amazing first person diary entry.



Catherine followed up with a lovely letter to those that attended -

*Thank you for putting together such a great group! Here are the photos I promised you of the mood boards the families produced in the final session.*

*It's always a great pleasure working at Exhall Juniors. Thank you for making me feel so welcome.*

*Best,*

*Catherine*

*Family Learning Tutor*

## Hats on for Mental Health

Dear Exhall Junior School,

Thank you so much!

Thank you to everyone from Coventry and Warwickshire Mind for taking part in Hats On 4 Mental Health 2022; it really means a lot! You have raised vital funds and shown children and young people that they're not alone with their mental health.

Your incredible donation of £105 will make a huge difference! I speak on behalf of Coventry and Warwickshire Mind when I say that we are humbled by your empathy and support for mental health. Your funds will be going to help fund Reach. Reach is for children and young people living in Coventry, aged 5-18, who are experiencing poor mental health, low self-esteem, anger or anxiety. The services include:

- Counselling – face to face or online
- Therapeutic group work
- Online self-help tools and activities

## Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday



Our Head Students laid a wreath on behalf of the school community at the Bedworth Armistice Parade, thank you to Mrs Randle for organising and supporting the children with this important act of commemoration.



Thousands turned out to watch the Armistice Parade in Bedworth, 11 Nov 2022.

On Remembrance Sunday, Head and Deputy students, with Mrs. Nethercot, attended the Remembrance Service at St Giles Church. They laid our specially created wreath made from the children's hands, a huge thank you to Miss Smith who supported the children in the making of this.





## Attendance

The government's target for attendance is 96%. If your child is absent, you must let us know, as this is a safeguarding requirement – we need to know where your children are. You can apply for permission for your child to be absent from school and this must be done at least 2 school weeks in advance of the proposed leave. Authorisation is not guaranteed and is likely to be refused as we work within the guidance of the Local Authority's Attendance Team.

Many things can affect attendance, but as an example:

- 2 weeks of holiday brings attendance down to 94.7%
- 2 weeks of holiday + 1 week sick brings attendance down to 92.2%
- 2 weeks of holiday + 2 weeks sick brings attendance down to 89.6%

Children are considered 'persistent absentees' if their attendance is below 90%.

It is also very important that children arrive in school on time every day. Registration takes place between 8.45-8.55, during which time children complete a morning task to start their day.

We know that a child's attendance has a direct impact on their learning. Those children who are regularly absent from school and regularly late do not achieve their potential and do fall behind in class. Please support the school in this by ensuring that your child attends school regularly and arrives ready to learn and on time.

## Packed Lunch Guidance

Try and not include the following:

Chocolate-coated products / sweets / confectionery are discouraged as they are high in sugar and fat.

Cereal bars, fruit bars again are high in sugar and sometimes fat

Chocolate spread/jam as a filling for sandwiches are high in sugar

Chewing gum – not allowed in school

Sugared / toffee and salted popcorn is high in sugar

## Act on Energy - Grants available

Residents living within Warwickshire might be eligible for funding to help with energy costs (subject to eligibility and availability). The following grants are currently open for new applicants:

### Warwickshire Household Support Fund

Households with a combined gross household income of no more than £30,000.00 per year, **no** household savings and someone living with a vulnerability, may be eligible for:

- Financial support toward current energy debts only
- Assistance to repair or replace broken boilers and heating systems
- Financial support to top up an oil or LPG tank (not bottles)

Further details here [Warwickshire Household Support Fund 2022 - Act On Energy](#)

## Warm & Well in Warwickshire

Owner occupiers/private rented households with cold related health conditions and in receipt of certain benefits/low income may be eligible for:

- Emergency Heater Scheme
- Grants for Boiler Replacements
- Grants for Boiler Servicing & Repairs
- Loft and Cavity Wall Insulation Grants

More details here [Warm & Well in Warwickshire - inc Grants - Act On Energy](#)

## Energy Efficiency Grant

Owner occupiers with a gross household income of less than £30,000 year OR someone in your home receives a means tested benefit AND a home that has an EPC rating of D, E, F or G (if you don't have an EPC then this will be arranged for you if we think that your property is energy inefficient) may be eligible for:

- Solar PV panels
- Loft insulation
- Cavity wall insulation
- External wall insulation
- Air source heat pumps
- Smart heating controls

To find out more, please complete an Expression of Interest form here [Energy Efficiency Grant Scheme - Act On Energy](#)

For more information call us on **0800 988 2881** or visit the website [www.actonenergy.org.uk](http://www.actonenergy.org.uk)

## Applications open for Reception and Junior School Places

Please note that the deadline for Reception and Junior school places comes around very soon after Christmas (15 January 2022). This applies to children born between 1 September 2018 and 31 August 2019 for Reception, and any child currently in Year 2 at an infant school who want to move to a junior school.

To help parents and carers to make successful applications, there is a video with lots of practical tips and advice, plus a written guide with useful information on how the process works. If they'd like to learn more, or ask questions of the school admissions team, two online webinars are being held in early December, which are open to everyone and free to join. Bookings can be made using the links below:

Thursday 1 December at 7pm: [Link](#)

Tuesday 6 December at 7pm: [Link](#)

All applications received by the deadline of 15 January will receive a school offer on 17 April next year, which is National Offer Day. Any applications submitted after the 15 January deadline will only be considered after this, meaning the child is much less likely to be offered a place at a preferred school.

Applications should be made online at: [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/primaryplace](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/primaryplace)

## Loudmouth Productions



Loud Mouth Productions were in all day for Years 5&6. They are a theatre group that shared a programme of events throughout the day that helped children to stay safe in their relationships with others both on and offline.

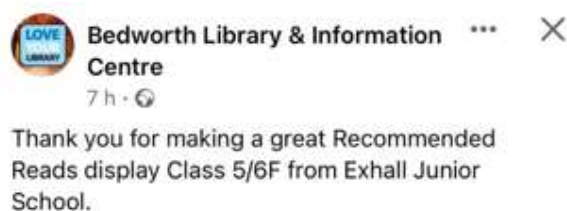
The visit was timed to support National Bullying Week. During that week, all students learned to recognise when bullying takes place, the strategies to ensure it doesn't happen in school, and the steps they need to take if they feel they are being bullied.

Bullying affects lots of people, and can happen to anyone at any place including school, work, within families or in the community. It is defined as repeated behaviour that is intended to hurt or control someone either emotionally or physically. In school, usually, this is one child, or a group of children against an individual child.

It would help if carers/ parents are clear with us when reporting about a problem, as using the term 'bullying' needs to be used correctly so support can be given quickly and more effectively.

## Library Visits

All the Year 5/6 classes had a lovely time when they went to visit Bedworth Library, and as always, their behaviour was impeccable. The children were all keen to take out books, so please try to take the time to arrange a library ticket for your child – it is free. Thanks goes to the staff there who work so hard to ensure that the library is an engaging place to be. We even made their Facebook page



Please let us know if you 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

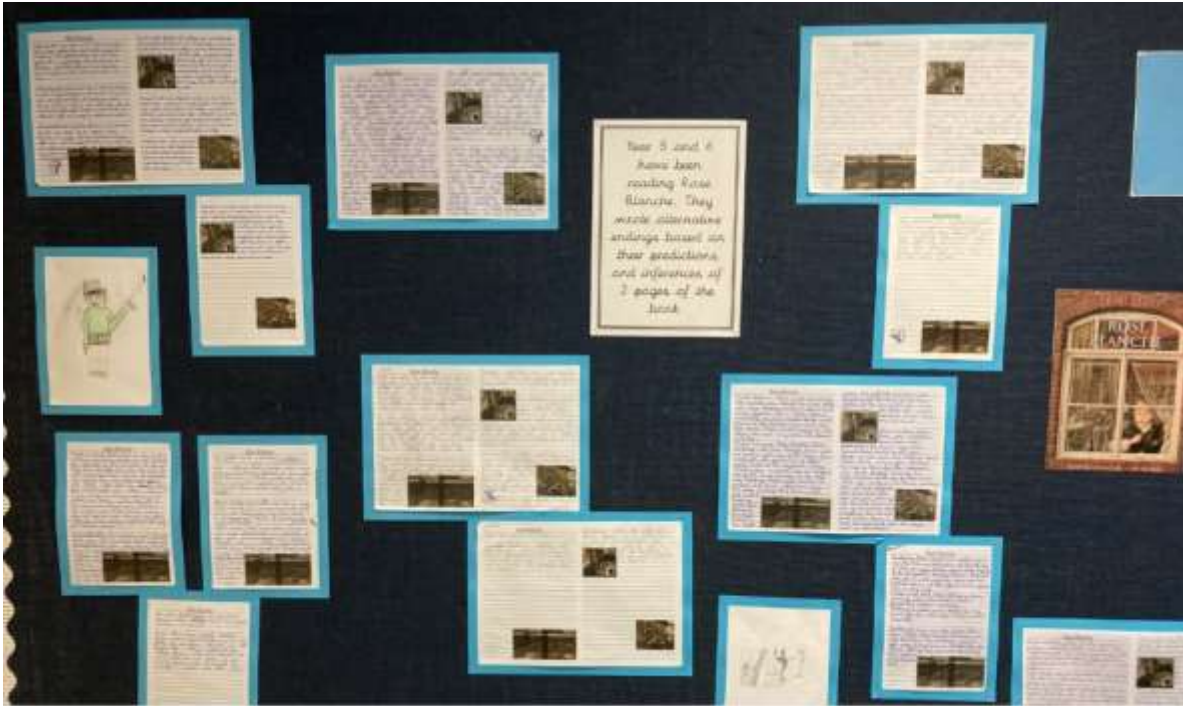
tel 024 76313375

admin2571@welearn365.com



## Display Work

Year 5 and 6 have been Reading Rose Blanche and rewriting the story.



Following on from our work on Diversity and Inclusion, students have created display that shows how we value and support this area of our curriculum.



## Results from the Parent Survey

Thank you for those who completed it. We will keep you further updated on the school's response to this. If you have a particular issue you would like raising, please contact the school and book an appointment.

	<b>Agree%</b>	<b>Unsure %</b>	<b>Disagree %</b>
<b>My child is happy at this school.</b>	91	6	3
<b>My child feels safe at this school.</b>	94	3	3
<b>My child does well at this school.</b>	79	21	0
<b>The school has high expectations for my child</b>	70	23	7
<b>This school makes sure the pupils are well behaved</b>	78	19	3
<b>This school deals effectively with bullying.</b>	34	24	3
<b>The school is a welcoming and pleasant place to visit.</b>	94	3	3
<b>The school makes me aware of how well my child is learning.</b>	84	10	6
<b>When I have raised concerns with the school they have been dealt with properly.</b>	71	26	3
<b>The school lets me know what my child is learning about, including homework</b>	75	10	15
<b>The school supports my child's wider personal development.</b>	70	24	6
<b>My child can take part in clubs and activities at this school.</b>	97	3	0
<b>I would recommend Exhall Junior School to another parent?</b>	79	12	9





## Mental Health in Schools Team (MHST)

### Tips For Wellness:

## Motivation

When we are motivated, we are driven to complete tasks, get things done, achieve things and or reach our goals.

Sometimes it can be hard to motivate ourselves whereas at other times it may feel really easy and like we are super motivated. Sometimes we may feel both of these things in the same day in relation to the same thing!

Many things can affect motivation including how much we want to achieve something, how much we value what needs to be done, how interested we are in the task, but also our mental health and well-being. Improving our mental health and well-being can improve our motivation.

### Try one or all of the below activities to increase motivation:

- Plan your days so that they include activities which you value (fun and relaxing activities), as well as tasks which need to be done, it is easier to be motivated when we make time for things that are important to us.
- Break your goals down into smaller ones to help them to feel more manageable. Reward yourself every time you have achieved a step towards your goal!
- Ask for support from family, friends or teachers; sometimes it may be difficult to get motivated by yourself, reaching out for support can make tasks that you are struggling with feel less difficult to manage, this in turn can improve your motivation to complete them.

#ThanksKids recognises the super efforts and kindness of young people and thanks them via personalised #NHSStars certificates and pin badges. Please spread this message amongst your school community, all you need to do is let us know by nominating the young person using this email address: [cwptr.thankskids@nhs.net](mailto:cwptr.thankskids@nhs.net) and we'll do the rest!!



# 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