

Lighthorne Heath Primary School Newsletter

Reception



This week in Maths, Reception have been exploring weight. The children compared a variety of objects to decide which were heavier and which were lighter. Using balance scales, the children investigated how weight can be measured, and they also handled objects themselves to feel the differences.

We practised ordering the items from heaviest to lightest and we discussed how a bigger object doesn't always mean it is the heaviest.



UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 29: Goals of education

Handwriting

Learning at Lighthorne Heath Primary School

The children in Year 1 and 2 really enjoy their handwriting lessons, which are often voted some of the favourite lessons of the week! The Penpals handwriting programme we follow, always starts off with exercises which warm up the hands prior to the lesson in order to help give the body an increased awareness of where the hands are in order to aid coordination and control. The children have become very skilled at copying these and note the benefits of being ready to concentrate and control their pencil more easily. Year 1 children are learning to form and space letters correctly and Year 2 children are learning different joins and letter patterns.



We always warm up our large muscles in our arms and shoulders before we start writing. We warm up our smaller finger muscles too. This helps us to control our pencil more easily and stops our hands becoming achy as we write.



UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 29: Goals of education



Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to remind all families to be considerate of our neighbours when driving to and from school.

When parking, we kindly ask that you:

- Avoid blocking roads and access points.
- Park legally and safely.
- Be mindful of noise and congestion, particularly during peak times.



For everyone's safety, please ensure you drive at a safe speed, always within the speed limits, and take extra care along Stratford Road, which is particularly narrow.

As our school community grows, more children and families will be accessing the school, and space in the council-owned car park outside school is limited.

If possible, please consider walking to school or using a 'park and stride' approach.

Your cooperation helps maintain positive relationships with our neighbours and contributes to a safer, more pleasant environment for everyone.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding.



"Park and Stride" means driving part of the way to a destination parking in a designated spot away from the entrance, and walking the final distance, reducing traffic congestion and encouraging physical activity, especially for those living too far to walk the whole way





Parents Evening

Dear Parents and Carers,

Parents' Evening will take place on:

- Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 11th February, from 3.30pm to 6.00pm for Reception, Years 1/2, 3/4 and 5/6
- Wednesday 11th February only, from 1.50pm to 5.00pm for Nursery

Once an appointment has been booked, we kindly ask that parents attend at the allocated time, as these meetings are an important **opportunity to discuss your child's progress, celebrate successes and identify any next steps in learning.**

If you are unable to attend your appointment, please let the school know as soon as possible so that the slot can be cancelled and offered to another family.

Thank you for your cooperation and continued support.

Kind regards,
The School Team



Learning at Lighthorne Heath Primary School



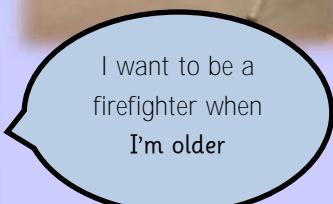
Class Assembly



Years 3 and 4

Year 3 and 4 have been buzzing with excitement as they worked hard on scripting their class assembly, which they proudly shared on Tuesday. Working in teams, the children created engaging dialogue and clear stage directions, before rehearsing again and again to perfect their performance.

All their effort paid off on the big day -they didn't disappoint! Well done everyone!



UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 29: Goals of education

Learning at Home

Dig for Victory

As part of our history learning this term, the children have been learning about “Dig for Victory”, a campaign launched during World War II.

With food supplies limited, families across Britain were encouraged to grow their own fruit and vegetables in gardens, parks and allotments. This helped the country cope with shortages and taught communities to work together.

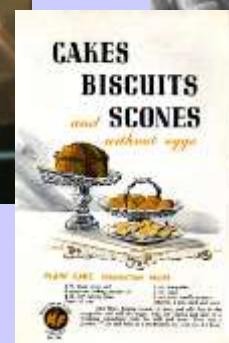
By exploring this campaign, pupils are learning about where food comes from, the importance of self-sufficiency, and how growing our own produce links to both history and healthy living today. This fits in perfectly with our 'Sow, Grow and Farm' topic.





I thought that the cakes were surprisingly tasty considering how little sugar they had. Because there were no eggs, the consistency was more like a biscuit, but most of us enjoyed the taste and agreed it was a healthier option than most biscuits available today.

We worked together to weigh out the ingredients, mix them together, make them into little balls and finally put them into the oven to bake.



Reading

Guide to Supporting Your Child's Reading

Questions to ask your child when reading fiction:

Predicting:

What do you think this book will be about based on the title and cover?

Have you read any books by this author before? What were they like?

What do you already know about this topic?

Understanding the Story:

What is happening in the story so far?

Who are the main characters? What do we know about them?

Where and when does the story take place?

Making Connections:

Does this story remind you of anything in your life?

Have you read another book like this before?

How do you think the character is feeling? Why?

Vocabulary and Language:

What does this word mean? Can you use it in a sentence?

Are there any words that you don't understand?

How do the illustrations help to tell the story?

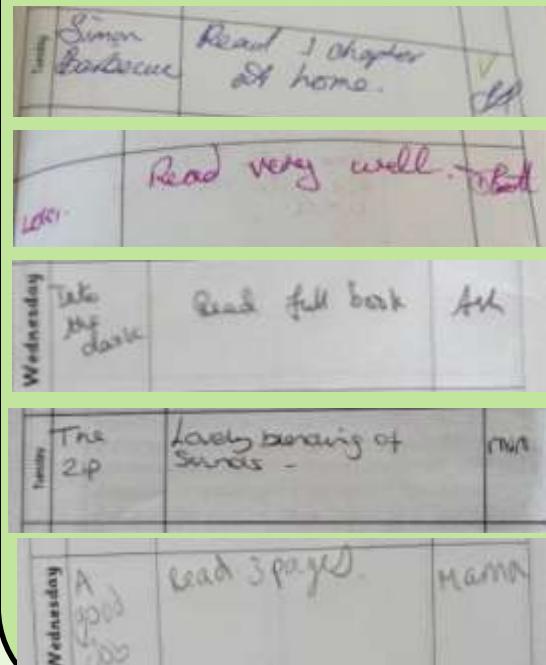
Encouraging Critical Thinking:

What do you think will happen next?

Filling in the reading record:

When signing your child's reading record, please include the date that your child read, the title of the book (or the material that they read) and your initials.

You are welcome to include additional information about your child's engagement, comprehension and confidence or some praise if you would (and this is useful) but you don't have to.



**READING
INCENTIVE**

REMEMBER...YOU'VE GOT TO BE IN IT TO WIN IT!

1. Share a book with an adult at home at least 3 times each week (you can read your school reading book or any other reading material).
2. Ask the adult to sign your reading diary each time they share a book with you.
3. Make sure that your reading diary is in school each day. On Friday, bring this to the office and show the Learning Detectives. If your diary is signed 3 times or more for that week, you will receive a raffle ticket.
4. The raffle tickets will go to celebration assembly and prizes will be given each week for raffle tickets drawn.

Diary Dates



Spring Term	
January	
February	
Monday 9th February	2.30pm, Parents Emotion Coaching workshop, call the office to book a place— free to attend.
Tuesday 10th February	Parent teacher meetings YR-6— please see email and book your appointment.
Wednesday 11th February	Lion dance workshops— all classes.
Wednesday 11th February	Parent teacher meetings YN-6— please see email and book your appointment.
Friday 13th February	Non uniform day. Please bring a suggested donation of £1 for school fund.
Monday 16th February— Friday 20th February	Half Term holiday
Friday 27th February	Year 5 netball workshop, selected pupils.
March	
Monday 2nd March	Cat Weatherill— Author and storyteller to visit as part of WBD celebrations
Tuesday 3rd March	Years 1 and 2 class assembly
Thursday 5th March	World Book Day
Friday 27th March	Non uniform day. Please bring a suggested donation of £1 for school fund.
Monday 30th March—Friday 10th April	Easter holiday.

With best wishes from Mrs Westwood, Mrs Manley and all the staff at Lighthorne Heath Primary School.

INSET Days 2025-26

Friday 10th October 2025
 Monday 1st December 2025
 Monday 1st June 2026
 Monday 20th July 2026

UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 29: Goals of education

Article 5, Parental Guidance, Article 18, Parental responsibility





We warmly invite all parents to attend an Emotion Coaching information workshop led by Mrs. Manley and Mrs. Hartley, taking place at 2:30 pm on Monday 9th February in school.

Our school has been using the Emotion Coaching approach for several years to help children understand, express, and manage their emotions in a positive way. All of our staff are trained in this approach, which we use daily to support children in recognising and managing their emotions in school.

Emotion Coaching focuses on acknowledging children's feelings, empathising with them, and guiding them to develop emotional skills and resilience.

The workshop will provide practical strategies and insights that you can use at home to support your child's emotional growth.



Emotion Coaching

“Helping children and young people to understand the different emotions they experience, why they occur and how to handle them.” (Gottman 1996)



- Article 3 Best interests of the child
- Article 12 Respect for the views of the child
- Article 13 Freedom of expression
- Article 14 Freedom of thought, belief and religion
- Article 28 Right to education
- Article 29 Goals of education

7 Top Tips to Support Reading at Home

Shared reading is a great way to develop children's language and communication and to boost their reading skills. Regular reading routines can offer lots of opportunities for learning during school closures.

1 Concentrate on reading quality (it isn't all about reading lots!)



Don't worry too much about the 'what' and 'how' of reading each day. Books are great—but leaflets, comics, recipes and instructions on a webpage can all be great too. Following a recipe to make some cupcakes is valuable reading. Be on the lookout for reading, wherever it is!

2 Ask your child lots of questions



All reading matters. Shared reading is about 'reading with', not just 'reading to' (even for older children). So, ask lots of 'Wh' questions, such as Who? What? When? Where? Why? Try them when talking about books: for example, 'what do you think Harry is feeling?'

3 Ask your child to make predictions about what they have read



If it is a book, look at the front cover—or the last chapter—and talk about what might happen next. Look for clues in the book and be a reading detective! For example, 'can you see the bear on the front cover? Where do you think he will go?'

4 Ask your child to summarise what they have read



When you've finished reading, talk about what happened. Acting out the things that happened in the story or describing the big idea of a chapter is really fun and maximises learning. For example, 'can you remember all the things that happened on the bear hunt?'

5 Ask your child to write about what they have read



Write, or draw pictures, from anything you've read! Big writing and pictures are even more fun. For example, use an old roll of wallpaper to make a treasure map with clues from the stories you've read together.

6 Read and discuss reading with friends or family



Make books a part of the family. Encourage your child to share them with a relative or friend, over a video call. Laugh about them when you are making meals together. For example, 'I hope the tiger doesn't come to tea today!'

7 Maintain the motivation to read



Talk about the joy of reading whenever you can. Your child is on an amazing journey to becoming a reader. Put them in the driving seat and have fun on the way! For example, 'choose your favourite story for bedtime tonight.'

Education Endowment Foundation (2018). *Preparing for Literacy: Improving Communication, Language and Literacy in the Early Years*. Education Endowment Foundation: London.
Available online: educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/public/files/Literacy_Evidence_Review.pdf

Education Endowment Foundation (2019). *Improving Literacy in Secondary Schools*. Education Endowment Foundation: London.
Available online: educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/public/files/Literacy_Evidence_Review.pdf

Breadmore, H.L., Vardy, E.J., Cunningham, A.J., Kwok, R.K.W., & Carroll, J.M. (2019). *Literacy Development: Evidence Review*. Education Endowment Foundation: London.
Available online: educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/public/files/Literacy_Evidence_Review.pdf



BRITISH MOTOR MUSEUM

12



Techtastic Half-Term Fun!

This February Half-Term come along to the Museum for a whole host of exciting design and technology themed activities!

[> FIND OUT MORE](#)

**CRAFT
CODE
CREATE**

**TECHTASTIC
HALF-TERM FUN!**
14 - 22
FEBRUARY

January

Online - New Year, New F1 World Champion!

January

With McLaren's Lando Norris becoming the 11th Brit to win the Formula One Title, do you know them all, plus some of ...

[Find Out More](#)

Mellow Mondays

Mellow Mondays - February

2 FEB 2026

Join us at the British Motor Museum for Mellow Monday to enjoy our fantastic collection on an afternoon dedicated to ...

[Find Out More](#)

**CRAFT
CODE
CREATE**

**14 - 22
FEB**

TECHTASTIC HALF-TERM FUN!

Craft, Code, Create: Techtastic Half-Term Fun!

14 - 22 FEB 2026

Dive into the world of car design and technology this Half-Term with a jam-packed week of fun activities!

[Find Out More](#)

23 FEB

Mini Motorists Mondays - February

23 FEB 2026

Mellow Mondays

Mellow Mondays - March

2 MAR 2026

Join us at the British Motor Museum for Mellow Monday to enjoy our fantastic collection on an afternoon dedicated to ...

16 MAR

**AUDREY
THE AMAZING
INVENTOR**

Mini Motorists Mondays - March

16 Mar 2026

Healthy Lunches...



Unfortunately, staff have noticed that a small number of children are coming to school with particularly unhealthy packed lunches, which can impact their energy levels, concentration, and overall wellbeing during the school day.

Healthy lunches help children stay focused and ready to learn, as they provide the essential nutrients needed for growth and development. We encourage families to include a balanced selection of fruits, vegetables, protein, and whole grains wherever possible. Promoting healthy eating habits at a young age helps children develop positive lifestyle choices for the future.



Love your packed lunch!

Create a healthier packed lunch by choosing foods from the 5 main food groups below:



1 Starchy Carbohydrates

to re-fuel your body

Base your lunchbox on starchy carbohydrates.

Choose ONE EVERY DAY from:

- ✓ Bread, rolls, bagels, wraps, pitta or baguettes
- ✓ Pasta
- ✓ Couscous
- ✓ Noodles
- ✓ Potatoes



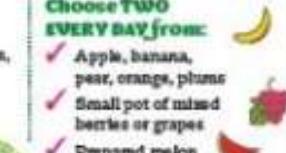
2 Fruit and Vegetables

to keep you healthy

Pack one portion of fruit and one portion of veg every day

Choose TWO EVERY DAY from:

- ✓ Apple, banana, pear, orange, plums
- ✓ Small pot of mixed berries or grapes
- ✓ Prepared melon or mango
- ✓ Chopped vegetable sticks: carrots, cucumber, pepper, celery, mange tout, mini corn
- ✓ Salad vegetables
- ✓ Vegetable soup



3 Dairy and Alternatives

for healthy teeth and bones

Don't forget the dairy!

Choose ONE EVERY DAY from:

- ✓ Milk
- ✓ Cheese - hard cheese, soft cheese, cheese spread
- ✓ Yoghurt or Fromage Frais
- ✓ Custard



4 Protein Foods

for growth and repair

Pack a protein punch!

Choose ONE EVERY DAY from:

- ✓ Meat
- ✓ Fish
- ✓ Eggs
- ✓ Non-dairy protein e.g. lentils, chick peas, beans



5 Drinks

to rehydrate your body

- ✓ A large glass of water
- ✓ Semi-skimmed milk - skimmed milk for children over 5 years.
- ✓ 150ml of fresh unsweetened fruit juice/smoothie



Occasionally!

Meat products such as sausage rolls, pie, sausages

Plain cakes/ sponges

and biscuits of appropriate portion sizes

For more healthy packed lunch ideas and recipes visit www.phunkymfoods.co.uk/recipes

www.phunkymfoods.co.uk

UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 29: Goals of education

Article 18: Parental responsibilities

Article 24: Health and health services





Children aged up to 3 years

- Start brushing your baby's teeth as soon as the first milk tooth breaks through
- Parents or carers should brush the teeth.
- Brush teeth twice daily for about 2 minutes with fluoride toothpaste.
- Brush last thing at night before bed and on 1 other occasion.
- Use children's fluoride toothpaste containing no less than 1,000ppm of fluoride unless a dentist advises otherwise
- Use only a smear of toothpaste.
- Make sure children don't eat or lick toothpaste from the tube.



Children aged 3 to 6 years

- Brush at least twice daily for about 2 minutes with fluoride toothpaste.
- Brush last thing at night and at least on 1 other occasion.
- Encourage your child to brush their own teeth while supervising them.
- Use children's fluoride toothpaste that contains 1,000ppm to 1,500ppm fluoride (check on the box).
- Use only a pea-sized amount of toothpaste.

Taking your child to the dentist

- NHS dental care for children is free.
- Take your child to the dentist when their first milk teeth appear, or before they are 12 months old. This is so they become familiar with the environment and get to know the dentist. The dentist can advise you on how to prevent decay and identify any oral health problems at an early stage. Just opening up the child's mouth for the dentist to take a look at is useful practice for the future.
- When you visit the dentist, be positive about it and make the trip fun. This will stop your child worrying about future visits.

Children aged 7 and over

- Brush at least twice daily for about 2 minutes with fluoride toothpaste.
- Brush last thing at night and at least on 1 other occasion.
- Use fluoride toothpaste containing between 1,350ppm and 1,500ppm of fluoride (check on the box).
- Spit out after brushing and don't rinse – if you rinse, the fluoride won't work as well.
- Children aged 7 and over should be able to brush their own teeth, but it's still a good idea to watch them to make sure they brush properly and for about 2 minutes

How to help children brush their teeth properly

- Guide your child's hand so they can feel the correct movement.
- Use a mirror to help your child see exactly where the brush is cleaning their teeth.
- Use a small, soft toothbrush that is right for your child's age.
- Brush your child's teeth using small, circular movements.
- Remember to gently brush their gums and behind their teeth.
- Make tooth brushing as fun as possible by using an egg timer to time it for about 2 minutes.
- Don't let children run around with a toothbrush in their mouth, as they may have an accident and hurt themselves.



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Article 29: Goals of education

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WEEK 2

Monday		
	or	
Tuesday		
	or	
Wednesday		
	or	
Thursday		
	or	
Friday		
	or	

Educaterers' New

Menu

Next week is Week 3
Jacket potato and choice
of fillings available daily

Free School Meals

If you think that you may be eligible for free school meals applications can be made online at <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/education-learning/apply-free-school-meals>



Mrs. Manley and Mrs Hendriksen are happy to help with FSM applications, please ask if you require assistance.

Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health



Mental Health in Schools Team Tips For Wellness



Dimensions tool



Free online personalised self-care information & support for adults and children in Coventry & Warwickshire

Children's Mental
Health Week:
9th-15th Feb

Kindness

Kindness means being friendly, generous, and considerate to others. It's all about showing care and respect through our actions and our words.

Random Acts of Kindness Day is celebrated each year on **February 17th**, however you can practice random acts of kindness all year round!

Ideas for random acts of kindness

Here are some easy ideas to spread kindness:

- Give compliments – A genuine compliment can make someone's day brighter.
- Hold the door open for someone.
- Share a smile – Smiling at people can help to boost their mood.
- Send a thank you note – Write a note of appreciation to someone who has helped you.
- Be a good listener – Sometimes, all someone needs is someone to talk to.
- Help your teacher – Offer to hand out something to the class or do something to help them.
- Ask someone how their day is going – Asking someone about their day can make them feel cared for and happier.
- Pick up a piece of litter.
- Offer to help someone at home.

Why is being kind important?

Kindness is contagious! When you show kindness, it inspires others to do the same.

When you are kind to someone, it can help them to feel happy, it can brighten their day and boost their mood.

Kindness can help to make schools, homes and communities more welcoming and friendly. When people are kind, everyone feels more comfortable which can lead to better relationships and friendships.

In Coventry and Warwickshire, for any urgent mental health concerns, contact the RISE Crisis Helpline available 24/7, by calling NHS 111. Alternatively, call 999 or visit A&E in an emergency, for example if medical attention is required.

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.

Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health



KINDNESS REMINDERS

Smile and say 'thank you' to someone.



Show someone you appreciate them.



In your free time, draw a picture for an adult you love.



Tidy someone else's area for them.



Hold the door for a friend.



Give someone a compliment.



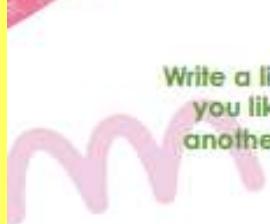
Offer to help an adult make dinner.



Cheer up a friend that is sad/upset.



Write a list of things you like about another person.



Offer a hug to someone.



Volunteer to help at home.



Donate old clothes and toys to charity.

Send a postcard to a friend.

Bake something delicious for someone special.



Wish the first person that you see an amazing day.



Find a positive quote and share it with someone.

Teach someone something you are good at.



Be kind to yourself and do something special for you.



Write down something you are grateful for.

Tell someone a joke to make them laugh.



Do a favour for someone.

Write a thank-you note to someone.

Help a friend put on their coat.



Lighthorne Heath Learning Heroes

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Reception

Mrs Gill's hero this week is Aaliyah. Aaliyah has been working super hard with her writing this week and has been showing a 'can-do' attitude in this area. It has been lovely to see how proud she is of her own achievements. Well done Aaliyah, keep it up!

Co-

Years 1 & 2

This week we have chosen Alex as our hero. Alex has been chosen as one of our handwriting superstars! He really enjoys these lessons and demonstrates impressive concentration and skill when controlling his pencil to practise his letter formation. Well done Alex!

Persevere

Years 3 & 4

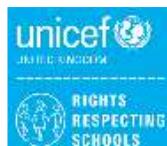
Lottie has been chosen by Mrs Madahar as this week's class hero! Lottie was fantastic during our assembly this week. She showed a natural stage presence, helping everyone feel relaxed and confident while performing. Her enthusiasm and positivity really helped the whole group -well done, Lottie!

Keep improving

Years 5 & 6

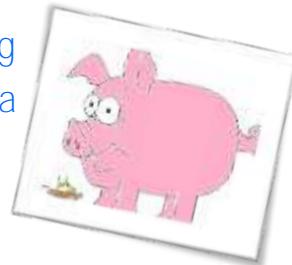
Our Years 5 & 6 hero this week is Yuvraj. He has worked hard on his Fair Trade leaflet and managed to create a well planned, well presented and thoughtful piece of work. Keep up the good work Yuvraj.

Use your imagination



UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 29: Goals of education



Have a go



Concentrate



Be curious!



Enjoy learning



Early Support Team

Family Support Drop in Sessions

Stratford Children's Centre Every **Thursday** 12.30-3pm

Alcester Children's Centre Every **Wednesday** 1-3pm

Lighthorne Heath Children's Centre Every **Wednesday** 1-3pm

We can offer Support with...

Health and wellbeing

Supporting your Child's Mental Health

Understanding your Child's Behaviour

Behaviour Management

Developing Routines and Boundaries

Parenting Advice

Guidance and Support

So Much More...

**Pop in for a Relaxed Chat, Cuppa and
Support or Call us on**

Early Support Duty Line 01926414144

Monday-Friday between 9am-4pm



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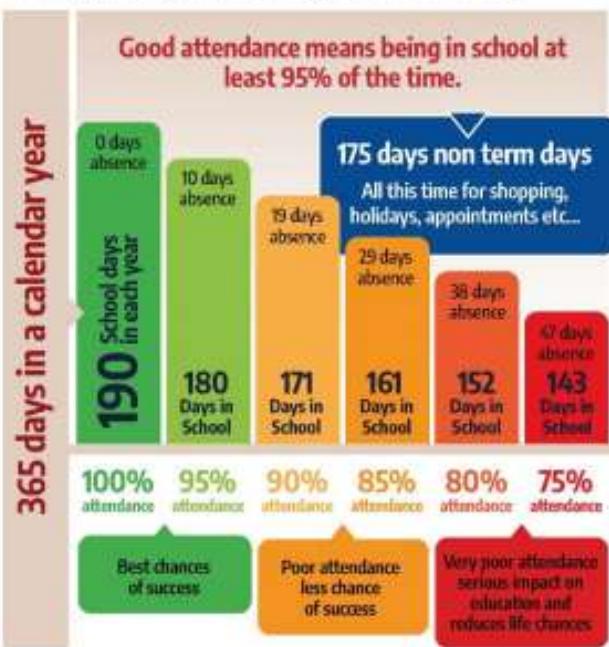
Article 5, Parental Guidance, Article 18, Parental responsibility

Attendance and Punctuality

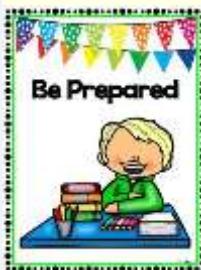


Thank you to the many parents who ensure that their children attend regularly and arrive on time. Attendance is incredibly important to the education of our children and makes a big difference to a child's ability to do well at school.

DID YOU KNOW? A two-week holiday in term time means that the highest attendance you can achieve is **94.7%**



DID YOU KNOW? A child who is 15 minutes late each day, will have missed a full 2 weeks of school in one year.



In addition to attending school, it is also important that your child has what they need each day. Parents should be aware of the days in which their child has PE and/ or swimming and ensure that children have the correct kit on the relevant day.



At this time of year it is important that children have a warm coat in school so that they can safely and comfortably play outside and complete learning activities outside the classroom.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

YOUTUBE

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Almost anyone with an internet connection knows YouTube. The Google-owned site lets anyone upload videos to be shared around the world, and as a result, it's an incredible resource with instant free access to material covering every conceivable topic. But with over 500 hours of video uploaded every minute, not all of it will be appropriate for young eyes.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

YouTube is free and can be accessed via numerous devices, even without creating a YouTube account. Some content is flagged as 'age-restricted' (requiring the user to be logged into an account with a verified age of 18), but children can still view some mildly inappropriate content. This can include profanity and violence, which some young users may find upsetting.

CONNECT WITH STRANGERS

YouTube recommends videos related to what the user has previously watched on their account, aiming to provide content that will interest them. This is intended to be helpful but it can also lead to binge-watching and screen addiction – especially if 'auto-play' is active. Users without an account are shown popular videos from the last 24 hours, which might not always be suitable for children.

RADICALISATION

YouTube's algorithm tends to promote content that's getting the most traffic – a lot of which can be quite extreme. This can be fine for harmless topics, but YouTube isn't regulated like television, and that means that conspiracy theories, fake news and hateful ideologies can occasionally surface to warp impressionable minds all too easily. Remember – the more they watch, the more they'll be recommended.

CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS

YouTube is a social media platform which allows people to interact with other (usually unknown) users. Account holders can leave comments on any video they have access to, as well as message other users directly. Connecting with strangers online can potentially lead to children being exposed to adult language, cyberbullying and – in the worst cases – online predators. If a child is creating content themselves, this can increase the likelihood of them becoming a target.

TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

YouTube is teeming with trends and challenges, some of which are fun to watch and join in with. Children often find these immensely entertaining and might want to try them out. Most challenges tend to be safe, but many others may cause physical or emotional harm. Children who watch or copy them, the painful 'salt and ice challenge' – where people use these two ingredients to burn their skin – is just one of many examples.

SNEAKY SCAMMERS

The comments sections of popular content creators regularly have scammers posing as that influencer, attempting to lure users into clicking on their phishing links. Scammers impersonate YouTubers by adopting their names and profile images, and often offer cash gifts or 'get rich quick' schemes. Children may not realise that these users aren't who they claim to be.

Advice for Parents & Educators

APPLY RESTRICTED MODE

For older children, Restricted Mode is an optional setting that prevents YouTube from showing inappropriate material (such as drug and alcohol abuse, graphic violence, and sexual content) to underage viewers. To prevent children from changing across age-inappropriate content on the platform, we would recommend enabling Restricted Mode on each device that they use to access YouTube. It's worth also turning the 'auto-play' feature off to prevent YouTube's algorithm automatically recommending something inappropriate.

18
days off

TRY GOOGLE FAMILY

Creating a Google Family account allows parents and carers to monitor what their child is watching, uploading, and sharing with other users. It will also display their recently watched videos, searches, and recommended videos. In general, a Google Family account gives a parent or carer oversight of how their child uses sites like YouTube and helps to ensure that they are only accessing appropriate content.

MONITOR ENGAGEMENT

YouTube is the online viewing platform of choice for billions of people, many of them under 18. Younger children will watch different content to older ones, of course. You may want to keep an eye on how children interact with this material – and, if applicable, with content creators – to understand what they're interested in. Remember that creators often share content outside of YouTube, so don't ignore their web presence elsewhere!

CONSIDER YOUTUBE KIDS

It's possible to sidestep most inappropriate content completely via Google's own YouTube Kids app for Android handsets and iPhone. This lets you filter content by 'preschool' (4 and under), 'younger' (ages 5 to 8) and 'older' (ages 9 to 12). This isn't a perfect substitute for personal supervision, as the app's filtering system is automated, and Google can't manually review all videos.

CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

YouTube gives users the option of uploading videos as 'private' or 'unlisted' – so they could be shared exclusively with family and friends, for example. Comments on videos can also be disabled and channels that a child is subscribed to can be hidden. If the child is only uploading videos set as 'private', they are far less likely to receive direct messages from strangers.

LIMIT SPENDING

Although YouTube is free, it does offer some in-app purchases. For example, users can rent and buy TV shows and movies to watch. If you'd like to avoid children purchasing content online, limit their access to online payment methods. Many parents have discovered the hard way that a child happily consuming a paid-for series quickly leads to an unexpected bill!

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.



The
National
College

X @wake_up_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

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Some useful information for parents and carers, including online webinars can be accessed via The National College (formerly National Online Safety). At school, we teach the children about safe online behaviours but it is important that these messages are reinforced at home at that parents and carers are aware of how to support their children if issues arise.

School admissions



Warwickshire County Council

If you have a child who is due to start Reception or Year 7 next September, you need to apply for their school place. Applications can be made via the Warwickshire School Admissions Service. Visit their website for more information <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/school-admissions-appeals>

Applying for a primary school place



Applying for a Secondary School Place





STORY
IMAGIN-ORY

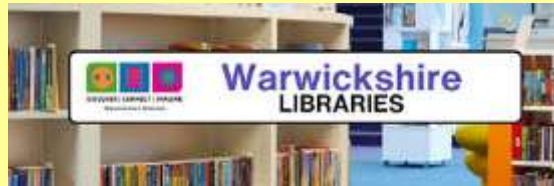
Warwick, Leamington Spa and Surrounding Areas

A MULTI-SENSORY STORYTELLING experience FOR UNDER 5'S

Open the pages of imagination as we explore books and stories through singing, performance storytelling, phonics, British sign language, and a **HUGE** range of weekly play activities such as messy play, mark making, sensory play, small world, numeracy and **SO** much more! We explore a new theme and book every week. Our classes are perfect for individuals or siblings, we have something for everyone!

Classes coming to Lighthorne Heath Village Hall!

To enquire please email Kate on
warwickleamingtonspa@storyimaginory.co.uk or visit
www.warwickleamingtonspa.storyimaginory.co.uk



National
Year
of
Reading
2026

Celebrate the National Year of Reading during half term with Warwickshire Libraries Myth and Magic this February half term.

This February half term, step into a world of wonder at the library! Join us for enchanting tales of legendary heroes, mystical creatures, and magical adventures.

[Find out what's happening in your local library on Eventbrite.](#)

Don't forget to stock up on books for your half term reading when visiting the library!

Poetry Collage with Emilie Lauren Jones

Create your own collages with professional poet Emilie Lauren Jones using lines of existing poetry, articles and a mix of images and other random objects! After the session, you will be able to take your fantastic creations home. Expect an inclusive, accessible and enjoyable session.

Wednesday 18th February

11am-12pm for ages 4-11-years 1-2pm for ages 12-15-years Lillington Library

Taste Detectives

Calling all junior detectives! Children aged 4–11 are invited to join our latest taste and create workshops, a hands-on drama and edible healthy eating workshop where they explore the mysterious world of flavour and texture. Young sleuths will investigate fruits from seed to smoothie, guess flavours using smell and taste and explore all the textures from the edible world by making their own edible detective! The workshop will be full of delicious discoveries through drama, play and craft!

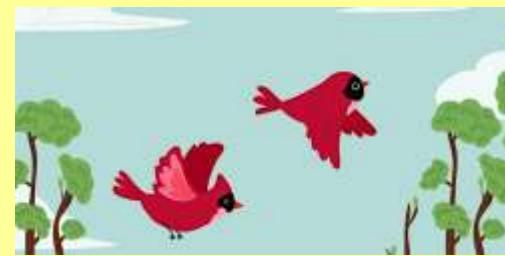
Suitable for children aged 4-11-years-old. Please book one ticket for each child attending. Not suitable for children under 4-years-old. [Find a session and book on Eventbrite.](#)

A highlight of the week is Read, Rave & Celebrate Stories!, a live-streamed event taking place at selected libraries as part of the National Year of Reading 2026. The event will feature a live BBC CBeebies Bedtime Story, broadcast from Leeds Central Library, offering a fun and interactive way to celebrate reading. The full programme of library activities is available in the What's On Guide, with further details about the CBeebies event available at: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/cc/movies-and-media-2633169>





Events and activities in Warwickshire



Families can enjoy the benefits of spending active time outdoors with half-term fun at Warwickshire's country parks. Activities will take place at Ryton Pools Country Park and Kingsbury Water Park, including campfire popcorn, teddy bear dens, making natural bird feeders and more. Book tickets at <https://countryparks.warwickshire.gov.uk/activities>.

Alongside the scheduled activities, the parks offer varied play areas, woods and lakes to explore, quirky independent cafes to discover, and more. Browse the country parks and greenways at <https://countryparks.warwickshire.gov.uk/explore>.

A free, hands-on event will be taking place at Market Hall Museum in Warwick with Buzzing with Life: Discover the World of Bugs and Bees! The event includes bug handling sessions with ZooLab, insect-themed craft activities and colouring inspired by the Dorothy Cadbury exhibit. Children can also take part in the Bug Hunt Museum Trail, exploring the galleries to uncover insects hidden among the displays. More information and booking details are available at: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/heritage-and-culture-warwickshire-74671062993>

Petting zoos and farms are always a half term favourite. To ensure everyone has a safe and enjoyable experience, visitors of all ages are reminded how to avoid picking up infections from any animal friends they come into contact with. Enjoy these places safely by supervising children to wash their hands with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds after petting or feeding animals. Keep faces away from the animals and fingers out of mouths. Dr Rachel Hornigold, Consultant in Public Health provides further information in this video <https://youtube.com/shorts/CtcuIuy93tc?feature=share>

[Children and Family Centres](#) across Warwickshire will also be offering a range of free activities during the half-term break. Contact local centres to find out more or drop in to find out what is available. More information is available at www.warwickshire.gov.uk/childrenandfamilycentres.



It's cold, it's dark, and there's only so many kids you can have in your house, so we're using the hall instead.

Come along, meet new people, and let the kids burn off some energy.

Thursday 26 February • 5:00pm

Lighthorne Heath Village Hall
(next to the shop)

Parent and child attend together.

All welcome.

Lisa (Daisy's Mum) is organising this event. She has requested that families let her know if they are planning to attend so that she is aware of numbers— the school can put you in touch if you don't know Lisa.

WARM HUB EVERY THURSDAY

11 - 1.30

LIGHTHORNE HEATH VILLAGE HALL

Enjoy a free tea, coffee, cake
and conversation, FREE wi-fi
and laptops available

FREE SEATED CHAIR EXERCISES
EVERY WEEK - 1.00 - 1.30
a great workout

EVERYONE WELCOME!

Community information



Village Hall, Lighthorne Heath 3:15-3:45

2026:

5th Jan, 2nd Feb, 2nd March, 30th March,
27th April, 26th May, 22nd June, 20th
July, 17th August, 14th September, 12th
October, 9th November, 7th December



Each mobile library stocks:

- A selection of books, including large print
- Spoken word
- Books for young children

For more information, call (01926) 851031 or visit our website at warwickshire.gov.uk/mobilelibraries
To see our current routes, go to:
https://apps.warwickshire.gov.uk/MobileLibraries/library_routes