



Newsletter

MARCH

*"It was one of those March days when the sun shines hot and the wind blows cold: when it is summer in the light, and winter in the shade."
—Charles Dickens*

DEAR FAMILIES,

It seems hard to believe that the Easter holidays are nearly here and soon the summer term will be upon us! As always, we thank you for your support with all that we have asked of you, particularly during this time, and for following the rules to ensure that everyone stays safe!

It has been a very busy March in school with trips out, careers' week and mock-tests to name just a small selection. We will share the outcomes of assessments with you as part of our reports which will be sent out to you next week.

We recognise that, this term has seen its fair share of Covid illness, despite government guidelines on relaxing restrictions, and it hasn't been seamless. However, I'd like to thank the staff who have continued to commit themselves to teaching, and

students who have cracked on with learning in spite of our recent COVID outbreak.

Covid Update – 1st April

Free testing for the general public ends on 1st April as part of the Living with COVID plan, which last month set out the government's strategy to live with and manage the virus

Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people, where they can. They can go back to school, college or childcare when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend.

Attendance

Thank you for those that arrive at school on time, however, we have seen a number of children arriving late for school in the

mornings. This is incredibly unsettling for the children and does not allow them to enjoy a smooth start to the school day with their friends. It also means that the reception area can become very congested and unnecessarily busy first thing in the morning. Please be aware that teachers often focus on some of the most important things for children early in the morning, because research shows this is when they are at their most receptive. If your child is regularly late for school they will consistently miss this important part of their learning.

Top Tips for Reading

1. Read every day!
2. Join the library – Get a library card and have thousands of books at your fingertips
3. All reading is good – Don't rule out non-fiction, comics, graphic novels, magazines or leaflets. Reading is reading and it's all worthwhile.
4. Have a balanced reading diet – We all have our favourites. Some books catch our interest more than others – and that's fine. But make sure you try lots of different styles and authors.
5. Read favourites again and again – It's okay to re-read the books and poems you love. Re-reading helps to build fluency and confidence.
6. Make the most of rhyme and repetition – Books and poems with rhymes and repeated words or phrases are great for

getting to know and remember new vocabulary.

Family Support

We know that many in our community are struggling financially as the cost of living rises. Warwickshire have included a link to packs of information that outline the support available for you to share with anyone you know who might need some help. If you are struggling to pay bills or manage energy debt, call the Act On Energy helpline on 0800 988 2881 or visit the Act on Energy website for energy advice.

Support

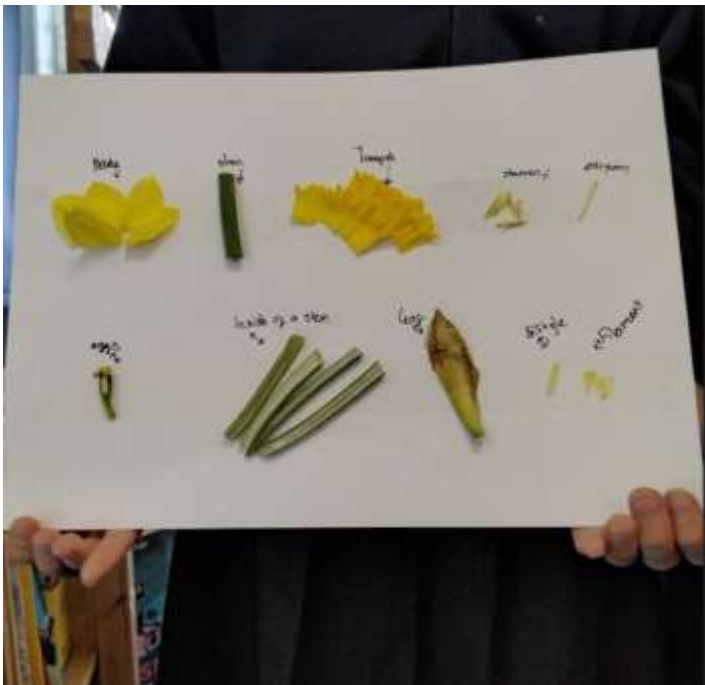
Red Nose Day



Thank you for the support you showed to Comic Relief earlier this month. The children enjoyed coming to school with something red on. We are delighted to inform you that we raised a fantastic £85.00 for this very worthwhile cause.

Y4/5 Science Work

We saw amazing Y4/5 science homework come into school – this was carried on into lesson time with a focus on identifying parts of a plant.



Careers Week

Children researched jobs and careers they would like; they looked at skills and subjects that lead to certain careers.



They seem to have really enjoyed it and there has been a positive buzz around the school.

Other children, including the whole of Year 3, met the Fire Brigade.



Governors News

Make sure you have checked your recent emails for details regarding our need for parent governors at Exhall Junior School. Please take the time to consider supporting your community. Ask at the office for more details.

Times Table Support at Home

Instant recall of times tables is critical in the search for fluency. Ideally, just like the number bonds, we would like all pupils to be able to recall times tables within 3 seconds. This prevents overload and allows the pupils to focus on the learning taking place, rather than counting in their 8s to find the answer, for example.

There are many ways in which you could work with your child to develop instant recall of times tables facts. Some of these are:

Rote Learning- saying the times table facts aloud multiple times.

Songs/rhymes- There are plenty of different songs and rhymes online that you could practice with your child!

Objects/arrays- You could work with your child to show multiplication facts with objects in arrays.

Times Table Practice- You can find different practice sheets online or visit TTRockstars with your child.

Testing- Provide your child with the challenge of answering a set of questions.

Evidence shows, children with good time table knowledge perform better at GSCE

Ash End Farm Visit



The children in Y4/5 recently visited Ash End Farm. They had a brilliant day at the traditional children's farm and really enjoyed having the opportunity to see and feed a variety of animals.



Miss Davies did have to be searched just in case she decided to take one of the chicks home.

World Book Day

We celebrated World Book Day with a range of exciting activities again this year. Students arrived dressed as their favourite book character; this year's staff theme was to dress up as a character from a Roald Dahl book, though no one told Miss Southam who arrived covered in saucepans.

STOP! DROP! READ! Took place with the hand bell being rung around school at random times in the days so we stop what we were doing and just read. Classes said their favourite part was the Masked Reader when staff disguised themselves and their voice when reading a book opening.

Letter from the Queen



The children in Helping Hands were so pleased to receive a letter from Windsor Castle. They had written to the Queen passing on their best wishes for her Platinum Jubilee, and were overjoyed when they got a reply from one of her Ladies-in-Waiting; well the Queen is a very busy woman! Thank you to the Nurture staff for organising this.

Y6 Mary Arden Visit

Year 6 went on a trip to Mary Arden's farm in Stratford Upon Avon – the birthplace of William Shakespeare. They wanted to learn more about William Shakespeare and what it was like to live in Tudor times.



The children were lucky enough to get to experience some of the things that Tudors would have done all those hundreds of years ago. They used a quill and ink to write their names which they absolutely loved. They also looked inside a Tudor building, made some food and visited some of the animals that live on the farm.





Easter Holiday Activities for Children

There are lots of things to be doing over the Easter break – here's a few links to help you.

everyone ACTIVE **TAYPLAY** 
EASTER CAMP
 JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE, CV10 7EZ
 MONDAY 11TH - THURSDAY 14TH APRIL
 TUESDAY 19TH - FRIDAY 22ND APRIL

EXTENDED HOURS (8.30-5.30PM)
 ONLY £20.00 PER DAY

NERF UNIT TEAM GAMES
 DIFFERENT SPORTS
 ARTS & CRAFTS
 INFLATABLES

CHILDCARE VOUCHERS ACCEPTED
 CHILDREN IN YEAR 1 - YEAR 6
 SIBLING DISCOUNT

07546 116004

BOOK ONLINE:  www.tayplaysport.co.uk
      info@tayplaysport.co.uk

Find free activities for kids

It may have been a few years since you've visited, but if you have children then libraries are an absolute must!

Warwickshire is full of amazing libraries with weekly events especially for the kids. Whether it's stories, nursery rhymes, coding

or Lego that they are into, there's something for all ages.

[Nuneaton and Bedworth Council](#)

[Raring to Go](#)

New staff

We say farewell to Mrs. Hardy, who left us this month and would like to thank her for her work with us. She has taken a HR post at a local secondary school - I'm she will have them all organised by now! We have made our own appointments to fill the roles. We welcome Miss Gallagher, whom you might have already seen, as our new office manager, and Mrs. Beck joins the School Business Manager's team which continues to be led by Mrs. Palmer.

We would also like to welcome Mrs. Ellis, who will be supporting leadership team on a part time basis from now until the end of term. Mrs. Ellis has been an experienced school leader in Coventry for many years and is looking forward to working alongside you and your children.

Calendar

- <https://exhalljunior.org.uk/calendar>