Leamington Hastings C of E Academy

Plant, Grow, Flourish!

Newsletter number: 11

Date: 20.11.2026

What a busy week we've had! It has certainly been one of those weeks that has flown by, with lots happening across the school. One of the highlights of the week was our successful open evening, where we had the pleasure of welcoming prospective reception parents and families into school. It was lovely to showcase our school, share the wonderful learning opportunities we offer and receive positive comments from our visitors. Thank you to everyone who helped make the evening a success.

We have a further opportunity for prospective parents to visit the school coming up, with details included in the diary dates. Please do spread the word to any family or friends who have children due to start reception in September 2027. If you know anyone who is unable to attend our planned session, please reassure them that we are always happy to arrange individual tours which can be arranged by contacting the school office.

On Monday, the children and staff enjoyed wearing their odd socks to mark the start of Anti-Bullying Week. This was a lovely opportunity to celebrate what makes each of us unique and to remind the children that our differences are something to be valued and respected. Throughout the week, we have been helping the children to understand what bullying means and the importance of treating everyone with kindness and respect. We have shared the child-friendly acronym STOP – Several Times On Purpose, helping children to recognise that bullying involves behaviour that is repeated and deliberate. We have also discussed the difference between bullying and occasional disagreements or incidents of unkindness, whilst reinforcing that all unkind behaviour is taken seriously and should be reported to a trusted adult.







Thank you for your ongoing support, have a lovely weekend.

Suzanne Marson
Headteacher

FRIENDSHIP COURAGE FORGIVENESS GENEROSITY THANKFULNESS TRUTHFULNESS

Pupil achievements this week

Learner of the week

Eagle Owls (EYFS):	Finlay	Snowy Owls (KS1):	Sam

Learning behaviour of the week (based on the half termly learning behaviour focus)

Eagle Owls (EYFS):	Oscar	Snowy Owls (KS1):	Max

Presentation award

Eagle Owls (EYFS):	Logan	Snowy Owls (KS1):	Georgia

Five reads

Eagle Owls (EYFS):	Finlay, Ruben	Snowy Owls (KS1):	Isla N, Zara, Georgia, Will, Charlie, James, Isla D, Lara, Sophia, Autumn, Joe, Lucas, Ella, Isaac, Sam, Freddie

Caught showing values slips

Courage:	Isla D, Sam	Generosity:	Corrin, Mrs W	Truthfulness:	
Friendship:	Lara, Millie, Jack, Sophia, Ella, Finlay	Forgiveness:		Thankfulness:	Mia

Dojo award

Eagle Owls (EYFS):	Corrin	Snowy Owls (KS1):	Ella

Home Achievements

This week the achievements include Rugby



Spotlight on .....

Phonics

At Leamington Hastings C of E Academy, we use the Little Wandle approach to teach phonics throughout nursery (phase 1), reception (phase 2, 3 & 4) and year 1 (phase 5). This systematic, structured approach features on the DfE's list of validated phonics schemes and takes cognitive science research into account. All phonics teaching throughout school is well paced to ensure that children quickly learn to read by learning sounds and tricky words in a systematic and consistent way. This means that children are able to start reading words and then sentences quickly – even as soon as learning their first four sounds. Children learn that sounds can be represented by graphemes (written representation of sounds) and how to blend sounds together to read words. You may hear your children refer to digraphs and trigraphs. Digraphs are two letters that make one sound e.g. the ck in clock or brick. Trigraphs are three letters that make one sound e.g. the igh in sigh or night. The graphemes taught in school, including digraphs and trigraphs, can be seen in the image below.





In year 2, children revisit some of the year 1 graphemes during their Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling lessons, focusing on using their phonetic knowledge for spelling and learning spelling rules.

To reinforce the children's phonics learning, children in reception and year one will bring home a homework sheet each week, providing them with words and sentences to practise reading and writing.

Children's phonics knowledge across the school is assessed half termly in order to in-form teachers planning and to check that all children are making progress; those children who need support to keep up with their peers will receive interventions that may involve them working in a small group or individually with a designated adult in addition to their phonics lessons.

It is very important that letter sounds are pronounced correctly by the children, so that they don't encounter problems when blending to read words. You can find out how to pronounce the phones correctly by viewing videos on our school website, or by viewing the Little Wandle parents page. You will also find a wide range of resources on both pages.

There are home learning phonic card packs that can be purchased to enable you to practise phonics at home, should you wish to do so. There are two different reception packs, and a year 1 pack. The year 1 pack is also suitable for year 2 to rehearse their knowledge. These can be purchased from book shops, or online retailers such as Amazon.

Diary Dates

Any new dates will be added in red

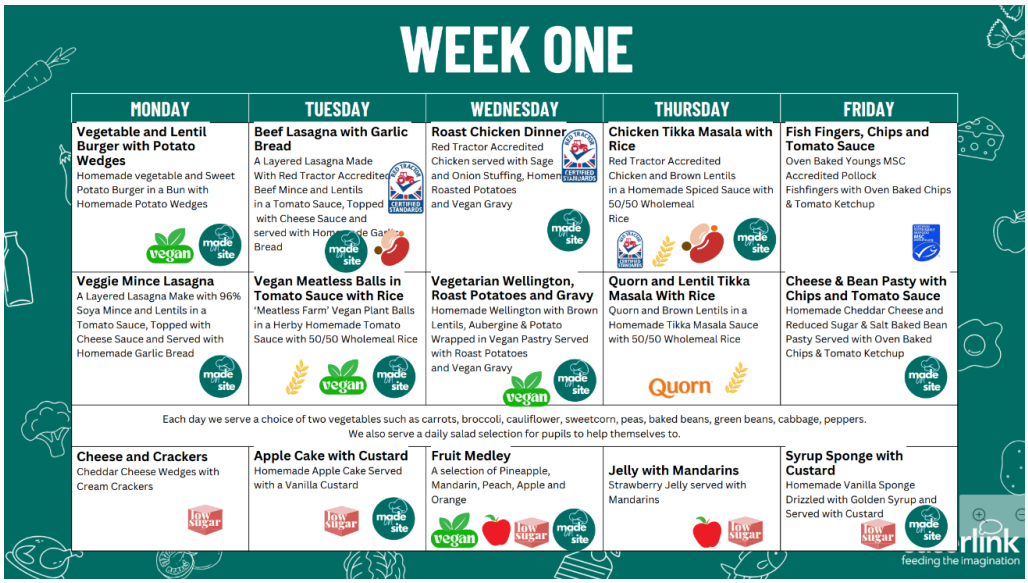
Thursday 26th November	**Passport to world views afternoon – Hannukah** **Children will be learning about the festival of Hannukah during the afternoon.**
Saturday 28th November	**Christmas Wreath Making Workshop** **Friends of Leamington Hastings PTA fundraiser. Please see poster for further details.**
Thursday 26th November	**Non Uniform day** **Non uniform day in exchange for bottles and sweet treats to be sold on tombola stalls at the Christmas Fair.**
Monday 30th November	**Open afternoon for prospective reception and nursery** **If your child is due to start reception or nursery in September 2027, you are welcome to join us for a group tour around the school at 2pm. Please book via the school office.**
Wednesday 2nd December	**Open morning for prospective parents** **If your child is due to start reception or nursery in September 2027, you are welcome to join us for a group tour around the school at 9.30am. Please book via the school office.**
Wednesday 2nd December	**Christingle Service** **Parents are welcome to come into school to join the children for a Christingle service. Please arrive via the school office for a 2:30pm start.**
Wednesday 2nd December	**Dunchurch Boughton C E Junior Academy Open Morning** **Dunchurch Boughton C of E Junior Academy are running an open morning at 9.00 am for anyone whose child is due to start year three in September 2027. Individual tours can also be provided - please contact the school office at office.junior@dunchurch.covmat.org to book an individual tour.**
Thursday 10th December	**Christmas Jumper & Craft Day** **Children are welcome to come into school wearing non-uniform, including a Christmas jumper, for Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day. Any voluntary donations are welcome. Children will take part in a Christmas craft day on this day.**
Thursday 10th December	**Cake and baked goods donations for the Christmas fair** **You are welcome to drop donations off at the school office from Thursday 10th December. Please refer to the poster for further details.**
Friday 11th December	**Christmas Fair** **Come and join our Christmas Fair straight after school. To be held in the school hall.**

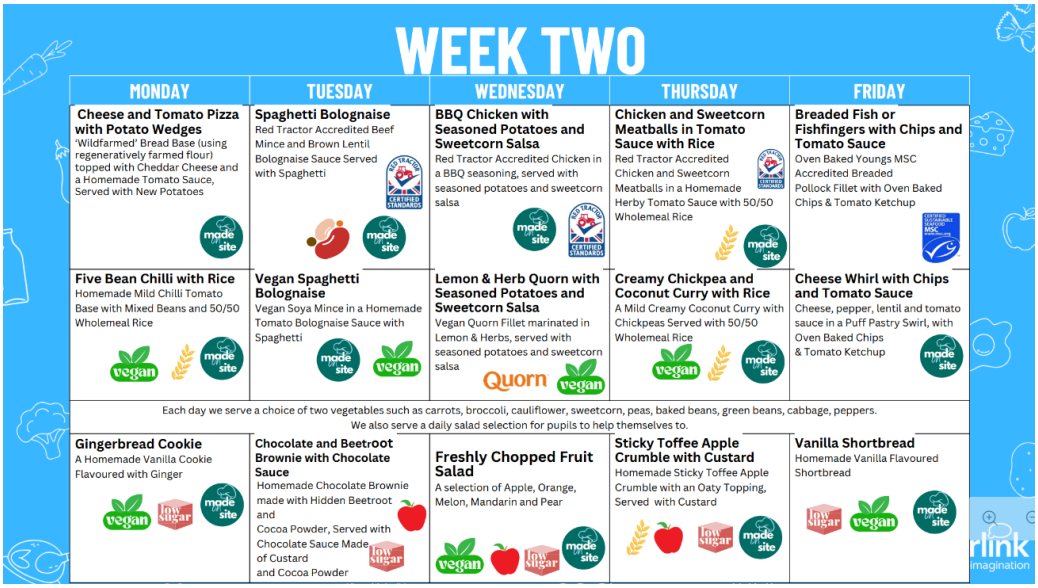
Monday 14th December	**Christmas Performance 1** **The children across school will perform their Christmas play at 2:30pm. Each family will be allocated two tickets for the play, which will be available to obtain via MCAS nearer the time. Please enter and leave the school via the school office.**
Tuesday 15th December	**Christmas Performance 2** **The children across school will perform their Christmas play at 9:15am. Each family will be allocated two tickets for the play, which will be available to obtain via MCAS nearer the time. Please enter and leave the school via the school office.**
Wednesday 16th December 2026	**Warwick Arts Centre Theatre Visit – The Gruffalo Child** **The whole school will visit the Warwick Arts Centre in the morning to see The Gruffalo's Child as a theatre performance. Kindly funded by the PTA. We will need parental helpers for the trip, please let the school office know if you are able to help.**
Friday 8th January 2027	**PTA – Hot chocolate pop up shop located in the playground at 3.15pm.**
Tuesday 12th January 2027	**CBSO Reception and KS1 Schools Concert – Reception, Year 1 and Year2 pupils will be attending a concert at the CBSO Centre, Birmingham. Please refer to the letter for further details.**
Tuesday 2nd March 2027	**Oxford Natural History Museum KS1 Trip – Year 1 and Year 2 pupils will have the opportunity to visit Oxford University Museum of Natural History. Please refer to the letter for further details.**

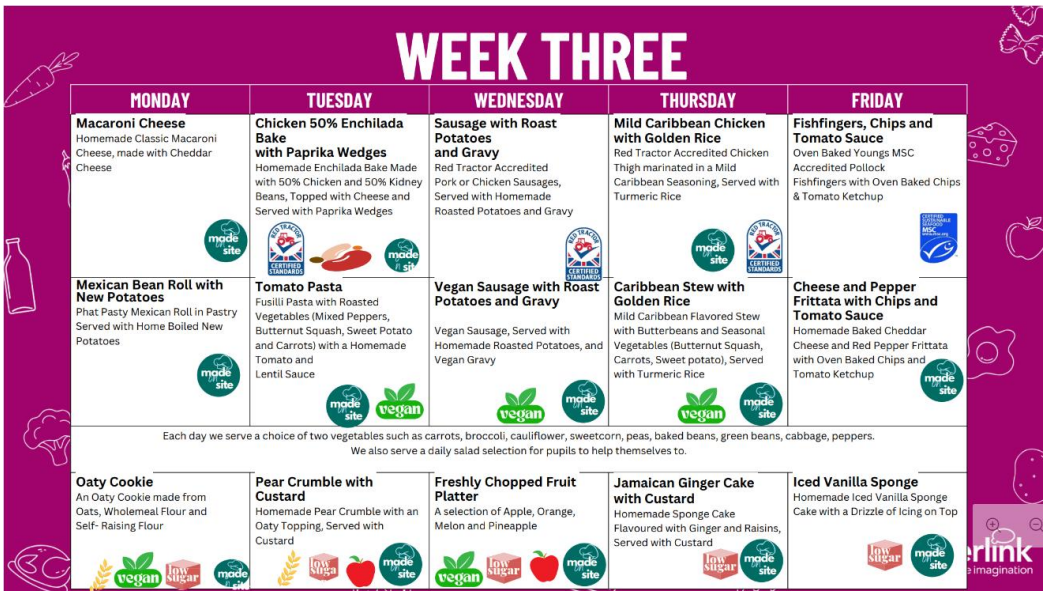




Current Lunch Menu



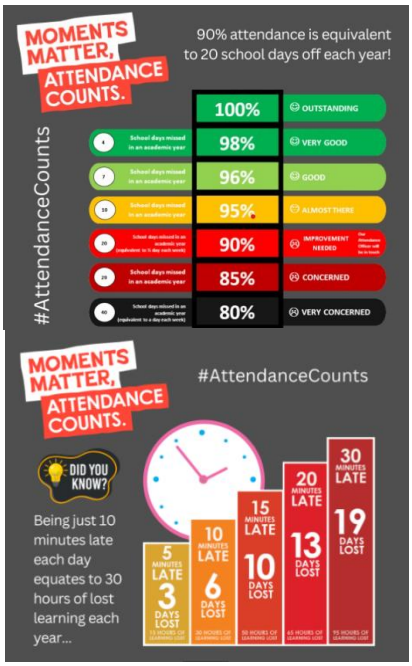




Attendance Weekly Summary

Whole School: 94.52% (Target 97%)

		
Reception	Year 1	Year 2
100%	85%	100%



PE Days

Children should wear their P.E. kits to school on the following days. On other days, normal school uniform should be worn.



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Reception KS1				Reception KS1

After-School Clubs

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Arts & Crafts	Drama	Football	Cheerleading	Multi Sport (excluding 18th December)

To book a place in an after-school club, please book via the MCAS app.

Term Dates

Academic Year 2026/2027

Autumn term 2026

End of term: Friday 18th December

Christmas holiday: Monday 21st December to Friday 1st January

Spring term 2027

Training day: Monday 4th January

Start of term for children: Tuesday 5th January

Half term: Monday 15th to Friday 19th February

Training day: Monday 22nd February

End of term: Thursday 25th March

Easter holiday: Friday 26th March to Friday 9th April

Summer term 2027

Start of term: Monday 12th April

Bank holiday: Monday 3rd May

Half term: Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June

Training day: Monday 7th June

End of term: Wednesday 21st July

Summer holiday: Thursday 22nd July to Wednesday 1st September

Autumn term 2027

Start of term - Wednesday 1 September - this is a teacher training day

Half term – Monday 25th to 29th October

End of Term - Friday 17th December

Christmas holiday – Monday 20th December to 4th January 2028

For Warwickshire school term dates please click here.

* School and nursery are closed to all children during bank holidays, training days and holiday periods.

In Collective Worship this week …

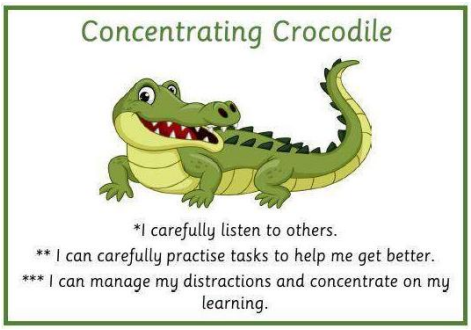
During collective worship this week, we have explored the themes of friendship and anti-bullying, including through the use of the story Simon Sock.

We have also continued to explore our value of generosity, using the story of the feeding of the 5000 (the story of five loaves and two fish).

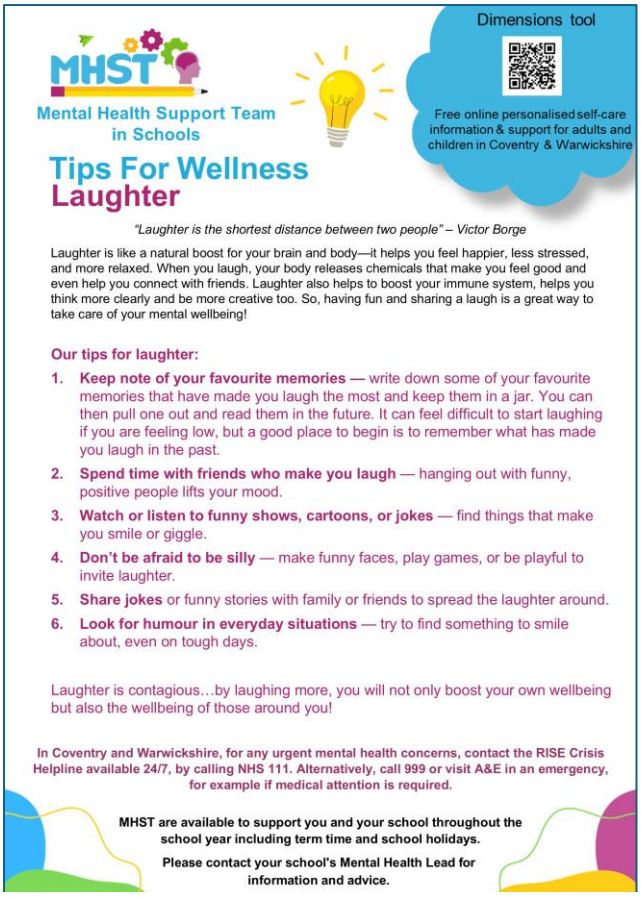
Christian Value this half term



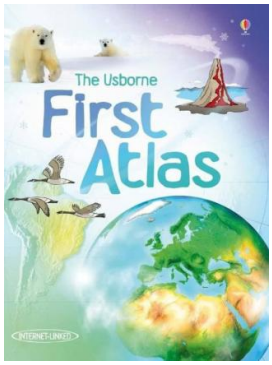
Learning Behaviour this half term



Mental Health Support



Book of the week



Title: Usborne First Atlas

Author: Elizabeth Dalby

Recommended by: Emily

Emily is currently exploring this fact filled non fiction book. She enjoys sharing her knowledge including parts of the United Kingdom and the line of the equator. She especially likes looking at the illustrated flags which includes Georgia.

E-Safety tip of the week

Childnet

This week's top tip for parents to keep children safe online.

Please find the link to the online safety tips.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

The Warwickshire Local Authority monthly SEND newsletter can be found here. Click link

The Warwickshire SEND local offer can be found here. Click link

Families can request free advice and support through Warwickshire SENDIASS Click link

BEST START IN LIFE

Early Years Funding

Click on the link to find out more about it, who qualifies and how to apply.

Family Support

Families can access free parenting courses through Eventbrite here.

Click on Family Information Service for a wide range of information to support families, or to request support.









Reception and Junior entry

When can your child start school?

- **Children can start school (Reception) in the September after their fourth birthday.**

You need to apply for September 2027 if your child:

- was born between **1 September 2022** and **31 August 2023** (for a place in Reception).
- If your child will be in Year 2 at an infant school in September 2027 (for a place in a junior school).

1 November	15 January	1 February	16 April	30 April	14 May
Application opens	Closing date for applications	Extended closing date for house moves	National offer day	Waiting list positions published	Deadline for submitting appeals



Please find the link to the Nov/Jan issue

https://bit.ly/ALLSORTS-MAG_NOVJAN

Dear parents,

WARWICKSHIRE PARENT CARER VOICE

Warwickshire Parent Carer Voice (WPCV) is running a survey to find out how inclusive you think your child's school is. This survey is anonymous and can be filled in by parents of children with or without Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). They will use this information to help develop the support for schools as part of the SEND reforms.

This is the link to the survey: https://forms.gle/QL91UCf6NPzxXtwC9