



## MARCH Newsletter

March is when some days are winter and some days are spring, good thing ducks love both seasons.

### WELCOME!

Dear Families,

It seems hard to believe that the Spring Term has ended and the final term is here! What a great spring term it has been though, but we do have lots of exciting plans for the term ahead and for some, it's the last term before they join their new secondary school! It has certainly been busy, it was great to see so many of you at the various events that we have put on to share with you. Thank you also for the support you showed to the recent reading events as well. It was lovely to see so many children visit and get excited about books. As you know the importance of reading cannot be overstated; it really is the route into learning. Studies show that reading makes a big difference to children's educational performance.

We all pass on our congratulations and best wishes to Miss Bath who was

married over the holidays – she returns as Mrs Gomez. Mrs Palmer, one of school's business managers, leaves at the start of May. We all will want to express our heartfelt gratitude for her unwavering dedication to our school community. We extend our sincerest thanks and best wishes for her continued success in all her future endeavours.

### Attendance

A	B	C	D	E	F
93.9%	91.8%	93.1%	94.6%	94.6%	94.6%

We know that a child's attendance has a direct impact on their learning. Those children who are regularly absent from school or frequently 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 at 8.45am.

## New Crossing Patrol



We are delighted to report that our new Crossing Patrol person, Karen, here practising in her garden, has started her post at that vital crossing point on the Coventry Road. Thank you Karen for supporting the community in such a vital way – it is really appreciated. She is known to the children as she is part of our brilliant Midday Supervisors team.

Please ask your children to use the crossing patrol now, instead of their usual crossing points even if that means walking a few additional metres. It is far safer to be crossed by an adult in uniform than without. Statistics show it's children in Years Five to Eight that are the most likely to be involved in a road traffic accident, as they are less likely to have a parent with them and are often distracted by friends or because they are on their phones.

All official crossing patrols are supported by the law, we all lead busy lives but it's good to remember these points -

Drivers must stop and remain stationary when a School Crossing Patrol indicates they should.

Failing to stop when a School Crossing Patrol enters the road to cross pedestrians is an offence and the penalty can be a fine of up to £1000 and three points on the driver's licence.

The law allows for patrols to stop vehicles for child and adult pedestrians at any time the crossing is in operation.

## Spring Flowers



You might remember, last month we sent out bulbs for the students to cultivate, and some have returned to school in full bloom!

Please free to plant them where you wish, or return them to school so they can be replanted on the school site.

# Canine Class Act

## Staff Member Fetches Fame at Crufts

Learning doesn't stop at 3.15pm, in fact one staff member is demonstrating that it never stops.

Beryl Bradford has been a long serving member of staff, she was part of our Midday Supervisors Team and currently is one of our cleaners, and comes into school in her spare time to be one of our Reading Heroes, where does she get her energy from? But her passion has more to do with four, not two legs, as you can see from the photo below.



But this isn't just a lovely picture of a proud owner and her dog, but one showing what you can do when you focus and devote time to your passion.

Beryl and Banner, a Schipperke or Belgium Barge Dog, have recently returned from

Crufts, where they achieved 3<sup>rd</sup> Place in their Class, an amazing accomplishment as they were already up against Champion dogs. Banner, has added this recent prize to his two Challenge Certificates, and is well on track to getting his Champion Status. Well done to you both!

However, it is fingers crossed now for 2025 for Beryl, as she will return to Crufts not to show Banner, but to judge – what an honour and achievement. This comes after a lot of studying to pass some challenging exams, but it has all paid off. What an example she is to all, we all wish her well.

## Local Library Event



As part of our work for World Book Day, four of our Year 4 pupils were selected to represent the school at Bedworth Library for a reading celebration! Mrs. Randle said their behaviour was super and they worked hard to present their learning linked to 'The Worst Witch' to the other schools attending. They received certificates and medals for their hard work – though they all said they had a great time!

## Lots of Cooking



Cooking and nutrition is part of the National Curriculum programme of study for design and technology, and, following a review of our curriculum, and listening to the students, we have included a greater number of cookery units in our long-term plan. Spring Term is the one when most year groups get to grips with cooking in the kitchen, and they have excelled themselves.

It has been great to see how engaged the children have been with these activities. Clearly the prospect of being able to eat the end product is something of a motivating factor! And why not, when it looks, and tastes, as delicious as this!



This offering from Jacob M and Leah-Rose was delicious as it looks – if a little spicy!

## Friends News

Due to money donated from the Greenshoot's funds organised by the Friends, they have now secured an amazing selection of pond dipping equipment to support the children's interactions with our newly renovated pond. These include Zoomy handheld digital microscope, packs of magnifiers, hand lenses and nets. The Friends have worked hard to ensure every class has their own box of equipment labelled with their class letter.

They are hoping the equipment along with the pond may produce a wonderful biodiversity/eco area to help aid some practical lessons in science, outdoor and adventure or inspire some creative writing or artwork! The Friends have also brought a wind anemometer and rain gauge for each class which is also included in the boxes.

A wormery has also purchased, as we all know how much the children love their wiggly friends!!!





Just a reminder that Warwickshire Admissions Process has changed this year.

This year, they will automatically accept school places on behalf of each family. This means that you, parents and carers, don't need to take any additional action – in past years you had to get back in contact with Admissions to accept the place. Admissions will also contact any parents or carers with children in private education to confirm that they do still need a place at a school.

They do operate waiting lists for school places. If you have not been offered your first preference school, you will automatically be placed on the waiting list for your higher preference schools. For example if you applied for three schools and were offered your third preference you will automatically be added to the waiting list for the first and second preferences.

Please note that a child's position on a waiting list can move up and down,

Admissions is not a process the school can get involved in, though we are here to help if needed – here's a link to their webpage for more information - [Link](#)



### Healthy Eating Support

As a school we are focusing on health in the new Summer Term, we will be looking to develop the children's wellbeing, mental and physical. We want to ensure that all children have the most appropriate fuel inside their bodies to help them learn each day.

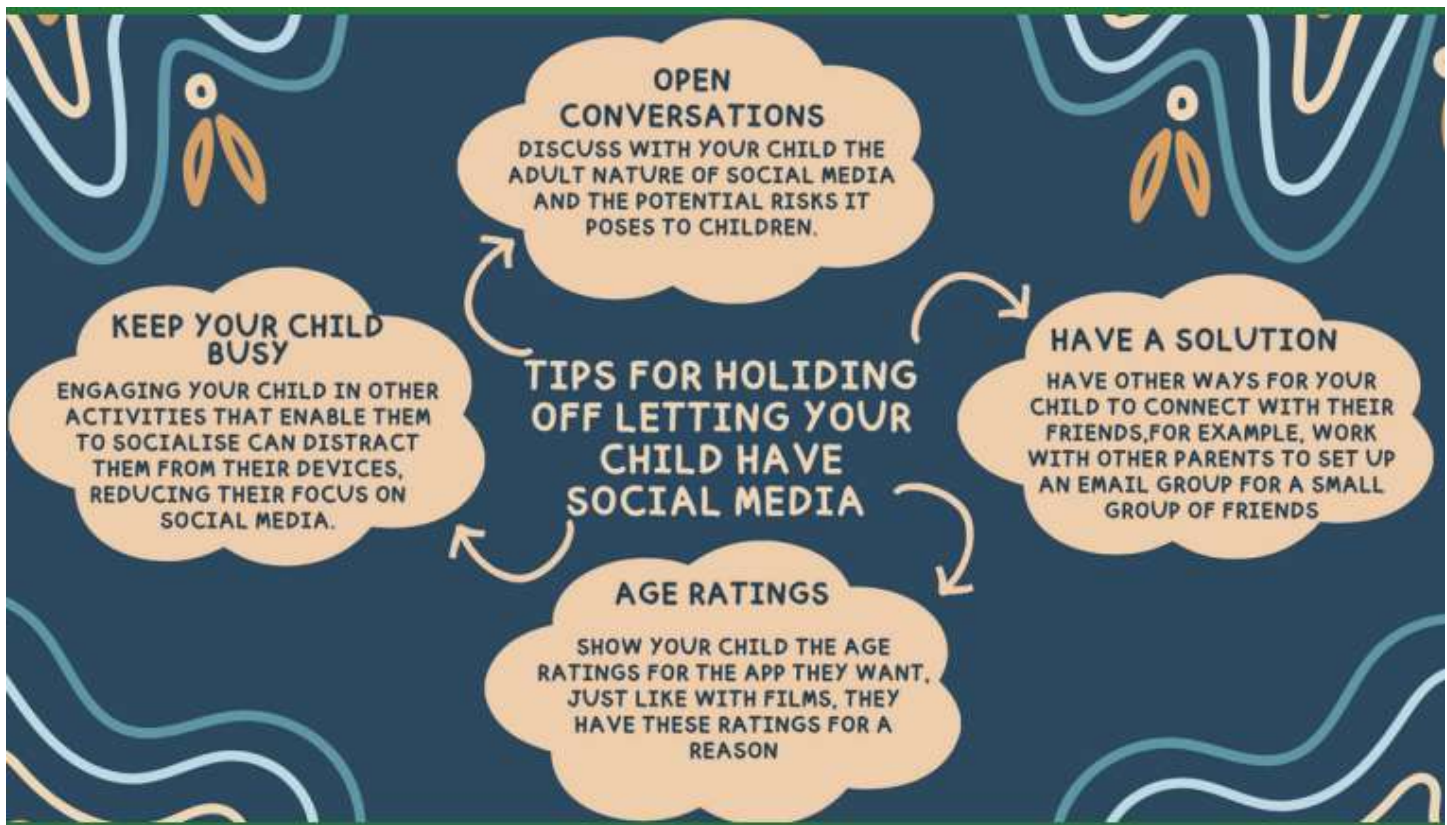
Our emphasis on healthy eating will mean that children will be encouraged to bring for example fruit, vegetables, yoghurt or bread sticks for their morning snack.

**A sweeter treat can be included on Fridays only, but from Mondays – Thursdays healthy option is the way!**

We are also encouraging this healthy theme to be extended into lunchboxes as well. Please include options that are healthy and not full of sugar. Here's a link to help you - [NHS Healthy Families](#)

We will be reminding children about snacks/ healthy lunchboxes. We would also like to remind you that children should have a clean water bottles in the classroom.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support in this matter and if there are any issues that you would like to discuss further please do not hesitate to contact us.



In light of recent tragic incidents involving children, there is a growing push to restrict social media access until the age of 16. Various reports link social media to these incidents, prompting concerns about its negative effects on children. Despite this, more primary school children are creating their own accounts or using those managed by parents.

If you would prefer your child not to engage in social media at a young age, how can you address this with them, especially when their friends are already active on these platforms? There are some ideas above, but just talking openly with your child about social media is the key – they will be the experts, but lack the experience or maturity, that’s why most apps have an age limit. Do you know what risks there are to some familiar apps?



### **WhatsApp: The Risks and Safety Features**

Whilst WhatsApp may market some of its features as protecting the privacy of users, they also put children in a vulnerable position.

End-to-end encryption means that only people in the chat can read the messages; this also means that chats cannot be monitored for illegal activity.

Live location sharing can be useful but it also means that children and young people can put themselves in a vulnerable position by sharing their location to people they don't really know.

View once allows content to be sent and read by users only once before disappearing. This leaves children and young people vulnerable to being sent inappropriate content and not being able to report it as it has disappeared.

Disappearing messages means that content disappears after either 24hours, 7days or 90days. This may encourage a user to send more risky content as they believe it will disappear. It can be forwarded

or a screenshot taken with in that time and, therefore, shared with others .

Tips on keeping your child safe on WhatsApp:

Check privacy settings (click the cog) to see what information is currently shared.

Talk to your child about what to do if someone they don't know contacts them(they should tell you).

The internet offers huge opportunities. From a young age, children have the chance to learn, research, play games, have fun and connect with family who may not live nearby. But it's important to help them to use the online world in a way that's safe and positive for their mental health. That's why it's good to have regular conversations about the internet and social media from a young age – it should be as ordinary as talking about the weather, the dog, or something you've watched on TV.

You don't need to pry or quiz your child about every website they've seen, but checking in with them for a minute or two can make a huge difference.

### [Young Minds link](#)

### Not Quite Cov City ... yet!



Unfortunately we do need to report two recent losses, but the team played with real spirit and got better and better throughout the tournament.

They should be very proud of their performance – Miss Wilkins was!

### Class Dojo

A letter was sent out to you but here's a few of the important routines we would like you to follow.

**Reporting Child's Absence** - Please be reminded that Class Dojo **should not be used to report your child's absence.**

**Sensitive issues** - it is not suitable for addressing sensitive issues.

**Contacting School Staff** - the messaging tool in Class Dojo is intended for communication with your child's class teacher only. Staff will only respond during school open hours.

THERE ARE MANY LITTLE  
WAYS TO ENLARGE YOUR  
CHILD'S WORLD. LOVE OF  
BOOKS IS THE BEST OF ALL.

What a busy few days of reading we had at Exhall Junior School. Over this event, every student has had the opportunity to:

- Watch our staff in 'The Masked Reader' and try to guess who each contestant was.
- Take part in a World Book Day orienteering trail
- Enter the World Book Day craft competition and look at the fabulous entries
- Explore Miss. Harper's text 'The Miniature Mermaid of Zennor' and try writing their own folk tale



Every student also enjoyed visiting our 'pop-up book shop' and swapping a special token for a book of their choice. This is a gift from the school to your child to support them on the reading journey. We hope they enjoy sharing the book with you.

Students also enjoyed their 'Curl-Up and Read' time - there were lots of dens built to read their books in!

Thank you to parents and carers who came in for our reading event. It was lovely to see children enjoying stories and activities with their adults.

There was a really lovely atmosphere around school and lots of positive talk from children about books and lots of parents said they'd enjoyed reading with their child.



A huge Thank You to staff, especially Mrs So, for organising all these opportunities to engage and celebrate READING!





ALL THE  
COOL  
KIDS ARE  
\*READING\*

# 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

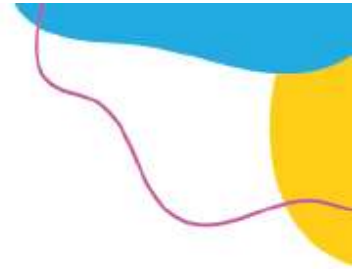
Pre-School 2-3yrs: Flexible to your needs.

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

We accept Tax Free Childcare and Childcare Vouchers



## Mental Health in Schools Team Tips For Wellness



## Resilience

*"Resilience is the ability to cope with difficult events and situations that happen in our lives."*

We can learn ways to make ourselves feel better when we feel that things are getting too difficult to manage. Our resilience can vary according to our age and experiences we have had.

### Help your young person to make a Resilience Plan:

*Ask your child to write down or discuss the following:*

1. Things I am good at...
2. I feel proud when...
3. Today will be a good day because...
4. Things I can control...
5. Things I cannot control...
6. Things that will help me... *list some of the things that your child finds helpful for coping with difficult emotions*

*Exam time can be a particularly tricky time for many young people.*

### Our tips to build resilience at exam time:

- Make a revision timetable
- Take regular revision breaks
- Find what works best for them e.g. revising alone or with a friend
- Ask your young person to list every person in their lives they can speak to for support.

#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](mailto: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)

## Parent/Carer Tips:

### Supporting your child with positive friendships

#### Top tips for speaking with your child about friendships:

- Be available to listen
- Avoid making assumptions or placing blame
- Don't diminish how they are feeling
- Try not to rush to solution

It can be useful to discuss with your child what a positive friendship looks like:

- Being able to be yourself with someone and have fun
- Being able to trust someone and be honest with each other
- Respecting each others boundaries
- Listening to each other and being kind



*A guide to supporting young people with their friendships*

**It can be helpful to: Share your own experiences of friendships**

**Modelling good friendships and positive talk about others**

**Have conversations about how they can be a good friend**

**Enable new friendship opportunities**



## Nuneaton & Bedworth

# Grub and Hubs



Are you in need of a warm space, and some free/cheap food over the winter period?

We have brought some information together into one website which shows where you can find cheap/free food and warm spaces this winter.



Scan this QR code to head to the website!

Do you run a warm space or free/cheap food opportunity? Or do you know of one that we haven't yet got on our site? Drop us an email to [nuneatongrubandhubs@gmail.com](mailto:nuneatongrubandhubs@gmail.com)

An initiative developed by:



and local volunteers



✉ [fis@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:fis@warwickshire.gov.uk)

🐦 @WarksFIS

📘 WarwickshireFIS

☎ 01926 742274



**We provide free information to support families with children and young people aged 0 - 25 across Warwickshire on issues including:**

- Childcare
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)
- Help with family finances
- One to one support
- Parenting support
- Support with bullying

All our information is available at [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/fis](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/fis)



**Where all  
children  
and young  
people are:**



**HEARD**



**SAFE**



**HEALTHY**



**SKILLED**



**HAPPY**

**Everyone can play a part in making the  
county a great place to grow up and learn.**

**Join us in creating a future we can all believe  
in, be part of Child Friendly Warwickshire.**

**[childfriendlywarwickshire.co.uk](http://childfriendlywarwickshire.co.uk)**

**[@ChildFriendlyWarwickshire](https://www.facebook.com/ChildFriendlyWarwickshire)**