



Proud to be part of  
Bilton Community Federation

**“Let us always meet each other with a smile”**

**~ Mother Teresa**



**15th Sept 2023**

# BULLETIN

The fortnightly newsletter to keep you updated with the highlights of the school week

# Headlines

## Points of Interest

### Parents Meetings

Monday 9th October  
3.45-6.30

Wednesday 11th October  
3.45-6.30

More details to follow

### PTA Coffee Morning

Tuesday 19th  
9am -10am

Hello everyone

There has been much to celebrate at BJS this week. On Tuesday, members of our Allotment Club proudly represented the school when they collected their award from the mayor during a ceremony for Rugby in Bloom. A huge thank you to Mrs Vipond for encouraging the children to achieve such great success and to Mrs Wilson-Shrubb for providing transport.



Certificates were awarded in assembly on Thursday for 'Learner of the Week' and 'Light to the World'. I would however, like to say that all children should be very proud of their achievements over the last week. It has been a pleasure to teach a few classes myself this week and to see children so keen to learn and share their achievements.

It was great to have so many parents attend the Welcome Meetings, and we look forward to seeing you again at our Parent Meetings in October. As I said in the meeting, please get in contact if you have any questions following the meeting. If you were unable to attend, the presentations will be added to the website. We appreciate that there was a lot of information about different platforms that we use for homework, so we will provide further information over the coming weeks to guide you on how you can support your child/children.

A few questions have been asked about the school uniform. An outline of clothing requirements can be found on the website. The reason we ask for children to wear their school jumpers/cardigans rather than sportswear tops is because children may be involved in other activities during the day where they need to be easily identified as BJS pupils, e.g. short local visits.  
<https://www.biltonjuniorschool.co.uk/uniform-information>



We have had a few visitors in this week to talk about clubs they are running and have engaged the children with some brilliant demonstrations. Some clubs are already full, but please check out the website and contact the school if there is anything that your child would like to take part in. <https://www.biltonjuniorschool.co.uk/school-clubs> We have a new payment system which is causing a few issues, so we apologise for any delays this is causing. We will keep you updated on when the new payment system is fully operational.

Finally, we are looking for any parents who are interested in supporting our PTA which helps raise valuable funds to support enrichment activities for our children. Our first meeting will be on 5th October at 3.45pm in school and all are welcome.

Thank you again for all your support at this busy start to the term.

Kind regards,

Becky Ross  
Head of School

Plantagenet Drive, Rugby, CV 22 6LB

Email:  
[office@biltonjuniorschool.co.uk](mailto:office@biltonjuniorschool.co.uk)

Website: [biltonjuniorschool.co.uk](http://biltonjuniorschool.co.uk)

Facebook: [BiltonCofEJNR/](https://www.facebook.com/BiltonCofEJNR/)

# Celebrations

## 15th Sept

Inspire Challenge Achieve Inspire Challenge Achieve Inspire Challenge Achieve

### Learner of the week

- 3AL Noah G For his positive attitude to learning in all areas  
 3ED All of 3ED For making fantastic star to Year 3  
 4EL Ellis K For his positive attitude to learning in all subjects and a great start to year 4  
 4SM Oscar J For enthusiasm towards learning and being supportive to others  
 4SS Elliot R for his super positive attitude to his learning especially his handwriting  
 5LM Ava H For having a positive attitude to learning  
 5JB Libby For outstanding effort, especially in sentence stacking  
 5MB Christabel A For a super positive hard-working attitude  
 6LC Casey for persevering in Maths  
 6KC Jody Always offering a solution or point of view.  
 6NV Katelin O For her excellent attitude towards her learning - well done!  
 Mme Jago Lailah C 6KC For using spontaneous French on the morning track.

Inspire Challenge Achieve Inspire Challenge Achieve Inspire Challenge Achieve

Thank you from all @ BJS

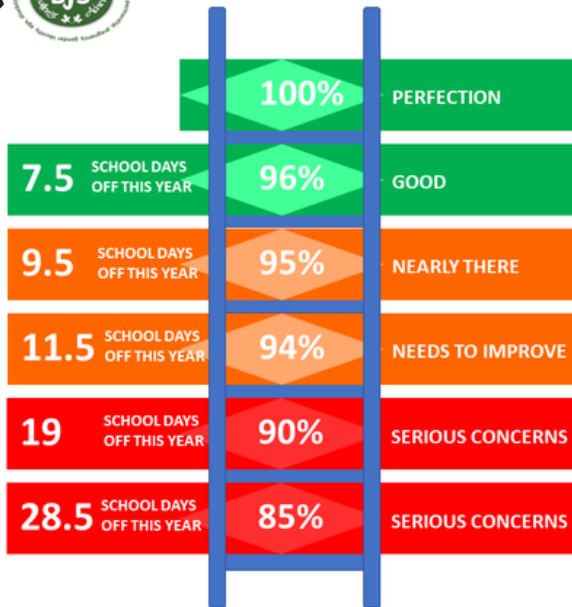


- 3AL Amelia and Thea For their kindness this week  
 3ED Valerija (pronounced Valeria) For being so kind and helpful to new members of the class  
 4EL Finley M For his perseverance and positive attitude in Art  
 4SM Jessica For being a respectful and friendly member of the class  
 4SS All 4SS For settling in to Year 4 with such a respectful and positive demeanour  
 5LM Autumn For a fantastic start to year 5 and being respectful  
 5JB Amaan For respect - he is always safe, ready and respectful  
 5MB Sophie Birnie For respect- always listening and doing her best  
 6LC Joe For showing great kindness in PE  
 6KC Billy For a great start to the year  
 6NV Harry G, Logan, Norah and Robyn for being excellent ambassadors for our BJS values at the Rugby in Bloom awards  
 Mme Jago Hannah 3AL For always being ready, respectful and safe



Mrs Vipond, Mrs Bakewell and the Allotment Club children had a super exciting time this week visiting the Mayor to receive our awards

## ATTENDANCE LADDER



**Are you getting to school on time?**  
Did you know?

5 minutes late every day = 15 hours a year = 3 days of learning  
 10 minutes late every day = 30 hours a year = 6 days of learning  
 15 minutes late every day = 45 hours a year = 9 days of learning  
 20 minutes late every day = 60 hours a year = 12 days of learning  
 25 minutes late every day = 75 hours a year = 15 days of learning

**Are you at school enough days?**

**Did you know over 13 years:**  
 1 day every 2 weeks = 20 days = 4 weeks a year = nearly 13 years  
 1 day a week = 40 days = 8 weeks a year = over 2.5 years  
 2 days a week = 80 days = 16 weeks a year  
 3 days a week = 120 days = 24 weeks a year

## LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME UPDATED INFORMATION

The Supreme Court clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time (Platt v Isle of Wight 2017). The Supreme Court has made clear that attending school 'regularly' means that the children must attend school on every day that they are required to do so. As such, the parents of any child who is absent from school without authorisation for any length of time are likely to be considered as committing an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996.

The regulations regarding Leave of Absence (The Education (Pupil Regulations) (England) Regulations 2006 as amended by Education (Pupil Regulations) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013.) advise:

Head teachers shall not grant any Leave of Absence during term time unless they consider there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application.  
If the leave is granted, Head teachers are able to determine the number of school days a child can be absent for.

It is for the Head teacher to decide what is 'exceptional' and it is at their discretion if the circumstances warrant the leave to be granted. When making an application for Leave of Absence in advance parents are advised to give sufficient information and time to allow the Head teacher the opportunity to consider all the exceptional circumstances and to notify parents of their decision. It is advised that if the resident parent has not received notification or a response regarding the leave of absence application, it is their responsibility to ascertain if the leave is authorised prior to the start of the leave.

The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent i.e. the parent with whom the child normally resides.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child will be required to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence, which may result in legal action being taken against the parent(s), by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice.

Where a leave of absence is requested, but additional days taken either prior to or after the request may be considered as part of the leave of absence and could result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to the parent(s).

Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case-by-case basis and on its own merits.

Leave of Absences which are not made in advance cannot be authorised in line with legislation. This will result in the absence being recorded as 'unauthorised'. All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Warwickshire Attendance Service, part of Warwickshire County Council.

It is important to note, Fixed Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices in the amount of £120 each, totalling £240 for both children, this is reduced to £60 per child if paid within 21 days). Where a Fixed Penalty Notice is not paid within the required timeframe as set out on the notice, the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal proceedings under s444 Education Act 1996.

Fixed Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices.

Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority  
Warwickshire School pupils recorded 96,366 half day sessions of absence due to holiday in the Academic year 2021/22.

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JOIN OUR TEAM

EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES

## Senior Caretaker

responsible for maintenance and staff management

Band E, SCP 5 – 6 Salary: £16,035.47

HOURS: 6.30am to 8.15am Monday - Friday

2.30pm - 6.15pm Monday - Friday

27.5 Hours

Starting Date: 01/10/2023 or as soon as possible

Permanent Contract

To find out more email: [office@biltonjuniorschool.co.uk](mailto:office@biltonjuniorschool.co.uk)



### ADMISSIONS 2024/2025 - PROSPECTIVE PARENTS TOURS

The staff and pupils warmly invite prospective parents to visit our school during one of the following sessions.

Tuesday 10th October 2023 9.30 am-10.00 am  
 Tuesday 10th October 2023 10.15 am-10.45 am  
 Thursday 12th October 2023 2.00 pm-2.30 pm  
 Thursday 12th October 2023 2.45 pm-3.15 pm

Members of the team will provide a tour of the school and answer any questions you may have.

We look forward to meeting you!

If you are unable to make any of the above dates, then please feel free to contact the school office to make an alternative appointment. [office@biltonjuniorschool.co.uk](mailto:office@biltonjuniorschool.co.uk)

**Top Tips for SETTING BOUNDARIES AROUND GAMING**

- PROMOTE SAFER GAME CHOICES**: If your child loves video games, then you'll probably be aware that there are many different types of games. Some are more educational than others, and some are more violent. It's important to choose games that are appropriate for your child's age and interests.
- ENCOURAGE REGULAR BREAKS**: Encourage your child to take regular breaks from gaming. This helps to prevent eye strain, fatigue, and other health issues.
- AGREE SPENDING LIMITS**: Agree on a budget for gaming. This helps to prevent overspending and financial problems.
- DISCUSS AGE RATINGS**: Discuss the age ratings for games. This helps to ensure that your child is playing games that are appropriate for their age.
- ENJOY GAMING TOGETHER**: Encourage your child to play games with you or other family members. This helps to strengthen family bonds and make gaming a fun activity for everyone.
- TALK ABOUT EMOTIONS**: Talk to your child about the emotions they experience while gaming. This helps to build emotional regulation skills and prevent gaming from becoming a source of stress or anxiety.
- BE PREPARED FOR TROUBLE**: Be prepared for any problems that may arise. This includes having a plan for what to do if your child is having trouble with a game or if they are being bullied in a game.

Meet Our Expert: National Online Safety (NOS) #WakeUpWednesday

I have the freedom and choice to be ambitious for my future

# Notices



The deadline for applying for your child's secondary school place is:

If you have a child that is due to start Secondary School in September 2024, then the time has come to apply for their school place. This applies to children currently in Year 6.

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4474/warwickshire-year-6-children-are-invited-to-apply-for-their-secondary-school-place>

**PARENT TEACHERS ASSOCIATION**  
Inspire  
**BTS**  
Challenge  
Achieve

We would like to invite you to come and have a cuppa and get to know the PTA team

**Tuesday 19th September**  
**9am-10am**

**We look forward to seeing you there!**

**Warwickshire remains committed to supporting families with SEND**

Continued improvements are being made in Warwickshire to enhance support for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4508/warwickshire-remains-committed-to-supporting-families-with-send>

**CHILD FRIENDLY**  
warwickshire.gov.uk

**IMPACT**

Warwickshire's Young People's Forum - IMPACT want to help schools understand what school is like for children and young people and what could help make this better.

This survey is for all Warwickshire children and young people, but with a keen interest in the views of those who have support needs.

To help gather views, young people have developed some questions which they would love you to answer:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/schoolexp>

**PARENT TEACHERS ASSOCIATION**  
Inspire  
**BTS**  
Challenge  
Achieve

**Our First PTA meeting**  
**5th October - 3.45pm - 4.45pm**  
**In school**

**We look forward to seeing you and hearing your ideas of how we can work together to raise funds for school**

Children are welcome to come into school and can watch a film and be supervised by a member of the school team

Please email  
[pta@bittonjuniorschool.co.uk](mailto:pta@bittonjuniorschool.co.uk)  
for more information

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# Notices



## Free School Meals

Schools should provide meal options for all children attending school. Meals are available free of charge to:

all infant pupils (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) – known as universal FSM

pupils who meet the free school meals eligibility criteria – known as benefits-related FSM

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/education-learning/apply-free-school-meals/2>

If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, they will automatically be entitled to universal infant free school meals. However, if you do meet the benefits-related free school meals eligibility criteria, then it is advised you apply to receive additional benefits:

**Holiday activities and food (HAF)** programme is for children aged 4 to 16, in reception to year 11, in receipt of benefits-related free school meals. HAF offers eligible pupils access to activities and at least one healthy meal is provided during each session. The activities take place during the Easter, Summer, and Christmas school holidays.

**Pupil premium** is extra funding paid directly to schools for each pupil who is eligible for free school meals. It can help to fund valuable teaching and learning support to improve pupil's education.

You can apply for benefits-related FSM at any time online through the Parent Portal.

<https://admissions.warwickshire.gov.uk/Synergy/Enquiries/Citizen/FreeSchoolMeals.aspx>

If you have any questions or need support with applying, please contact the team by emailing [freemeals@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:freemeals@warwickshire.gov.uk) or calling 01926 359189.



## Attendance

Going to school on a regular basis offers children and young people plenty of benefits. It impacts positively on their educational attainment, wellbeing and wider life chances. It can also help to establish positive routines for their future and bring health and wellbeing benefits.

Recognising that some pupils find it harder than others to attend school, Warwickshire County Council is encouraging parents and carers who need help in supporting their child to attend school to draw on the help available to them:

Families can contact their child's school for support

Information on the importance of school attendance  
<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2023/05/18/school-attendance-important-risks-missing-day/>

Parents and carers who want advice on whether their child is well enough to attend school.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>



## Mental health support for young people

As children and young people start a new school or new school year, it is normal for them to feel nervous, anxious, or unsure. Learning how to manage and cope with these feelings is important.

It's important to look after your body to improve mental health by having a good diet, regular exercise, plenty of sleep and limiting screen time. For those who may need more specialist support, the Warwickshire County Council website has a range of information and links to services dedicated to helping young people.

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/youthmentalhealth>



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# Activities

onside<sup>®</sup> EAST WARWICKSHIRE  
COACHING.CO.UK

AGES 5-11

## October Half Term

**Are you ready for the half term?**

Join us at our Active Course or our Football Course. A full week of activities to keep your children entertained during the holiday!

MONDAY 30TH OCTOBER to FRIDAY 3RD NOVEMBER

**£18** per day or **5 DAYS** for only **£80**

Lawrence Sheriff School Rugby, CV21 3AG

onsidecoaching.co.uk EAST WARWICKSHIRE

funstar  
Education Through Performing Arts

07971073550 / 07849168659

info@funstareducation.co.uk

www.funstareducation.co.uk

**Musical Theatre 8.00am start, Mondays. (All years)**

Combine singing, acting and dancing to fantastic songs from the musicals and become an acting star!

**StreetDance 3.30pm-4.30pm, Fridays. (All years)**

Learn the coolest commercial & hip-hop moves to the latest songs whilst having fun in a relaxed and safe environment.

In both clubs we incorporate challenging games and a reward system which encourages children to be active, gain self-confidence and improve mental health with a mini performance opportunity at the end of term.

£4.50 per session. Fees paid upfront for full term. All dates & full information on website.

Please click on our links for session tasters:

[YouTube Funstar Musical Theatre taster](#)

[YouTube Funstar StreetDance taster](#)

**FREE TRIALS are available!**

(Please email us with the subject line **free trial** if your child is apprehensive and would like to try a session before committing to the term.)

TO REGISTER: please go to [www.funstareducation.co.uk](http://www.funstareducation.co.uk)

Class size is limited and offered on a first come first serve basis.

**Also available:**

[Funstar Birthday Parties](#)

[Funstar Holiday Clubs](#) Easter, Summer & Christmas (Free HAF places)

SUPPORTED BY:  
Warwickshire  
County Council

Follow us on    



**MF**  
MATT FIDDES  
MARTIAL ARTS

## Back to School

**MIGHTY JUNIOR / FAMILY MATTS CLASSES**  
For 3 - 6 Years Olds For Ages 7 Plus

**FREE taster sessions available NOW!**  
Cawston Community Hall, Scholars Dr,  
Cawston, Rugby  
CV22 7GU

SCAN THE QR CODE TO BOOK IN  
OR VISIT  
[WWW.MATTFIDDES.COM](http://WWW.MATTFIDDES.COM)

## RUGBY RHINOS FLAG AMERICAN FOOTBALL

**LOOKING FOR BOYS AND GIRLS  
AGED 7-13**

**NO EXPERIENCE? NO PROBLEM!**

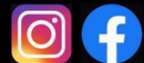
**We train from 09:30am-11:00am @  
Rugby Lions RFC, Webb Ellis Road,  
CV22 7AU**



Message us via our socials:

Phone: 07876 534 989

Email: [enquiries@rugbyrhinosafc.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@rugbyrhinosafc.co.uk)



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# Dates and Contact Details

## School Diary Dates 2023/24

### Autumn Term 2023

**Half Term Monday 30 October – Friday 3 November**

**Teacher Training Day Monday 6 November**

**School Closes at 3.30 Friday 22 December**

### Spring Term 2024

**Teacher Training Day Monday 8 January 2024**

**School Opens Tuesday 9 January 2024**

**Half Term Monday 12 February – Friday 16 February**

**School Closes at 3.30 Friday 22 March**

### Summer Term 2024

**School Opens Monday 8 April**

**May Bank Holiday Monday 6 May – school closed**

**Half Term Monday 27 May – Friday 31 May**

**Teacher Training Day Monday 3 June**

**School Closes at 3.30 Friday 19 July**

## Key Information

### School times

School gates open at 8.30am

Doors open at 8.40am

School starts at 8.50am

School closes at 3.30pm

Any child arriving after this time is late and will be marked as such.

If your child is ill or going to be absent please email [absent@biltonjuniorschool.co.uk](mailto:absent@biltonjuniorschool.co.uk) with your Child's NAME & CLASS with the reason for their absence

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### School contact details

Office hours are 8.30 - 4.30 each day by phone or email

If you feel you need to meet with a teacher face to face please email the school office [office@biltonjuniorschool.co.uk](mailto:office@biltonjuniorschool.co.uk)

If you need to talk with a teacher over the phone or have a general enquiry for them please email [office@biltonjuniorschool.co.uk](mailto:office@biltonjuniorschool.co.uk). Our teachers are busy with your children in the classrooms all day, however, they will get back to you as soon as possible

If you would like to share concerns or contact Mrs Smith our Home/School Support worker, please call the office, pop into school or email her directly on [homeschoolsupport@biltonjuniorschool.co.uk](mailto:homeschoolsupport@biltonjuniorschool.co.uk)

If you have specific feedback you would like to give us please email us on [feedback@biltonjuniorschool.co.uk](mailto:feedback@biltonjuniorschool.co.uk)

School policy information can be found here: <http://www.biltonjuniorschool.co.uk/policies>

## How can you help your PTA?

WHEN SHOPPING  
WITH TWO SPECIFIC  
RETAILERS



MY SCHOOL FUND

As you spend you'll receive 2% cashback in the form of eGift vouchers that can be redeemed in participating stores.

By linking your spend to our school on the My School Fund website we'll also earn 1% cashback on your spend.

Card-Linked Rewards at  
Sainsbury's or  
Argos



Sainsbury's

Register on:  
[myschoolfund.org](http://myschoolfund.org)



SCAN ME



**VOLUNTEERS**

**NEEDED**

Are you able to help with any of the following:

Ideas for fundraising  
Support shopping  
Organising raffles  
Sorting tombola prizes  
Helping at events

Please email: [pta@biltonjuniorschool.co.uk](mailto:pta@biltonjuniorschool.co.uk)



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