



# Temple Grafton

Church of England Primary School

18<sup>th</sup> January 2019

## DIARY DATES

### JANUARY

Fri 18<sup>th</sup> 3.45pm

PTA Film Night

Sat 19<sup>th</sup> 11am

X country Stratford Rec

Mon 28<sup>th</sup>

Class 3 Heart of England  
Forest

Tues 29<sup>th</sup>

Class 2 Heart of England  
Forest

Wed 30<sup>th</sup>

Class 4 Heart of England  
Forest

### FEBRUARY

Monday 4<sup>th</sup>

Pantomime Day

Thurs 7<sup>th</sup>

Reception & Y6 height &  
weight check

Fri 8<sup>th</sup>

PTA Disco

Sat 9<sup>th</sup> 11am

X country Stratford Rec

Tues 12<sup>th</sup> 5 - 8pm

Parents Evening

Thurs 14<sup>th</sup> 5 - 8pm

Parents Evening

Mon 18<sup>th</sup> - Fri 22<sup>nd</sup>

HALF TERM

Class 3 will be sharing  
their learning in

Celebration Assembly on  
Friday 25<sup>th</sup> January at  
2.45pm

## NEWSLETTER

## ISSUE - 2

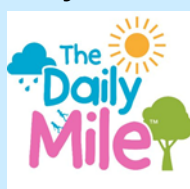
### Term Time Absence

Please read through the information printed on the back of the newsletter which has been provided by Warwickshire on taking leave of absence during term time. We would ask that all families support us in our commitment to ensuring that all children enjoy high levels of attendance at TG.

### ATTENDANCE MATTERS



### Daily Mile Track



Work is progressing well on the installation of our all-weather Daily Mile track around the edge of the school field. The bonded-rubber mulch surface will be completed next week and we will then be able to start making use of the track. As stated previously, we would be very grateful if families could make sure that preschool children do not go onto the field whilst the work is being completed.

### Christian Value

The Christian value that we will be exploring this half term is courage which we are linking to our Golden Rule 'We are honest – we don't cover up the truth'. We will be encouraging the children to think about the times when it is important to be brave and what gives us the strength. Being courageous can mean different things to different people. For example, one person may think it easy to speak in front of a large audience, whilst another would need to find lots of courage to do this. Everyone faces challenges from time to time, and we need to find courage to deal with them. "Courage is not the absence of fear, but the willingness to overcome that fear." Nelson Mandela.



### Emergency Closure



As winter weather appears to be on its way we just want to remind you of our arrangements in the case of adverse weather conditions. Wherever possible, we would aim to keep the school open. However there may be occasions when we have to make the decision to close. If this is the case, we will notify families using our text messaging service and a notice will be placed on the homepage of our school website. In addition Warwickshire County Council has a page on its website where it lists any school closures. Please make sure that you keep us updated of any changes to your mobile numbers. We would recommend that all parents sign up to the Warwickshire County Council school closures notification system for parents. The system only takes 30 seconds to sign up to via text and will then automatically send you a closure alert text once the school has notified them about an emergency closure. The system allows you to subscribe to more than one school so will now be of benefit to those of you with older children at secondary school.

In order to register for the service for Temple Grafton C of E Primary School, text 'schclosures 9373066 ON' to 07950 081082. To unsubscribe from the service text 'schclosures 9373066 OFF' to the same number. 9373066 is specific to our school, visit <http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/schoolclosures> to find the number needed for other schools.



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## LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME UPDATED INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Supreme Court recently reached a decision in the case of *Platt v Isle of Wight Council* which has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time. The parents of children of compulsory school age are required to ensure that they attend school on a regular basis. 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.

Head Teachers retain the ability to authorise leave in accordance with the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006. When considering such requests for a leave of absence, the school are obliged to act within the law. Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless 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. The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent.

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

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.

Failure to make an application for leave in advance can also result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to the parent(s).

All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Warwickshire Attendance Service, WAS, 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 Primary School pupils recorded **29,703** half day sessions of absence due to holiday in the Autumn/Spring term during the academic year 2017/18. This is an increase of 6,256 on the previous year.

### Star of The Week

Jessica Buffham	Class 1
Felix Roberts	Class 2
Sebastian Troye	Class 3
Aaron Chapman	Class 4