

## Nursery

What a busy week of learning we have had in Nursery! We have focused our learning on the story of Goldilocks and the three bears as we worked on counting rules. We have practised **touch counting** and looked at counting rules to help us. The children also had a go at matching the quantity of objects to the numeral.



We also had a special visit from Mrs Roberts who came to talk to us about the Festival of Hope. We learnt about the story of 'Daniel and the Lion' and have been thinking how we can also make good choices. We then made drawings to prepare for our whole school display. We then visited Reception class where we met Bobby the tortoise. The Reception children shared with us their learning about looking after animal welfare.



## Reception (King Class and Parks Class)

We have had a fantastic week, filled with lots of learning and our campaign to prevent plastic waste ending up in our oceans. On Thursday reception spent time learning about animal welfare. They met Bobby the tortoise and looked into the effects plastic waste has on our Sealife. We discussed ways we could help prevent plastic waste entering into our waters. The children created a turtle to promote their campaign and learnt a song.



In PSHE, we have started our new theme of 'Dreams and Goals' where we discussed what we would like to achieve and how we could reach these goals. The children had some great ideas, some wanting to be gymnasts, ice skaters and football players others wanting to ride their bikes independently or write their own stories. They were all in agreeance that practice and perseverance was key!

In Maths, we learnt **conservation of number**, that an amount does not change simply by moving it or rearranging it.



In English, we completed our story maps of '**Where the wild things are**'. This has extended to our small world area where the children have been using the puppets to retell the main events in the story.

In our outdoor provision, we have been using large equipment to build boats. Tested out our sponge boats we made in the creative area. We have used water to increase the speed of the mini boats down the chutes and made Max supper for when he arrived home from visiting the 'wild things'.



In phonics we have learnt the digraphs **sh**, **ch** and **th**

### **Year 1 (Bell Class and Windsor Class)**

It has been a wonderful week in Year 1.

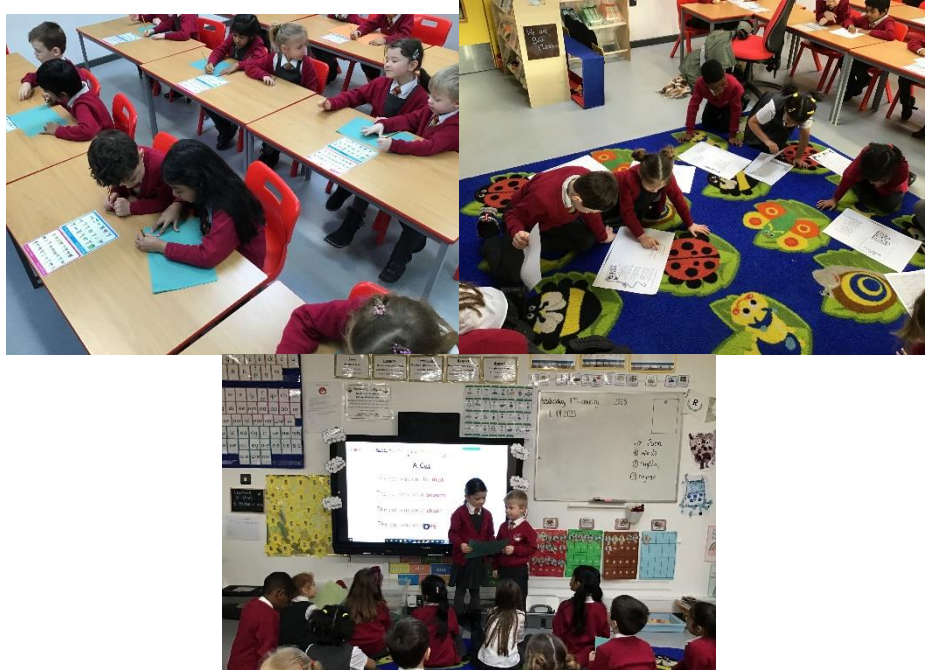
Year 1 have taken part in a number of super sessions this week including a visit from Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service and St Gabriel's Festival of Hope.

During the talk from Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service, the children were made aware of the dangers around water particularly during the Winter months where some surfaces may be covered in ice. They discussed the dangers of a railway as well as learning a rhyme to help them to remember to stay away from fire sources such as matches.

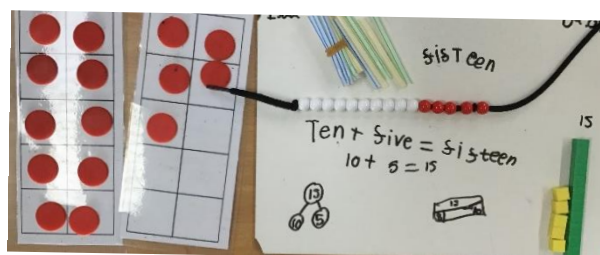


In Phonics this week, we have continued learning a range of phase 5 phonemes and exploring how different phonemes can be created in different ways. Our focus phonemes have been: **ie**, **ea** and **oy**.

In English, we have learnt about rhyming words and the features of poetry and the children have explored a range of different types of rhyming poetry. The children, then started to create their own poems, sharing them in class. This is progressing to create to the children creating poems inspired by our key text 'The Castle the King Built.'



In Maths, we have continued to explore the pattern with teens numbers and deepening our understanding that two-digit numbers have a set number of tens and a set number of ones. Children have been showing numbers using concrete resources, pictorial representations and abstract methods.



In PE, the children are really enjoying gymnastics and thinking about how they can create different shapes with their body. This week we focused on creating on curled shapes, expanding from wide shapes last week. The children have been collaborating well together within their PE and enjoying being able to learn with different apparatus and equipment.

In Art, the children have learnt about portraiture and the origins of this method of representation in Art. Children spent time learning about key features of portrait art and then researched different works based on one of our key people in Humanities, Richard III. After the research and exploration stage, the children began to create their own portraits, with a royal twist! Watch this space as they develop them over the next few lessons. We look forward to sharing their completed pieces!

## **Year 2 (Braille Class)**

We have had another great week in Braille Class.

In phonics we learnt that:

- **ve** makes the phoneme **v** in words like **cave, have** and **give**.
- **wh** makes the phoneme **h** in words like **who, whose** and **whole** and **w** in words like **whack, whip** and **white**.
- **y** makes the phoneme **I (igh)** in words like **reply, spy** and **try**.
- **o** makes the phoneme **u** in words like **mother, other** and **come**.

In English, we re-created the opening of '**The Polar Express**,' and have used expanded noun phrases and similes to create a more vivid picture for our reader.

We have also started writing a letter from the perspective of the boy from the story and have been recounting all of the wonderful things that happened on his journey to the North Pole.



In Science, we have been identifying and comparing things that are alive, dead and have never lived and learnt about the acronym MRS GREN which helps us to remember the features of things that are living.

MOVEMENT

RESPIRATION

SENSITIVITY

GROWTH

REPRODUCTION

EXCRETION

NUTRITION

LO: To learn to notice and compare the differences between things that are living, dead, and things that have never lived.  
Skills  
I can understand what makes something alive.  
I understand the difference between something that is dead and has never lived.  
I can sort the items and write them under the correct category.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Living Things Quiz

1. All living things move, some walk, some swim, some fly.
2. All living things grow and get bigger.
3. All living things need and use energy, some use food, some use sunlight, some use soil.
4. All living things can reproduce, some lay eggs, some have babies, some produce seeds.
5. All living things get rid of waste.
6. All living things react to change, some escape predators, some blink, some change.
7. All living things have a lifespan. Some living things live longer than others.
8. Living things change over time.

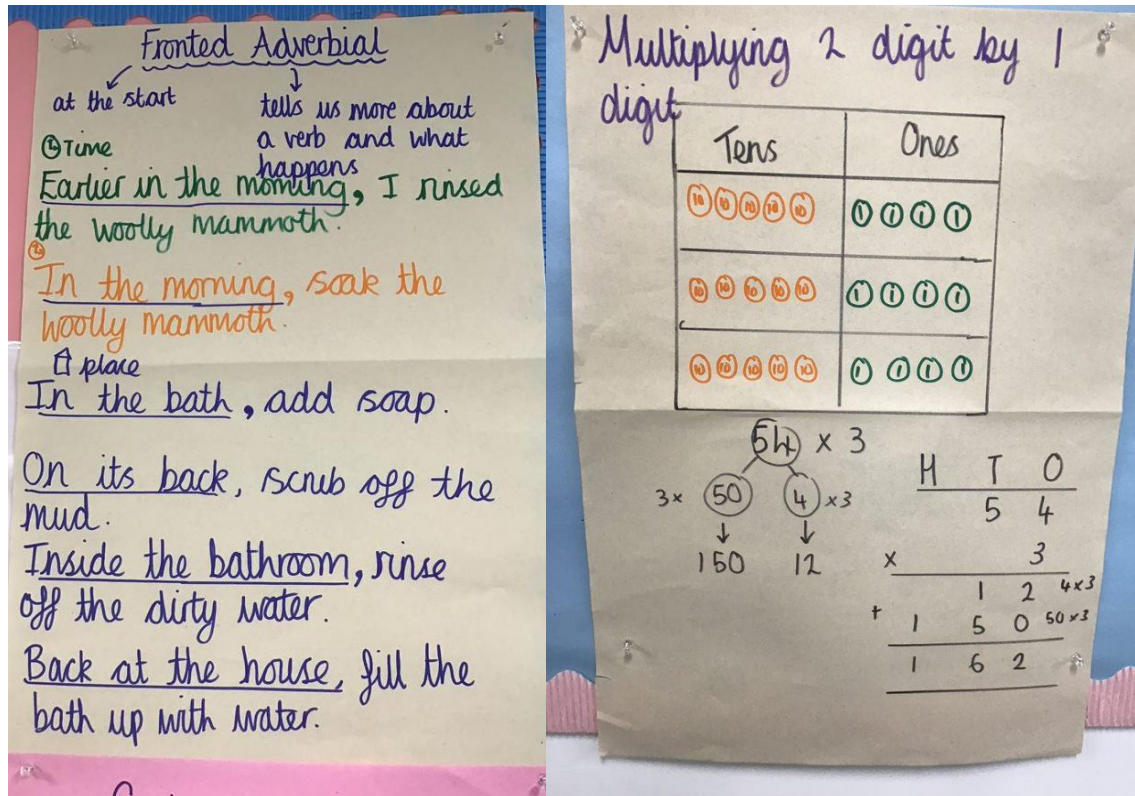
**Word Bank:** ~~energy~~ ~~grow~~ ~~reproduce~~  
~~move~~ ~~waste~~ ~~change~~ ~~lifespan~~ ~~change~~



### Year 3 (Berners-Lee Class)

Year 3 have had another fantastic week!

In English, they have learnt how to use prepositions, fronted adverbials and a range of conjunctions in their writing linked to our book 'How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth'. They will then apply this to their instructions next week.



In Maths, they have learnt to multiply 2-digit and 1-digit numbers by partitioning and using the expanded column method.

In Science, we had lots of fun investigating which materials are reflective and which materials are not.

In Humanities, we began our History topic about the changes from the Stone Age to the Iron Age. The pupils learnt where the Stone Age fits into the whole timeline of History as well as ordering dates within this period. They also learnt the three time periods of the Stone Age: Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic. We are all looking forward to taking part in Stone Age Day on Monday!



On Thursday, our theme for the Festival of Hope was 'Life Below the Ocean'. Throughout the day, we considered the issues of plastic pollution and created several different solutions to this problem ranging from small changes in our lunch boxes to creating robots to clean up the ocean. During the day, we looked at Prince William's speech about environmental issues and considered how we could also influence change. The pupils were really passionate about the issue and are planning on organising a fundraising evening to donate money to the charity Big Blue Clean Up. In addition, some pupils chose to write letters to Prince William asking about his work and how he can continue to help support change. Other children created posters for our Canal Clean Up Competition which we will be launching in the next few weeks. The pupils also enjoyed making eco-friendly glitter! It was lovely to see the children so empowered and passionate about such a global issue!



### Year 4 (Hopper Class)

Our English lessons saw us practise and develop our ability to use the conjunctions: as, since and because to link our inferences to our explanations of how we arrived at our conclusions.

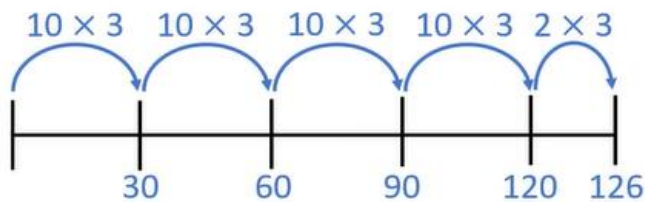
In Maths, we have been building our multiplying 2-digit numbers by single digit numbers using informal written methods such as: part whole models, base ten, partitioning and counters.

$$23 \times 4 = 92$$

$$80 + 12 = 92$$

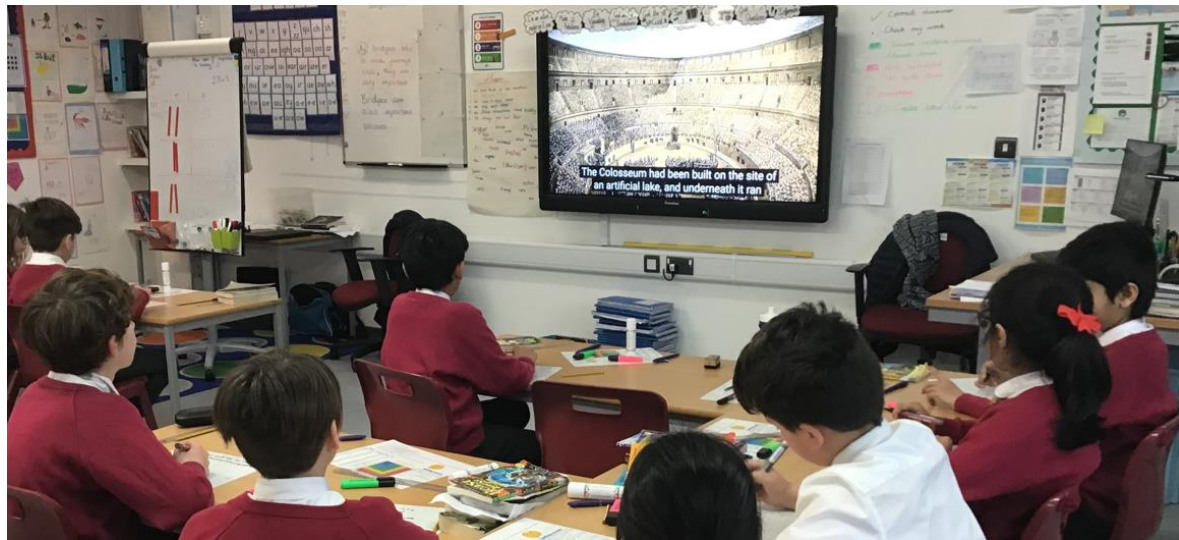
$$42 \times 3 = 126$$

Tens	Ones
20 20	1 1 1
20 20	1 1 1
20 20	1 1 1
20 20	1 1 1



Our new Design and Technology topic is challenging us to research, plan and create our very own chariots so for our first lesson we dived into what it was like to be a Roman Gladiator! We thought about how they were the equivalent to our own

modern-day entertainers and just how significant the colosseum was to the Romans.



Our work during the Festival of Hope saw us take on an incredibly deep and multi-faceted problem. We voted as a class to look into war, its causes, effects and the possible solutions to it. We had the opportunity to immerse ourselves into the experience of a blitz evacuee child so that we could feel what it was like to go through everything that happens including what happens after the war is over. For our final part of our Festival of Hope work we created posters and are looking into the places that would allow maximum visibility amongst our community.



## Year 5 (Jackson Class)

It has been another busy week for Year 5 with lots of exciting trips, visits and festivals taking place as well as some fantastic learning.

In English this week we have started to look at our new text, 'Hidden Figures', which is about four American black women who played a significant role in the development of technology at NASA. We are looking forward to applying our persuasive skills in the weeks to come. In Maths, we have worked SO hard to succeed with our addition and subtraction of fractions with different denominators and I am so proud of the progress the class has made with this across our lessons.



In Art, we were introduced to an abstract artist called Peter Thorpe, who creates paintings inspired by space and is known for including rockets in his pictures. We discussed what abstract art is and started to design our own versions to create next week. Linking to this, our focus in Science this week was all about the Solar System – we researched key facts about the planets.

For the school's Festival of Hope, Year 5 focused on raising awareness around gender equality. Inspired by the successes of the England Lionesses at the Euros this past year, we discussed the importance of all genders having equal access to sport during their time in primary school. Only 63% of all schools currently offer equal access to football and what is more is that only 44% of secondary schools offer equal access to football in PE lessons. We worked really hard to put together campaigns in support of the hashtag started by the women's football team (#letgirlsplay) and some of us even wrote to an Education minister in the UK Parliament, Nick Gibb MP, to bring our opinions to his attention. Check out our YouTube clip here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mGmIK2bzECQ>



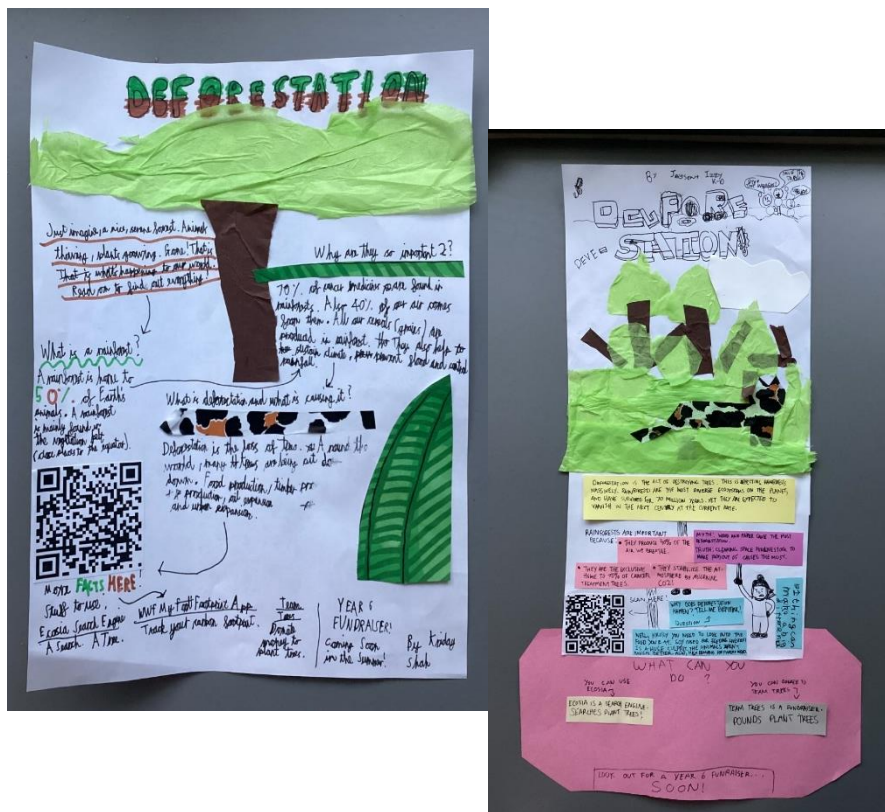
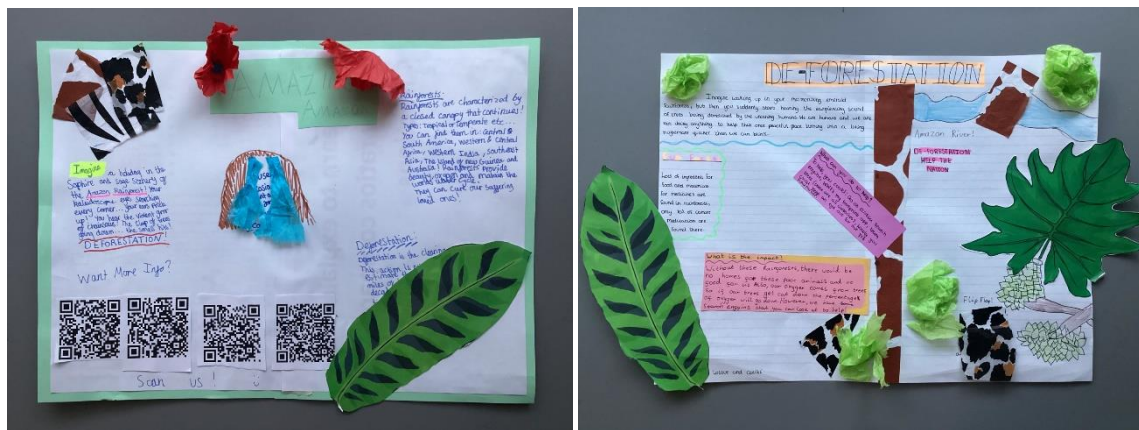
Over half of our class took part in the Young Voices concert on Tuesday and represented our school so well. We also had a visit from the local fire service on Wednesday morning, where we learnt about hazards in the home and how fires can be prevented. We also found out about the role of the fire service in the community and that they provide assistance in a range of situations, including accidents on the road and emergencies in water. Our session was incredibly informative and the children were challenged to check for hazards in their own homes.

### **Year 6 (Gutenberg Class)**

It has been a busy week in Gutenberg this week! In English, we finished off our topic on 'Suffragette'. On Monday, the children were asked the question: 'Should the Suffragettes have used violence?' after exploring both sides of the argument, we had the chance to write a balanced argument using effective vocabulary and modal verbs.

The final task of our unit involved giving the children a chance to create a campaign for something that they personally cared deeply about, which fit very well within our celebration of Festival of Hope. Our topic for the festival this year was 'Deforestation'. The day began with the children researching a little bit more into what deforestation is, why it is done, how it impacts the delicate ecosystem of the rainforest and the rest of the world and what the possible consequences are if it were to continue. After this, we found out more about common myths and misconceptions people have around deforestation and how this has a very complicated impact on the earth. We then thought about what we could do to

demonstrate our courageous advocacy and make a change. The children had many great ideas, ranging from writing letters to MPs, creating speeches to present in the next COP Conference or designing posters to put on our school website to inform viewers of the current global issue, common misconceptions people have about deforestation and small steps that can be taken to help. But, the children's drive to make a change did not stop there and they were very keen to find a way to make even more of an impact by giving back to the earth. Therefore, we are very excited to be joining with Berners-Lee Class in holding a fundraiser in the future to donate money towards planting trees.



In Maths, we expanded upon our learning around multiplicative relationships by exploring the topic of scale drawings and using scale factors to create enlarged ore

reduced diagrams. Next week, we will continue to move onto our study of proportion and its use within recipes – this might be something you want to explore at home as well!

In Science, we began our new topic on 'Electricity' as the children thought back to what they already knew about circuits based on their learning in Year 4 and extended their knowledge by finding out more about specific symbols used when creating circuit diagrams. We had a great time creating our own simple circuits and even our very own human circuit using an energy stick!



### Other News

On Thursday, as all the classes have mentioned, we celebrated our **Festival of Hope**. We learnt about **Courageous Advocacy** and how we can speak out against injustice on behalf of those whose voices are not heard. Tackling issues of environmentalism, gender equality and racism, we are so proud of the campaigns created and the actions taken. Have a look at our Twitter feed to see examples of the great work produced!

### Recommended Read



As we celebrated our Festival of Hope on Thursday, our book this week captures the story of a father and daughter laying the foundations for their life together. Using their own special tools, they get to work, building memories to cherish, a home to keep them safe, and love to keep them warm. A rare and enduring story about a parent's boundless love, life's endless opportunities, and all we need to build a together future.



## Online Safety

This week's online safety update is about a game popular amongst children called Fortnite from [National Online Safety](#). It has some helpful hints and tips for Parents and Carers.

## Family Information Service Newsletter

The Family Information Service supports families across Warwickshire with advice and information. You can get in touch with the team by [emailing fis@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:fis@warwickshire.gov.uk), calling 0800 408 1558 or finding support on [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/childrenandfamilies](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/childrenandfamilies).

Here is some information about support and advice available to all families.

**SUPPORT AND ADVICE FOR FAMILIES IN WARWICKSHIRE**

No one ever said being a parent or carer was easy! There are lots of support services available in Warwickshire to support you and your family...

**THE FAMILY INFORMATION SERVICE**  
Get in touch with Warwickshire's Family Information Service for advice and guidance on a wide range of subjects including:

- Housing
- Finance
- Childcare
- Parental conflict and contact
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

☎ 01926 742274  
✉ fis@warwickshire.gov.uk  
📍 @WarwickshireFIS @WarksFIS

Available Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm.  
All enquiries will be responded to during this time.

**FAMILY SUPPORT**  
Get in touch with a Family Support Worker for advice and guidance on parenting and all aspects of family life.

Support can be offered through telephone calls, video calls, text messages or email to suit your needs.

☎ 01926 412412

Available Monday to Friday 9am to 4pm.  
All enquiries will be responded to during this time.

To contact your local district or borough family support team via email please visit: [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/familysupport](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/familysupport) for more information.

**SCAN THE QR CODE**

Scan the QR Code to sign up to the Family Information Service newsletter for regular updates to support you and your family!

[www.warwickshire.gov.uk/parentupdates](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/parentupdates)

For more information and advice for families including parenting courses, workshops and other support services go to: [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/childrenandfamilies](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/childrenandfamilies)

Warwickshire County Council

Each week, the Family Information Service produce a newsletter with useful information for families. Click [here](#) to read this week's newsletter.

**Celebration Assembly – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> January**

Come join us next week to see work from Reception, Year 2, Year 4 and Year 6.



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