



Leamington Hastings C of E Academy



Plant, Grow, Flourish

Newsletter number: 9

Date: 07.11.25

Welcome back to school. I hope that everyone had a good half term and is feeling refreshed ready for the half term ahead. The children have been talking about days out, holidays, attending clubs and spending time together as a family — it sounds like you have all been very busy!

We are delighted to share with you that Miss Scofield had a beautiful baby girl over the half term break. Mum and baby are doing really well, and are settling into life as a family of five. I am sure that you will join us in congratulating the family on their new arrival.

If your child is in pre-school or year two, it is time to apply for their school place for next academic year. All applications need to be made via the Warwickshire admissions portal which can be found by clicking [here](#). The graphic below shows the dates that applications need to be made by.



Thank you to everyone for engaging well with Dojo. Just a reminder that both parents can be registered for each child, not only one parent. Please contact the school office if you require the QR code for a further parent to be registered.

As you will have seen on recent newsletters, we have a current vacancy for a parent governor (AGC member). We have received two applications, so we are inviting parents to vote for who they would like their representative to be. Supporting evidence for each person is on Class Dojo, and can also be accessed in an alternative format upon request. You can cast your vote by filling in [this short form](#) which will remain live until 12pm on the 19th November. We would like to thank the two people who have put themselves forward to become an AGC member for their support and commitment towards the school .

Thank you for your ongoing support. Have a lovely weekend.

Suzanne Marson

Headteacher



PUPIL ACHIEVEMENTS THIS WEEK

LEARNING OF THE WEEK

Eagle Owls: Joseph
Snowy Owls: Edith

LEARNING BEHAVIOUR OF THE WEEK

Eagle Owls: James, Sam P
Snowy Owls: Benjamin

FIVE READS RAFFLE TICKET:

Eagle Owls: Max, Millie, Autumn, Leo, Lara, Sophia O,
Ella, James, Arnie, Joe, Charlie, Sophia L,
Isla, Lucas, Isaac, Benjamin
Snowy Owls: Will, Emily, Ava, Edith, Benjamin

PRESENTATION AWARD:

Eagle Owls: Lara, Jack
Snowy Owls: Zara

CAUGHT SHOWING VALUES

Courage: Jacob, Edith, Jude, Max, Benjamin (Rec),
Autumn, Ruben

Forgiveness: Isaac, Charlie, Lara, Millie

Generosity: Ava, Zara x 2, Emily x 2, Georgia x 2, Ava,
Jacob, Will, Edith, Jude, Autumn, Joe,
Sophia L, Sam, Lucas, Sophia O, Leo,
James, Charlie, Ella

Friendship: Jack, Benjamin (Rec), Freddie, Isaac, Joe,
Sam P, Ella, Isla, Benjamin Y2, Jude,
Sophia O, Jack, Corrin

Thankfulness: Sam, Isla, Will, Emily, Millie, Arnie

Truthfulness: Benjamin (Y2), Emily

ACHIEVEMENTS FROM HOME

Achievements from home include horse riding and gymnastics.



Spotlight on

Reading

In addition to using the 'Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised' approach to teach phonics, we use this approach to teach reading throughout reception, year one and year two. All children read to an adult three times per week, taking part in a reading practise session within a group of children who are of a similar ability level. Each reading practise session has a key focus:

Decoding – a focus on reading the words in the text, ensuring they make sense and applying phonics knowledge

Prosody – learning to read with intonation and expression

Comprehension – answering questions and demonstrating an understanding of what has been read. There is always a key focus for this session, such as retrieving information from the text or reading between the lines to make inferences.

The books that we use to teach reading in reception and year one are from the 'Big Cat Collins Little Wandle' range of books. These match our phonics programme and are fully decodable. Children take part in a six weekly informal phonics assessment with their class teacher, which is used to inform a reading level stage. When the children have read their reading practise book three times in school, they will bring them home to celebrate their reading with you. As children will already know these books really well, please do not worry if they can already read these books fluently – they are celebrating and practising their reading with you! Within these books, there are parental prompts and questions that you can ask the children on both the front page before reading, and on the back page after reading. There is also a story map within many of the books, which children can use to retell the key events of the story.



This block contains a reading practice sheet titled 'Before reading' and 'Review: After reading'. The 'Before reading' section includes 'Practising phonics: Phase 3' with instructions to read words like 'ee', 'igh', 'oa', 'oo', 'ar', 'ur', 'ow', 'air', 'er', 'or' and 'feeds', 'high', 'goats', 'pool', 'arm'. It also lists 'Common exception words: the (on)to are'. The 'Review: After reading' section has three parts: 'Read 1: Decoding' (focus on words like 'see', 'eat', 'eat', 'eat'), 'Read 2: Prosody' (choose from double page spreads and model reading with expression), and 'Read 3: Comprehension' (turn to pages 14 and 15 and ask the children if this shows the pool at the beginning or end of the story). To the left of the sheet are several book covers from the Little Wandle series, including 'Parasports', 'Dreenda's Hair', 'Undersea Volcanoes', 'Top Dogs First!', 'Books Can Do Anything!', and 'The Lights in the Darkness'.

In year two, once the children are fluent readers, we have a further set of books that we use to teach children to read. Through these books, children have the opportunity to read texts containing increasingly complex sentence structures and ambitious vocabulary, and develop further stamina for reading.

In addition to the children bringing home their school reading book, they will also bring home a weekly book from the library that they will have chosen independently. Children are unlikely to be able to read this independently, especially in the younger year groups. This is a book for you to share together. We term these our 'sharing books'.

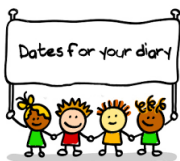
We take the approach that we want the children to read a wide range of texts and books, opening the children's eyes to the world around them and building their knowledge of vocabulary. Please do not feel that you only have to read school books with your child. Trips to the library, book shops and reading books from home have just as much value. It is also important that children continue to experience adults reading books to them, as well as practising their reading aloud with their phonetically decodable reading book.

Don't forget that we have a reading raffle in school. If children read at home five times in the week by the end of the week and this is recorded in the reading diary, the children earn a raffle ticket on a Friday. Reading to your child counts as part of the five reads, along with your child reading their reading book. A raffle ticket is then drawn for each year group at the end of each half term, where children can choose a book from a selection available to take home and keep.



Any new dates will be added in red

W/C Monday 10th November	<p>Antibullying week</p> <p>Children will be taught about antibullying throughout the week. Children are invited to wear odd socks to school on Monday, demonstrating that we are all unique.</p>
W/C Monday 10th November	<p>Interfaith week</p> <p>Some collective worships throughout the week will focus on the similarities between a range of faiths.</p>
Tuesday 11th November	<p>Remembrance Day</p> <p>Children will learn about Remembrance Day in an age-appropriate way and take part in a one minute silence at 11am.</p>
Wednesday 12th November	<p>Flu Vaccines</p> <p>Children from reception to year two will be having their flu vaccines in school where parental consent has been provided (a link will be sent to parents on 22.10.25 from the immunisation team).</p>
Thursday 13th November	<p>World Kindness Day</p> <p>We will be focussing on how to show kindness to one another, linked to antibullying week.</p>
Thursday 20th November 9:30am	<p>Information session with Mrs Darragh for year two parents</p> <p>Mrs Darragh, Headteacher of Dunchurch Boughton C of E Junior Academy, will be available in the Dunchurch Infant school hall at 9:30am to talk to parents of children who are currently in year two at either Dunchurch Infants or Leamington Hastings. This is a chance to talk to Mrs Darragh and find out more about the Juniors, with information tailored to the two feeder schools.</p>
Friday 21st November	<p>Children in Need</p> <p>Children are invited to come into school in non-uniform, including wearing spots. Parents are welcome to make a voluntary donation on this day.</p>
Tuesday 25th November	<p>Open evening for prospective reception and nursery parents</p> <p>Is your child due to start reception or nursery in September 2026? Prospective reception parents are welcome to join us for a presentation and a chance to look around the school. Please arrive via the school office for a 5pm start.</p>
Monday 1st December	<p>Theatre trip</p> <p>The whole school will visit the Warwick Arts Centre in the morning to see The Tiger Who Came To Tea as a theatre performance. More details to follow.</p>



Any new dates will be added in red

Tuesday 2nd De- cember	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.
Monday 8th De- cember	Christmas Wreath Making Evening Hosted by Leamington Hastings School PTA. All proceeds will go towards new school equipment.
Tuesday 9th De- cember	Christmas around the world Children will be learning about Christmas around the world during the afternoon.
Thursday 11th De- cember	Christmas jumper and 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.
Wednes- day 17th December	Christmas performance 1 The children across school will perform their Christmas play at 2:30pm. Each family will receive two tickets for the play, which will be sent home nearer the time. Please enter and leave the school via the school office.
Thursday 18th De- cember	Christmas performance 2 The children across school will perform their Christmas play at 9:15am. Each family will receive two tickets for the play, which will be sent home nearer the time. Please enter and leave the school via the school office.
Thursday 18th De- cember	Christmas church service, All Saints Church All parents are welcome to join us in All Saints Church for a Christmas church service to start at approximately 1:45pm. We will be travelling to church via minibus as the fields are too muddy to walk the whole school at this time of year. We would be grateful for any volunteers to accompany the children on the minibus. Please let the school office know if you are able to help.

UK Health Security Agency **Diarrhoea and vomiting**

Don't spread it. Stay home for 48 hours after your symptoms clear.

DO

- Wash soiled clothes and bedding at 60°C
- Wash hands with soap, clean surfaces with bleach-based disinfectants




DON'T

- Go to work or school, visit care homes or hospitals
- Prepare food for others




MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS. #AttendanceCounts

DID YOU KNOW?
Being just 10 minutes late each day equates to 30 hours of lost learning each year...

Attendance Weekly Summary

Whole school: 94.93% (Target 97%)

Reception	Year 1	Year 2
91%	100%	100%

PE Days

Children should wear their P.E. kits to school on the following days:



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Early Years KS1	-	-	-	Early Years KS1

After School Clubs: Autumn term 2

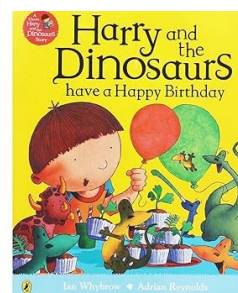
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Arts & Crafts	Pottery Club	Dodge Ball	Football	Cheerleading (excluding 19.12.25)

BOOK OF THE WEEK

Title: Harry and the Dinosaurs have a Happy Birthday

Author: Adrian Reynolds

Recommended by: Freddie



Freddie recommended the book this week as he will be celebrating a birthday soon and Harry and his dinosaurs love birthday parties too. Freddie enjoys sharing the book however, his favourite dinosaur is the Apatosaurus who squirts water onto the Stegosaurus whilst having a wheelbarrow race.

ONLINE SAFETY TIP OF THE WEEK

B B C



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

Please find the [link](#) to the online safety tips.

TERM DATES 2024/2025

Autumn Term 2025

End of Term Friday 19th December

Spring Term 2026

Start of Term: Monday 5th January

Half Term: Monday 16th February to Friday 20th February

Teacher Training Day: Monday 23rd February

End of term: Friday 27th March

Summer Term 2026

Start of Term Monday 13th April

Half Term: Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May

Teacher Training Day: Monday 1st June

End of Term: Friday 17th July

**Disaggregated Teacher Training Day:
Monday 20th July**

For Warwickshire school term dates please [click here.](#)

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

In collective worship this week we have introduced our new learning behaviour, concentrating crocodile. We have also considered All Saints Day, and introduced our new value of generosity.

CHRISTIAN VALUE



LEARNING BEHAVIOUR

Click on [Family Information Service](#) for further information



Compass

[Click for the latest newsletter](#)

Concentrating Crocodile



*I carefully listen to others.

** I can carefully practise tasks to help me get better.

*** I can manage my distractions and concentrate on my learning.

You need to apply for September 2026 if your child:

- was born between **1 September 2021** and **31 August 2022** (for a place in Reception).
- If your child will be in Year 2 at an infant school in September 2025 (for a place in a junior school).

The applications process opens on 1 November 2025 and the deadline for applying for a Reception or Junior place is **15 January 2026**. If you apply by this date, you will receive your child's school offer on National Offer Day (16 April 2026).

A horizontal timeline with five circular nodes:

- 1 November**: Application opens
- 15 January**: Closing date for applications
- 1 February**: Extended closing date for house moves
- 16 April**: National offer day
- 14 May**: Deadline for submitting appeals



Be Helpful

Being helpful means doing something kind for someone else — like sharing, listening, or offering a hand — even in small ways. When you help, your brain feels safe and happy. It teaches empathy, kindness, and gratitude — all great for mental health!

Why being helpful is good for you:

Boosts your mood: Helping others releases feel-good chemicals in your brain.
Builds Confidence: You'll feel proud and capable when you make a difference.
Creates Connection: Helping brings people together and reduces loneliness.
Reduces Stress: Focusing on others can calm your mind and improve wellbeing.

Our Top Tips For Being Helpful:

1. **Start Small** – You don't have to do something huge – even small acts of kindness matter! Holding a door, sharing a smile or helping with a chore all count.
2. **Listen First** – Sometimes the best way to help is to listen and being there for someone who needs to talk.
3. **Spread Positivity** – Compliments, encouragement, and gratitude go a long way. They make everyone feel good!
4. **Make it a habit** – Try to do one helpful thing every day. The more you practice kindness, the more natural it feels!
5. **Work as a team** – Helping doesn't mean doing everything alone. Teamwork makes helping fun and easier for everyone.
6. **Reflection time** – After helping someone, take a minute to think: How did it make you feel? How did it help the other person? What did you learn about kindness?

Examples of how to help others:

- Sit with someone who is alone at lunch time
- Give family or friends a kind note to brighten their day
- Help your neighbour to take their shopping in
- Offer to tidy the classroom or help your teacher hand out resources

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.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

School meals are free for lots of families, check if you are eligible to apply!

So much more than lunch...

A free school meal:

- creates healthy eating habits
- improves learning and behaviour
- saves money and time
- helps schools get extra funding

Did you know that claiming free school meals means that your child will get access to free school holiday activities and food?

To find out more and for help to apply for free school meals, please contact: freemeals@warwickshire.gov.uk or call 01926 359189

CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING EVENING

ALL MATERIALS & DECORATIONS SUPPLIED

£30 - Includes Mulled wine & nibbles
£10 deposit required & cash on the night.

MONDAY | 8TH DEC | AT 7 PM

Grandborough Village Hall

Spaces available from Hannah Mawby - 07738 147195
Hosted by Leamington Hastings School PTA. All proceeds will go towards new school equipment.