

# BISHOP'S TACHBROOK C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2025



## Autumn 1 Newsletter

*C. Kilbey*

Mrs C. Kilbey  
Head Teacher

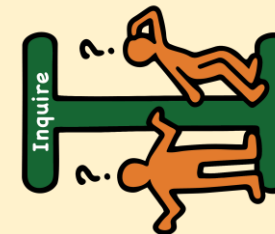
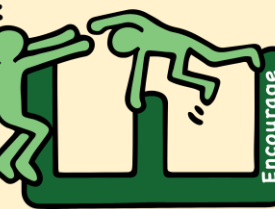
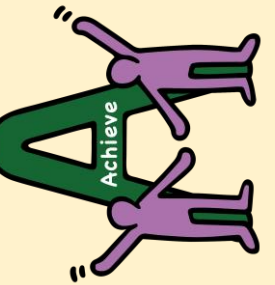
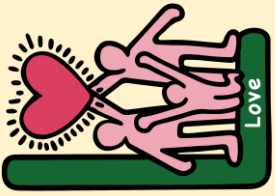


# A great start to the new school year...

It has been fabulous to be able to welcome our new Rabbits children this year. The children have settled in quickly and are making a fantastic start to their journey with us. Mrs Guilford has been so impressed with how well they are listening to each other and learning together already. She has spotted so many of them already using our IDEALS – being brave to give new things a try and Discover new skills. The older children have been taking good care of them out on the playground at lunchtimes too, which has been wonderful to see.

Across school there has been a feeling of determination in the classrooms – with so many children starting the year already using the Secrets of Success in their learning. It is always brilliant to pop into the classrooms and see the children so engaged with their learning, no matter what the subject. I have noticed so many using 'Encourage' and supporting their classmates with things that they are finding tricky, also asking for help from their friends and teachers when they are unsure.

The PTA have worked so hard to raise the money to repair the ropes on the KS1 climbing equipment, and the children have really enjoyed being able to climb again at break times and lunchtimes. They have also paid for the final part of the daily mile track to be repaired using a better surface. This has meant that we can use the track in all weathers. Thank you so much for all your support.





# Worship this half term:

This half term we have been focussing in on 'Encourage' from our IDEALS. We have read the Bible verse from 1 Thessalonians each week and considered ways that we could encourage and build each other up.

1 Thessalonians 5:11


*Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.*

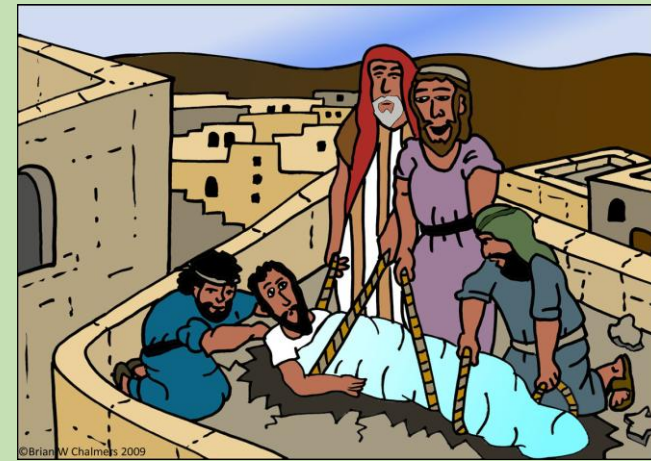
We started by thinking about the story of Jesus who met some fishermen when they had been fishing all night and not caught any fish. He encouraged the fishermen to try once more to catch the fish. At first they weren't keen to try again, but they did cast their nets one more time. They caught so many fish it was hard to pull the nets up. He then encouraged them to follow him.

We thought about how Jesus was a teacher and taught people how to live well and care for others.

We thought about how our teachers this year will be teaching us so much, and encouraging us to try work that we might find tricky at first. Jesus' disciples trusted in them, and our teachers know that we will be able to complete our learning, with their help.



 We heard the story of a man who couldn't walk and knew Jesus would be able to help him. He couldn't get to see Jesus on his own though, and his friends helped him by carrying him to the house Jesus was teaching in. The house was so full that the friends couldn't help him through the door. They didn't give up, though and found a way to help the man by lowering him through a hole they made in the roof.



We thought about how far we were prepared to go to help our friends when they really need us. Can we be a good friend and think of ways to help others even when it might feel impossible?



We thought about teamwork, and how in each class we all have different skills and abilities. We looked at how we could use teamwork to complete a task, and Emilia was able to draw a picture even though she was blindfolded because others helped and encouraged her.

*If one part of the body suffers,  
then all the other parts suffer with it.  
Or if one part is honored,  
then all the other parts share its honor.  
All of you together are the body of Christ.  
Each one of you is a part of that body.*

*1 Corinthians 12:26-27*

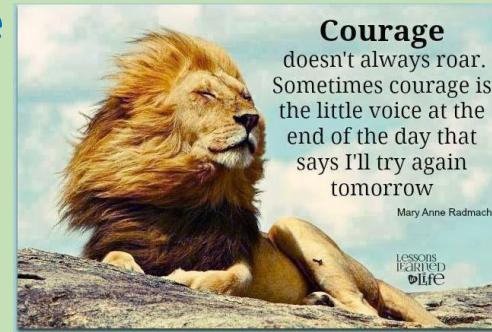
If one person in the class suffers, then all the other children need to help them.  
If one child in the class is praised, then all the other children can be proud of them.  
All together you are the team that makes your class.  
Each one of you is an important part of that team.



"We thought about the power of positive words to encourage ourselves and others.

When we encouraged the table tennis ball it eventually flew up to the ceiling. The more we encouraged, the higher it flew!

When we find something difficult the words we hear can help us to keep trying, or cause us to give up. These can be words we hear from others, or the words we tell ourselves. A positive mindset is really important when things are tricky. When we keep trying we can find that eventually we can 'fly'.



The Qur'an says: "Verily in the Messenger of God, you have a good example" (33:6).

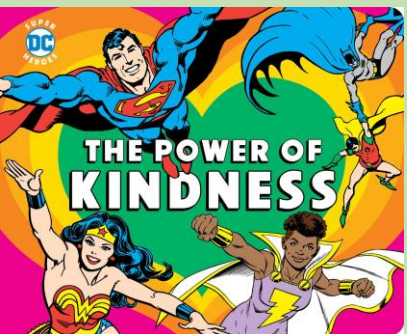
Who can you think of in your life who is a good example of how to live?

Who encourages you to make good choices? In a moment we are going to say a prayer of thanks when we can think of them.

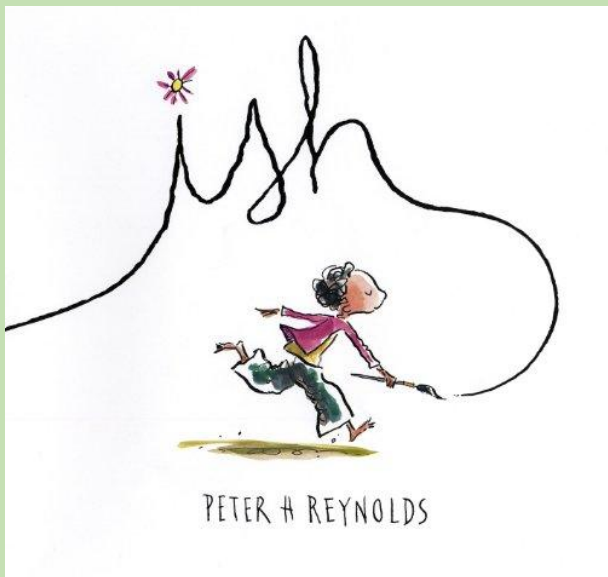
We heard a story from the Qu'ran about a lady who threw rubbish at the Prophet Muhammad as he passed her house. One day she was too poorly to stand at her door as he passed by, and he visited her to care for her. His kindness helped her to understand how her actions had been so unkind. She realised how kind he was and was changed by his visit. We thought about the people in our lives who were a good example to us. We considered how they had helped to shape the choices we make.



For Superhero day, we thought about the Incredibles, and what their super powers were. We also looked at some of the children's super power badges and ideas. We wondered whether the super powers, although some seemed quite destructive, were still showing a super power of kindness – as they were used for good.




We thought about our school IDEALS and considered whether they were like super powers. Love or kindness could be perhaps the most important super power we all try to show to others.



Mrs Pepin shared the idea of using encouraging words towards others, and not giving up through the story 'Ish'. [You can listen to the story by clicking this link.](#) Some teachers had a go at drawing a pirate ship, and we offered words of encouragement as well as ways to improve their drawing even more.

We thought about the importance of using kind words with others and encouraging them by spotting great things about them and the work they have done, as well as offering ways they could be even better.



We ended the half term by learning about how geese encourage each other when they migrate: the way that they fly in a V-shape to share the hard work of leading the way; the way they honk to encourage each other to keep going; the way that two stay with any injured goose to take care of it before rejoining the flight with another team.

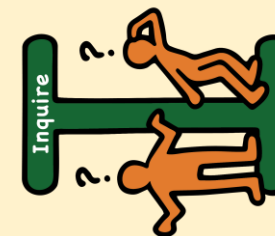
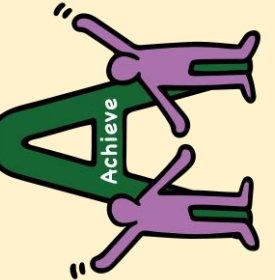
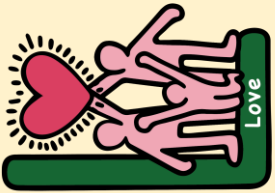


We thought about how we could learn from the geese, taking turns to be the leader when we work in a group, using encouraging words to keep the group motivation high and looking after members of our team who are struggling or finding it difficult.



Reverend Jonathan has joined us for worship on Wednesdays through this half term too. He has been helping us to think about 'Encourage' through stories and challenging us to think deeply. It has been fun helping him!



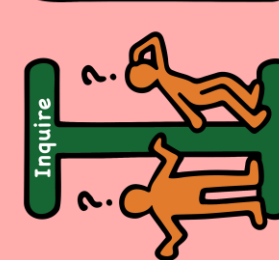
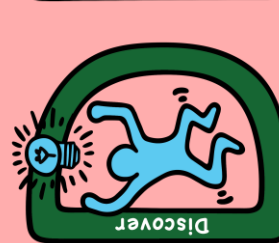
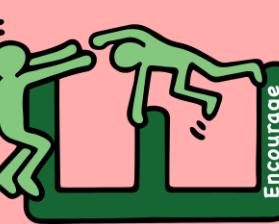
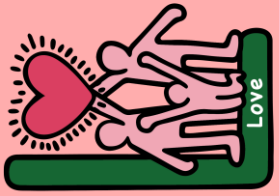


# What have the children been learning?

It has been a short but busy half term and there has been so much learning happening in school.

Please click on your child's year group to find out what they have been learning this half term. The more you can chat about the pictures, the more they will recall their learning, and the more likely it is to stay in their long term memory. Thank you for your help!





# IDEALS raffle tickets:

This half term saw the children living out so many of our IDEALS in school. Each week we counted the raffle tickets and created our league table.

**We would like to say a huge well done to both **Yellow** and **Blue** Team, who jointly scored the most points in our league table for collecting raffle tickets. They will celebrate with a ‘Wear What you Want’ day on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November.**

Our lucky raffle ticket winners this half term were: Charlie B, Rosie, Oakley, Henry B, Richie, James H, Izzy, Ivy, Amelia, Jessie, Finlay. Lauren, Sehb, Henry G, Anastasia, Caspian, Mark, Zack, Lottie, Hugh, Theo, Seb, Victor, Aanya, Ada, Bianca, William, Ella, Reggie, Stanley, Corey, Isabella, Chase, Teddy, Poppy, Henry V, Winter, Freya, Elias, Beatrice, Willow, Sophia, Ethan, Bailey, Albie, Georgia, Chester, Mason, Ellie and Sehj.

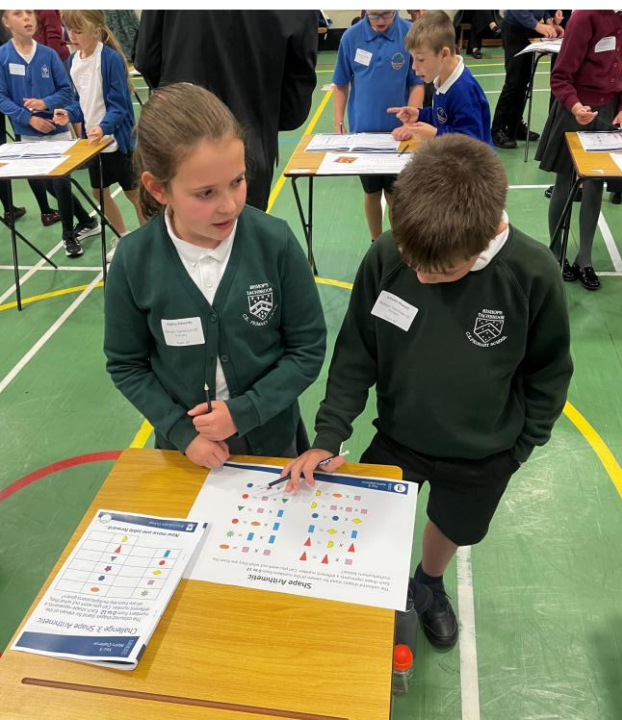
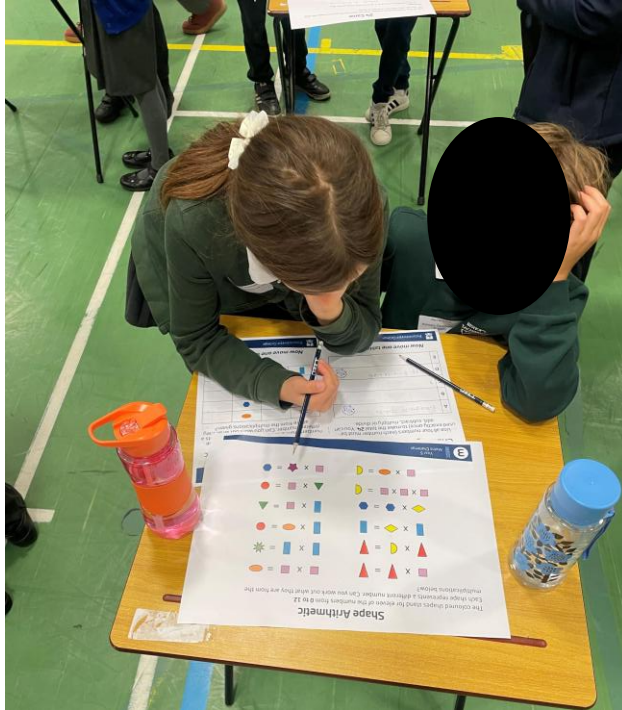
Team	Last week's points	TOTAL Points
Red	14	17
Yellow	16	20
Green	14	16
Blue	19	20





## Team Tachbrook in action...

Some brave Year 5 children took on the weather as well as some teams from other schools to take part in a hockey tournament. They shone throughout the games that they played, showing real determination and team spirit. We are extremely proud of the team and their resilience.



## Maths Stars

Oscar, Abi, Sophia and Lincoln represented school in a maths challenge at Princethorpe College. There were lots of tricky maths puzzles to solve and the children worked well in pairs to complete many of the puzzles successfully. Their resilience and ability to problem solve were very impressive.



# Harvest Donations

Caius and Izzy took the harvest gifts from St Chad's Church down to the Warwick Food Bank. Reverend Jonathan and some volunteers from church helped to pack the donations into bags and the children delivered and sorted them at the food bank.

We would like to thank everyone for the gifts that you donated. There was around 220kg of gifts donated – well done!



## Thank you!

### Bishops Tachbrook Primary

For your wonderful harvest donation in support of Warwick District Foodbank.

Your dedication and support have made a huge difference to the lives of people living in poverty.

Miriam Bowen  
October 2025



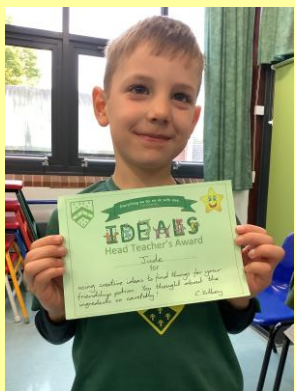
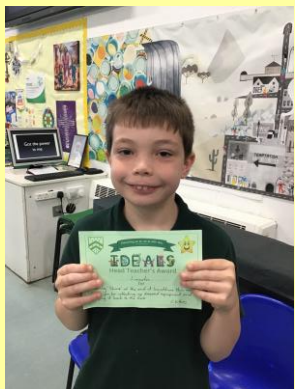


# IDEALS Awards

This half term we have celebrated lots of children showing our IDEALS and shining as great role models to other children.



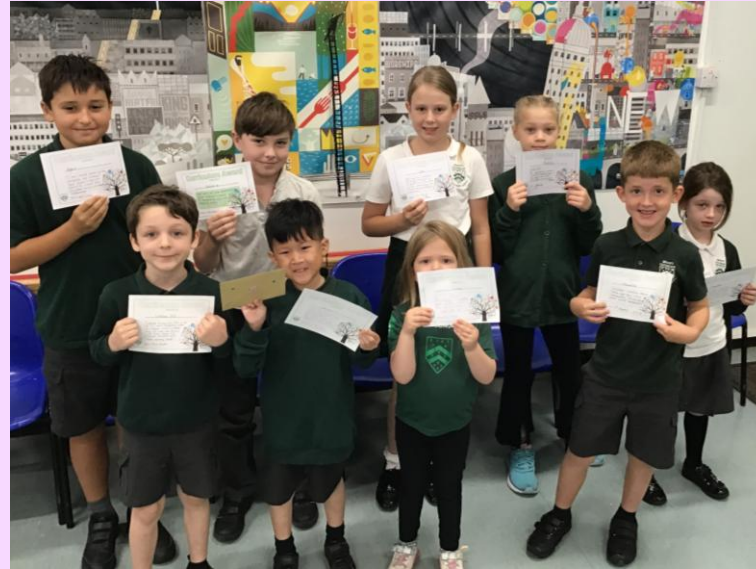
## Head Teacher's Stars



Also:  
Arthur, Ada,  
Max, Alice, Lily,  
Jessica, Leon,  
Lyla and Year 6

# Achieve Curriculum Awards

This half term we have celebrated lots of children achieving great things across the curriculum: scientists, artists, mathematicians, theologians, writers, designers, scientists...



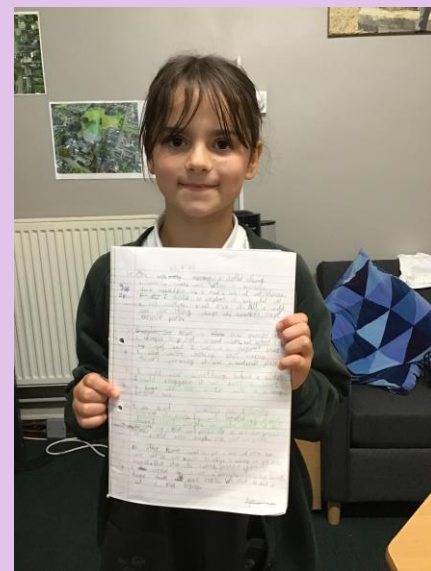
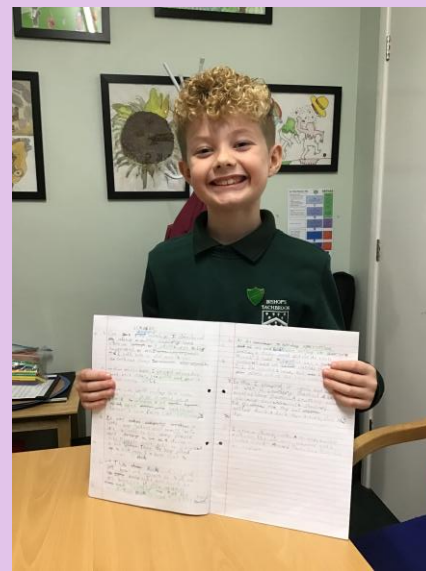
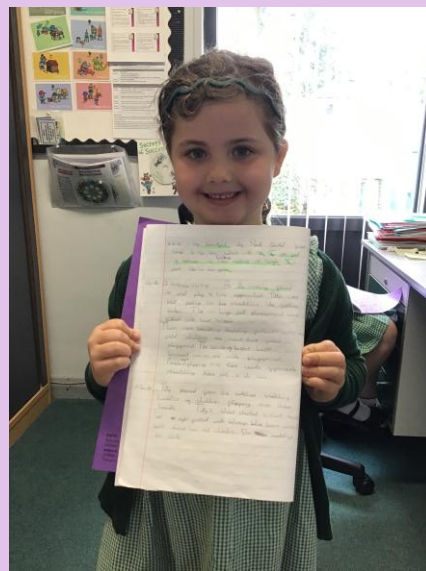
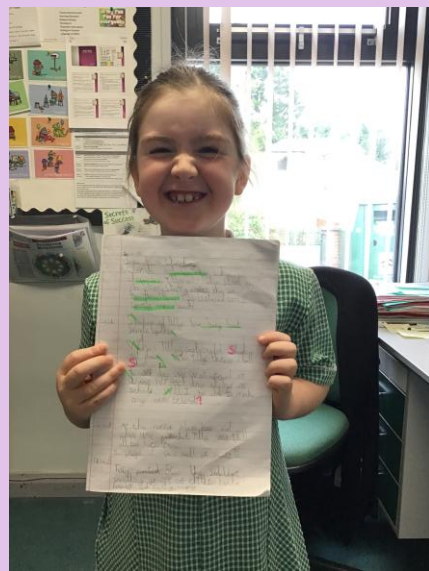
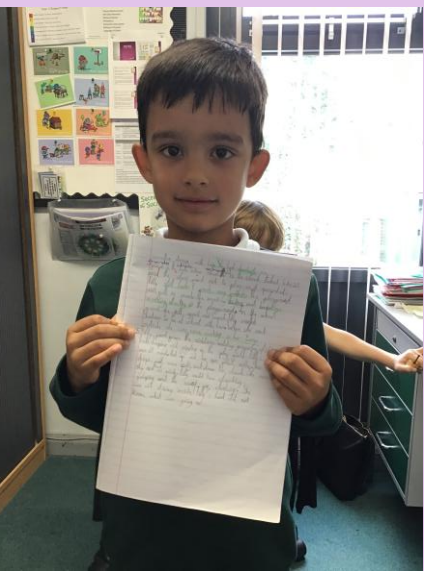
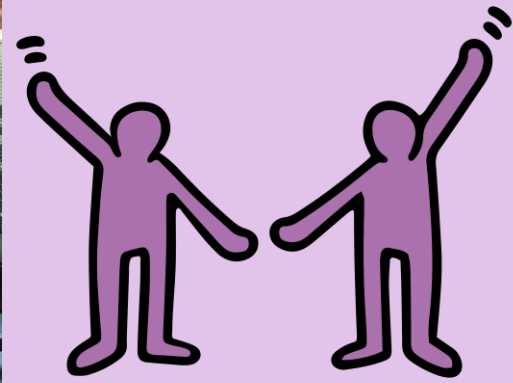
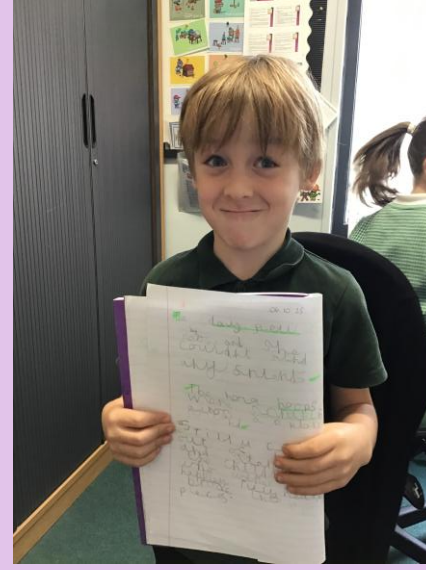
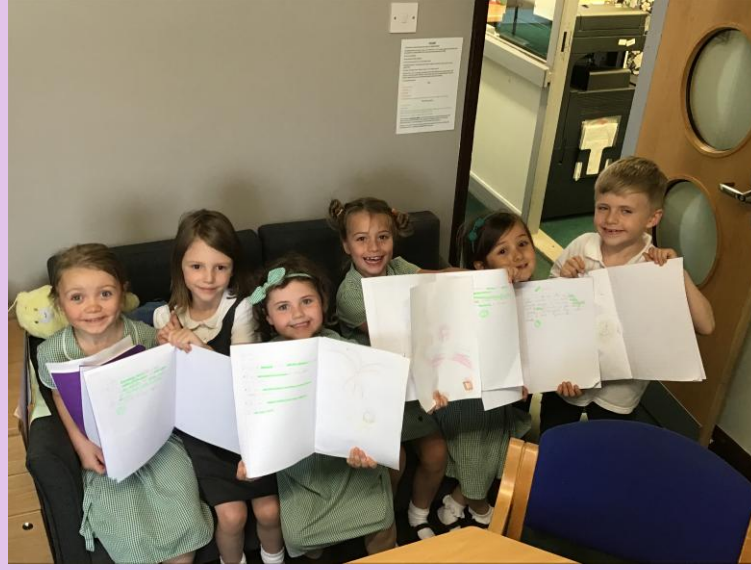
Also:  
Montana,  
Elias, Lily,  
Beatrice,  
Mason, Sophia,  
Leon and  
Henry V





# Great Learning

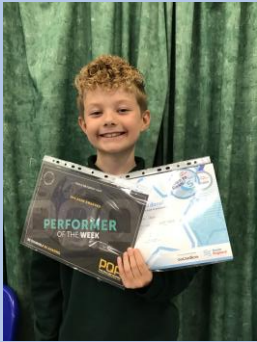
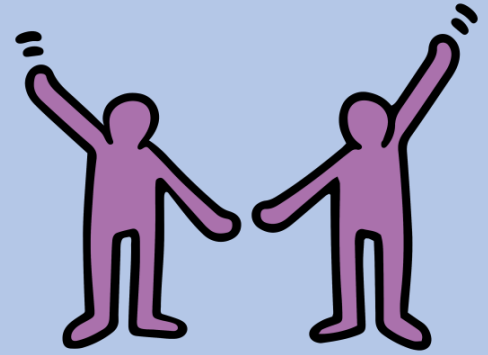
Some children have brought great learning to my office this half term. I have read lots of extremely descriptive writing and seen some marvellous maths. I have been so impressed by the standard of the children's work, and always love to celebrate great learning with the children!





# Amazing Awards from home

We have celebrated: swimming, cheerleading, running, rugby, reading, football, sewing, trampolining, brownies, martial arts, Blue Peter badges, performing arts, cycling and so many more... It is lovely to see so many children discovering new skills and talents!





# Learning Celebrations



In the Autumn and Spring terms we hold our Learning Celebrations in the school hall. This term the dates are 13<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> November from 3:30-6:30pm

These sessions are a time for you and your child to meet with their class teacher to talk about their achievements in school and look at their next steps forward for their learning. You will be sent a link by text message to book a time with your child's class teacher nearer the time.

It is really important for your child to be involved in these meetings as they will then know that we are all supporting them and celebrating them – helping them to be the best that they can be.

If there is something you would like to discuss with your child's teacher while they are not present we would urge you to make a separate appointment for this, as this is not what these sessions are designed for.

Please contact the school office on [admin@btschool.co.uk](mailto:admin@btschool.co.uk) to make an appointment to see your child's class teacher outside of our Learning Celebrations.



Our school has signed up to the Safe and Active Schools Programme 2025-2026. As part of the programme all children will be receiving age-appropriate road safety sessions, and we will also be participating in and promoting active travel.

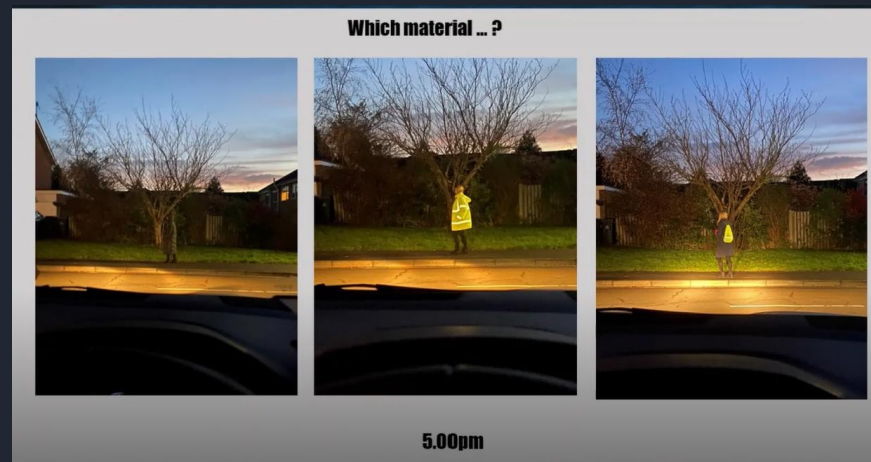
We recognise how important messaging is for our children. Your children copy your actions, and your behaviour serves as a powerful role model. We would like to ask all our families to model the safest behaviours near the road for children to copy and make good choices around travelling actively on the school run.

We will be sharing messages and ideas from the Safe and Active Schools team and further information about the children's road safety learning in school throughout the year.

For further information about road safety and active travel you can follow or contact the road safety education team.

X (previously Twitter) -  
**@WCCSafe\_Active**  
Facebook - **@WCCSafeActiveTravel**

Email -  
[roadsafetyeducation@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:roadsafetyeducation@warwickshire.gov.uk)



# BE BRIGHT BE SEEN THIS HALLOWEEN

If you're planning on trick or treating, or just going out and about this Halloween, please consider taking a torch or glow sticks, or adding something reflective to your outfits; anything to make it easier for others to see you.

When out and about, please be aware of your surroundings. If you can, stay on well-lit paths, and if there is no pedestrian crossing nearby, cross the road near a streetlight so that traffic can see you more easily. With darker mornings and afternoons, please ensure all children can be seen by traffic when they are walking to or from school.



# Parking safely reminder

Please can we remind all adults that the yellow zig-zag lines are to be kept clear at all times, enabling the children to see if traffic is approaching when they cross. **Please park at the Sports and Social Club or park on Underhill Way where it is less busy.**

We would like to remind all parents that the staff car park is for staff and visitors to school only. If you need to use the disabled parking space for any reason please contact the school office and we will ensure it is free for you to use. **Families are not permitted to use the staff car park without prior arrangement with the school office.** Thank you for your support to keep the children safe.

Please be considerate towards our neighbours. We have received reports of parents parking across driveways at drop-off and collection. Our neighbours know that there are busy times on the local roads around school, and are very understanding, but we should not be blocking access to their driveways. Thank you!



## What is a Park and Stride?

Park and Stride is a great way for families who live too far away from school to travel actively as part of their journey.

If you must use a vehicle, try parking ten minutes away from the school and walk or roll the last part of your journey.

# Information about use of Smartphones for children:

Please click on the pictures to find some research around the impact that giving children smart phones is having on their mental health.

We are hearing more and more children share that they have seen things that have worried them while they have been using a smartphone or device, and wanted to share important information with families.



# Class Dojo

## Exciting News!



We will shortly be moving to use Class Dojo as a way of sharing the children's learning with you. Class Dojo is a platform where we can electronically save 'raffle tickets' as 'Dojo Points' rather than distributing hundreds of tiny pieces of paper – doing our little bit for the environment. It is a secure platform that is only accessible by parents who have been issued with a join code, and we ask that parents don't take and reshare any photos that are stored on the platform. Teachers will also be able to post pictures and information about learning that has happened in school. This means that you will be able to chat about what the children have learned closer to the point of teaching which will support the learning moving to long term memory.

**We will be sending out parent join codes in due course.  
Please keep an eye out in your child's reading folder or bag.**



# Dates for your diary:

You can find out if we are on Week A or Week B by looking at a [special calendar on the website](#) created for this purpose, and linked to the PE timetables.

## INSET DAYS for the academic year 2025-26

- Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January
- Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May
- Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July

## Open Days for children due to start Reception in September 2026:

- 4<sup>th</sup> November 4:30-5:30pm
- 5<sup>th</sup> November 1:30-2:30pm
- 13<sup>th</sup> November 9:30-10:30am

## PTA Events:

- 14<sup>th</sup> November – Non-uniform day for hamper donations
- 28<sup>th</sup> November – Non-uniform day for bottles/chocolate donations.
- 29<sup>th</sup> November – Christmas Fair
- 11<sup>th</sup> December – Sparkle and Shine – wear something sparkly for a coin donation.

## Other important dates:

- 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> November – Year 6 rowing competition
- 6<sup>th</sup> November – Y2 Otters and Owls trip to the Story Museum, Oxford
- 10<sup>th</sup> November – Year 6 Dodgeball competition
- 11<sup>th</sup> November – Y5 Kestrels trip to the Space Centre. Leicester
- 13<sup>th</sup> November – Learning Celebration 1 3:30-6:30
- 18<sup>th</sup> November – Learning Celebration 2 3:30-6:30
- 20<sup>th</sup> November – Y1 Hedgehogs trip to Gurdwara Sahib
- 1<sup>st</sup> December – Catch-up swimming for Year 5 and 6 (every morning for 2 weeks)
- 10<sup>th</sup> December – Y4 Kingfishers trip to Coventry Cathedral
- 11<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Dinner Day (Sparkle and Shine)
- 11<sup>th</sup> December – Y6 Foxes Annual Health Needs Assessment
- 11<sup>th</sup> December – YR Rabbits National Child Measurement Programme
- 15<sup>th</sup> December – iRock Concert
- 17<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Service at St Chad's Church (Y3 Robins leading worship)

KS1 Nativity Performance dates to follow – keep an eye on the [calendar on the school website](#).

Are there any adults who can help children in the local area have some fun at a weekend?

the friendship project  
For Children

## Volunteers Wanted

Would you like to be an Older Friend  
to a child for regular outings of just 2-3 hours?

For more details and an application form, please contact:

**0845 838 2098\***

email: [info@friendshipproject.co.uk](mailto:info@friendshipproject.co.uk)  
[www.friendshipproject.co.uk](http://www.friendshipproject.co.uk)

Facebook/ Instagram/ Twitter@friendshipproj

Make a difference to a child's life!

Registered Charity No. 517684

\*Calls to this number from a BT telephone line will be approx. 2p/min daytime and 0.5p/min evening (inclusive of VAT). Calls from mobiles and other operators may vary.

The Queen's Award  
for Voluntary Service

## ...could you make a difference?

### Become an 'Older Friend'

As always, there are more children needing our support which means that we need more volunteers.

Would you have 2-3 hours to spare per week to become an 'Older Friend'?

Activities can include drawing; painting; shopping; cooking, swimming or watching a football match.

As you would expect, you must meet certain criteria, including being over 18 years old, preferably with transport; having a genuine interest in children and a desire to help those in need; providing two character references and going through a Criminal Records Bureau check.

For more information and an application form, visit our website.

### Make a donation

If you would like to make a donation, go to our website for instructions via PayPal. Alternatively, contact us direct using any of the methods below.

Your donation will help fund the children's activities:

£7 for one child's activity per week; £364 to fund a child's activities for one year.



the  
friendship project  
for children



For more details and an application form, please contact

**0845 838 2098\***

email: [info@friendshipproject.co.uk](mailto:info@friendshipproject.co.uk)

twitter: [@friendshipproj](https://twitter.com/friendshipproj)

or visit our website:

[www.friendshipproject.co.uk](http://www.friendshipproject.co.uk)

Registered Charity No. 517684

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**Make a difference to a child's life...**

## Who we are

The Friendship Project was established in 1986 with the primary aim to support children disadvantaged by family circumstances. We provide children with an 'Older Friend' who helps to develop their confidence and self-esteem.

Operating throughout Warwickshire, all children are referred to our Charity through Warwickshire County Council Children's Services. We receive grants and donations from various charities, trusts and commercial organisations, as well as individuals, which help fund our operations.

## How we help

The need for help is great and growing. There are many social reasons why more children are in need of our support.

Some have mentally or physically disabled siblings who demand much of their parent's time. Others are being bullied at school and have become withdrawn. Some are neglected and left to fend for themselves too much of the time. Some have lost a parent for whatever reason and feel the loss deeply. Others have some form of minor disability and some of our children just have no other opportunity to go out and have fun.

By providing an individual 'Older Friend' to give them support and take an interest in them, we can ease many of their problems. Our 'Older Friend' can provide access to learning opportunities and experiences the 'Younger

Friend' will not receive within the home environment. Regular contact with a positive influence in their life will enable them to broaden their horizons and grow in confidence.



**“Experience has shown that a weekly visit by someone who cares does make a difference”**

## How we make a difference

### Meet Sebby...

Sebby was 6 years old when he was referred to The Friendship Project. He is one of five children. His mother has Lymphoedema and is bed bound and two of his siblings are Autistic. Sebby's dad is the sole carer for the family since Sebby's mum cannot be left and his two autistic brother's need constant care. This means that Sebby and his other two siblings are unable to go out and have fun as there is no-one to take them.

The Friendship Project matched Sebby with Lynne as the 'Older Friend'. Lynne describes her time with Sebby as "The highlight of my week." Sebby had never been on an escalator and very rarely did he get to play in the park. "The difference in him in a year is amazing."



### Rebuilding

Dean\* is 10 years old. His 'Older Friend' is Helen\*. Dean's mother sadly died of Cancer and her partner left the family home leaving three children to be raised by their Nan.

Dean became very difficult at school and unable to make eye contact with teachers and other adults. By the onset of the friendship, Dean had moved to a new school.

Helen took Dean to the climbing wall in the sports centre at Warwick University. Both friends enjoyed the visits and Dean rose to the physical challenge which helped to build up trust between the two of them.

Slowly Dean has opened up to Helen and started to talk about himself and his difficulties during the past year or so.

\*names have been changed