



Bawnmore Community Infant School and Cygnets Pre-School Newsletter



19th September 2025



Head of School's Letter

As we settle into the new school year, I want to thank you all for the warm and positive start we've had. The children have returned with great enthusiasm, and it's been wonderful to see their curiosity and energy in classrooms and around school. Thank you to those Reception parents and carers who were able to join us this afternoon to find out more about how the term has started for our Reception children. We hope you found it helpful. The slides will be shared with all Reception families. We are incredibly proud of the community spirit that underpins everything we do at Bawnmore, and I'd like to take this opportunity to invite you to a few upcoming events that really reflect that spirit.

Firstly, I'd like to strongly encourage you to attend the Friends of Bawnmore (FOB) AGM on Monday 22nd September at 7.45pm for an 8pm start in the School Hall. FOB do truly amazing work behind the scenes organising discos, Christmas parties, school fayres, and so much more. Their fundraising directly supports enriching experiences and vital resources for our children that we simply couldn't provide otherwise. Whether you're new to the school or have been with us for years, your ideas, time, and support would be hugely valued. Everyone is welcome!

We're also looking forward to our Macmillan Coffee Morning and Parents/Carers Drop-In on Wednesday 1st October from 9.00–10.30am in the School Hall. This is a lovely opportunity to support a vital cause while connecting with other families. Mrs Colston (SENDCo) and I will be there for informal chats, and there'll be toys available for younger siblings. If you're able to donate a cake or help serve drinks, please do let us know.

Finally, please note that the Mental Health Workshop originally scheduled for Friday 26th September has been postponed to Friday 17th October, with the same 4–5pm timing and hybrid format. We apologise for the inconvenience caused by this change of date but unfortunately our trainer is no longer available.

Warm regards,
Pam Davey
Head of School

FOB

We are Friends of Bawnmore (FOB), the school's Parent Teacher Association. We run events throughout the year for the school community such as fayres and discos, raising vital funds for our school.

We would love for you to join us this year in any capacity you are able to – you could do anything from making posters, volunteering at one or two events, or taking on an informal role such as class rep or looking after pre-loved uniform.

FOB does also need new members to fill the committee roles of Chair, Treasurer and Secretary in order to continue this year, as the current committee's children have moved on to Year 3.

If you'd like to find out more about these roles or FOB in general, please contact us at bawnmorefriends@gmail.com or pass on your contact details via the school office.

Please also join us at our Annual General Meeting where we will be electing this year's committee. This will be held at school on Monday 22nd September, meeting at 7.45pm for an 8pm start.

FAQ's

What should my child wear on PE days?

On PE days, children should come to school dressed in their PE kit. They will wear this all day. There is no need to send in school uniform for them to change into.

PE Kit:

White t-shirt

Black shorts, skort, leggings, or jogging bottoms

Green or black sweatshirt, hoodie, or cardigan

Trainers

PE Days are as follows:

Reception – Tuesdays and Fridays

Year One – Mondays and Thursdays

Year Two – Wednesdays and Fridays

Where can I find out what is happening in school?

You should have received our calendar for the term by email, and the dates have also been uploaded to our website. We do our best to stick to these dates, but please bear in mind that some changes may be necessary. We'll always aim to give you as much notice as possible. You can subscribe to the website calendar and then the dates will automatically appear on your phone calendar.

As you will be aware we are introducing ClassDojo and MCAS, to streamline our communication and make sure parents always know what is happening! You should have received a letter this week asking you to sign up to ClassDojo. We have started sharing photos and updates on this platform so please do take the time to sign up.

Please remember that parents and carers are requested not to use the direct messaging feature of the app at this time as teachers will be unable to answer these.

Can I park on site?

We understand that convenience is important, especially during busy mornings and afternoons. However, due to our narrow driveway and busy car park, which is also used by many pedestrians, we kindly ask that parents and carers do not drive onto the school site before school unless you hold a Blue Badge and have made prior arrangements with the school office. For safety reasons, only staff vehicles are permitted on site in the mornings.

If you are collecting from Puffin Club after 4.30pm, you may use the front car park. Please note that the rear staff car park is for staff use only—we do not have the space to accommodate additional vehicles, and the access road is too narrow to safely manage more traffic.

What are the timings of the school day?

We love starting the day with a smile and a calm, settled atmosphere. Classroom doors open from 8.45am to 8.55am, giving children time to come in, hang up their things, and get ready for the day ahead. If your child arrives after 8.55am, they'll be marked as late- so we really appreciate your help in getting them here on time.

The school day finishes at 3.10pm. If you need a bit of flexibility with drop-off or pick-up times, our Wrap Around Care is available- just contact the school office to book a place. If children aren't collected on time, they'll be taken to the club and a fee will apply.

Notices

Sharing Culture, Faith, and Worldviews

As part of our RE and PSHE curriculum, it's really valuable for children to hear about how different families celebrate their culture, faith, or worldview. For example, perhaps someone in your family was born in another country or celebrates a festival in a special way.

If you would be willing to come and talk to a class, or even speak in assembly, we would be so grateful! Please speak to Mrs Towers, Mrs Davey, or any of the teachers, or email the office and we'll pass your message on. We'll support you with anything you need to feel confident doing this.

Library Volunteers

Children in Years 1 and 2 will begin bringing home library books in the coming weeks. Do you have an hour a week to spare to help children choose their books? Full instructions will be provided! We now have helpers for Year One (although more would be welcome) however we are still in need of volunteers for Year 2. Please speak to Mrs Davey or your child's class teacher if you're able to help.

DIY Volunteers

Many of you will know the wonderful Mr May, our incredibly talented caretaker. Whether it's building sheds, fixing furniture, or transforming spaces around school, Mr May can turn his hand to just about anything! He's a real gem—but with so many exciting projects on the go, he could really use a bit of help.

We're looking for volunteers who might be able to spare a couple of hours to help with some practical tasks.

We've got **flat-packed goals to assemble, balance bikes to get ready, and even preparing the ground for, and building a couple of sheds!** If you're handy (or just willing to give it a go), we'd be so grateful for your support.

If you think you could help with just one of these jobs, please speak to **Mr May, Mrs Davey**, or a member of the **admin team**. Your time and skills would make a real difference—and we'd love to have you involved!

St Mark
Bilton

Little Lions Baby and Toddler Group

We are pleased to let you know that St Mark's Church will be launching a new baby and toddler group, 'Little Lions'.

Starting on 7th October, the Little Lions group will meet on Tuesday mornings during school term time from 9.45am to 11.15am in St Mark's Church. There will be a café for parents/grandparents/carers with good tea and coffee, fruit and biscuits or pastries, and the children will also have a drink and a healthy snack. There will be quiet spaces for babies, and a play area with toys for toddlers. The last part of the session will include a Bible story for the children, a 'thought for the day' and singing together. The cost will be £1 per family (up to 2 children and an extra 50p for each additional child).

Extra Curricular Opportunities

Some opportunities are free to all children, where an activity is normally parent/carer funded, if your child receives Pupil Premium funding they may be able to access a paid for club free of charge. Please speak to the admin team if you would like to know more. A child's place at any extra-curricular activity may be withdrawn if they are unable to consistently follow our school rules– this is to ensure that the clubs are fun, safe places for our children and staff.

Day	Activity	Led By	Timings	Year Groups	Availability
Monday	Musical Theatre	Funstar Dance	3.10pm-4.10pm	Reception, Years One and Two	Spaces
Monday	Maths in Action	Mrs Holston	3.10pm-4.10pm	Years One and Two	Full
Tuesday	Music Lessons	Rocksteady	8.30am-11am	Reception, Years One and Two	Spaces
Tuesday	Bench ball	Miss Sprayson	3.10pm-4.10pm	Years One and Two	Spaces
Tuesday	Cookery	Miss Bourton	3.10pm-4.10pm	Years One and Two	Full
Wednesday	Cheerleading	Funstar Dance	3.10pm-4.10pm	Reception, Years One and Two	Spaces
Thursday	Art	Mrs Lear and Mrs Wigginton	3.10pm-4.30pm	Years One and Two	Full
Thursday	Dance	Spellbound Dance	3.10pm-4.10pm	Reception, Years One and Two	Bookings not yet open- Club starts after half-term break.
Friday	Outdoor	Miss Sprayson	3.10pm- 4.10pm	Reception, Years One and Two	Spaces
Friday	Football	DM Coaching	3.10pm-4.30pm	Age 5 and above	Full

Harvest Assembly and Foodbank Collection

Our Harvest Assembly will take place on Friday 10th October. This will be led by St. Mark's Church. The Year One and Two children have been learning two harvest themed songs which they will sing. This is not a performance but you are very welcome to join us at 9.05am if you wish to. Each year we collect food donations for the Foodbank. If you are able to support this, please send in your donation (from the shopping lists below) during week beginning 6th October. Many thanks.



Harvest appeal

Please donate an item or two from the list to help local people left without enough money to live on.

Shopping list

- Tinned meat/fish
- Tinned veg/fruit
- Cooking sauces
- Coffee/tea
- Milk (UHT or powdered)
- Cuppa Soup
- Fruit juice (long-life)
- Tinned pudding
- Biscuits
- Instant mashed potato

www.rugby.foodbank.org.uk

Registered Charity in England & Wales (1120487)
Registered Charity in Scotland (0951489)



Harvest appeal

Please donate an item or two from the list to help local people left without enough money to live on.

Shopping list

- Tinned meat/fish
- Tinned veg/fruit
- PKT snack meals
- Coffee/tea
- Rice
- Biscuits
- Fruit juice (long-life)
- Shampoo/conditioner
- Jam/honey
- Dried red lentils

www.rugby.foodbank.org.uk

Registered Charity in England & Wales (1120487)
Registered Charity in Scotland (0951489)



Harvest appeal

Please donate an item or two from the list to help local people left without enough money to live on.

Shopping list

- Tinned meat/fish
- Tinned snack meals
- Cooking sauces
- Custard
- Tinned tomatoes
- Rice
- Squash
- Tinned pudding
- Pot noodles
- Cooking oil

www.rugby.foodbank.org.uk

Registered Charity in England & Wales (1120487)
Registered Charity in Scotland (0951489)



Harvest appeal

Please donate an item or two from the list to help local people left without enough money to live on.

Shopping list

- Tinned meat/fish
- Cream crackers
- Tinned soup
- Hot chocolate
- Milk (UHT or powdered)
- Shower gel
- Washing up liquid
- Flour
- Instant mashed potato
- Tinned tomatoes

www.rugby.foodbank.org.uk

Registered Charity in England & Wales (1120487)
Registered Charity in Scotland (0951489)

Celebrations

Celebration Assembly

This year, on **Tuesdays** we invite the children to share any certificates, medals or trophies that they have been awarded in the previous week at clubs attended out of school e.g. swimming, gymnastics. Please send these in with your child on a Tuesday morning. A photograph will then be included in the newsletter for you to see!



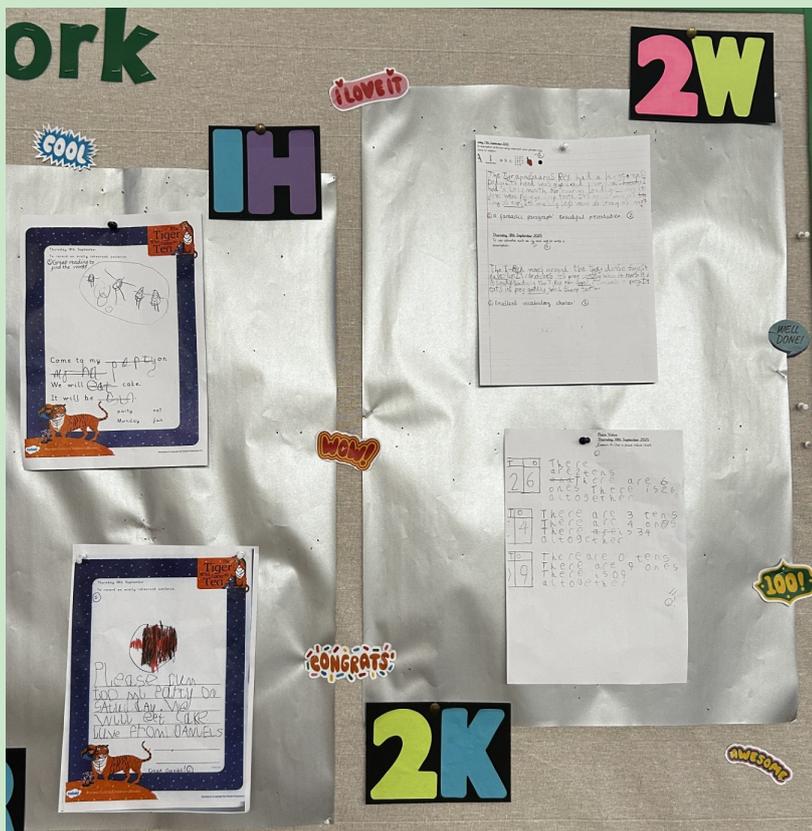
Assembly Award

Congratulations to 2K who have been chosen as our Assembly Champions this week.

Lunchtime Award

Congratulations to RS who have been chosen as our Lunchtime Winners this week.

Wonderful Work



Attendance Award

Congratulations to 2W who have been chosen as our Attendance Champions this week with 100% attendance. Congratulations! Our whole school attendance was 96.2%. Thank you to all parents and carers for supporting their children to make this happen.

Week	Date	Time	Who	Where	Activity
4	Mon 22 nd September	7.45pm for 8pm start	All parents and carers	School Hall	Friends of Bawnmore AGM- Please come along and see how you can help support our school. Everyone will be welcome! We would really value your input.
4	Thu 25 th September	pm	Year 2 pupils	Classrooms	MHST workshops Led by Alex Hare.
4	POST-PONED	4pm-5pm	All parents and carers	Hybrid	Mental Health Parents and Carers Workshop Led by Alex Hare, MHST. Alex will be with us in person but you will also have a link so that you can join us online if you wish to. This will now take place on Friday 17th October 2025.
4	Fri 26 th September	During school day	All pupils	School Hall	The School Nursing Team will be in school to offer the nasal flu vaccine to all pupils. A link for you to consent or opt out of this will be sent out to you prior to their visit. No pupil will be vaccinated without parental consent.
5	Wed 1 st October	9.00am-10.30am	All family and friends are welcome	School Hall	Macmillan Coffee Morning and Parents/ Carers Drop In. Come and support the work of Macmillan by having a coffee and cake with other parents and carers. Get to know other parents but also a chance to speak with Mrs Colston (SENDCo) and Mrs Davey (Head of School) in an informal setting. If you are able to provide a cake or help to serve drinks, please let us know! Small toys will be available to keep younger siblings entertained!
5	Thu 2 nd October	pm	Year 2 pupils	Classrooms	Final Year 2 MHST workshops led by Alex Hare.
6	Thu 9 th October	During school day	All pupils	School Hall	Kittle Photography – individual pupil portraits. All pupils will have their photograph taken individually and you will then have the chance to purchase this. Photographs will also be taken with siblings within school. All pupils should wear full school uniform (not PE kit) on this day.
6	Fri 10 th October	During school day/ Straight after school	All year groups		World Mental Health Day. Hello Yellow! Children will create yellow themed art work during the school day and are encouraged to bring in cake donations for a cake sale after school in aid of Mental Health charities. Please remember we are a nut aware school and it is really helpful if you can provide a list of the ingredients in your cakes.
6	Fri 10 th October	9.05am	All	School Hall	Harvest assembly. Led by St Marks Church Parents and carers welcome. If you are able to, please send your child in with an item to donate to Rugby Foodbank.
7	Tue 14 th October	3.30pm-6.30pm	Rec, Y1 and Y2 parents/ carers	Classrooms/ Online	Parents' Evening. You will be able to book a 10 minute in person appointment on this date or on 22 nd October.
7	Thu 16 th October	9.30am-4pm	Year 2 pupils	Rugby School	Interested Year 2 pupils will be taking part in a Choral Outreach Celebration Day at Rugby School. This event promises to be a wonderful day of uplifting singing. The day ends with a celebratory performance to friends, family, and teachers at 2.30pm. You are welcome to come along and watch the concert if you wish. Please see letter for further details.
7	Fri 17 th October	4pm-5pm	All parents and carers	Hybrid	Mental Health Parents and Carers Workshop Led by Alex Hare, MHST. Alex will be with us in person but you will also have a link so that you can join us online if you wish to.

8	Wed 22nd October	3.30pm- 6.30pm	Rec, Y1 and Y2 parents and carers	Classrooms	Parents' Evening. You will be able to book a 10 minute in person appointment on this date or on 14 th October.
8	Fri 24 th October	3.10pm	All		End of half-term. Puffins Wraparound Care closes at 5.45pm as normal.
Half Term Holiday Saturday 25th October – Sunday 2nd November					
Autumn 2 2025					
1	Mon 3rd November	8.45am- 3.10pm	All	Drop off/ pick up from playground	All pupils return to school.
1	Tue 4 th November	During school day	Rec. pupils	School Hall	The School Nursing Team will be in school carrying out the National Child Measurement Programme with reception pupils. A link for you to consent or opt out of this will be sent out to you to from the team prior to their visit.
1	Wed 5 th November	2.30pm	All parents and carers	School Hall	A chance to hear about how maths is taught in school, find out more about how you can support your child and ask any questions.
2	w/b 10 th November	During school day	All pupils and staff		Anti-Bullying Week 2025 will be held from Monday 10th to Friday 14th November with the theme "Power for Good". The campaign aims to empower children and young people to use their "Power for Good" to speak out and support others, countering the harm caused by bullying.
2	Fri 14 th November	During school day	Year 2 Pupils, parents and carers	Classrooms	African Theme Days. Children will be taking part in lots of activities related to our Africa topic. Parents and carers will be invited to join us for part of the day to take part in arts and crafts activities.
3	Mon 17 th November	2.15pm	Rec. par- ents and carers	School Hall	Reception Parents and Carers Reading meeting – A chance to hear about how reading is taught in school, find out more about how you can support your child and ask any questions.
4	Mon 24 th November and Tue 25 th No- vember	During school day	All pupils	Classrooms	Advent Workshops. Across the school, the children will be taking part in activities based on Christmas traditions around the world. This will be in preparation for the beginning of Advent. If you have a tradition you'd like to share, please let your child's teacher know.
4	Fri 29 th November	2pm	Year One Grandpar- ents/ friends	Year One Classrooms	Grandparents and family friends are invited to come into school to play traditional board games with the Year One children as part of their history topic. If you have any games you think they'd enjoy, please let your child's class teacher know.
5	Fri 5 th De- cember	8.45am- 3.10pm	All		Children are invited to come to school in non-uniform (Christmas jumpers, hats etc. optional) in return for a bottle, toiletries, chocolate or sweet donation for our tombola or raffle.
5	Fri 5 th De- cember	3.30pm- 5.00pm	All	School Hall	Christmas Fayre. Come along to our annual Christmas Fayre organized by FOB to raise funds for our school. Please let us know if you would be able to help with this event.

6	Tue 9 th December	R 1.20pm Y1 1.50pm Y2 2.30pm	All	School Hall	Year Group Christmas Assemblies. Performance 1. Families are invited to watch their child(ren)'s assembly. 2 tickets per family will be issued for each date. Reception -1.20 p.m. Year 1- 1.50p.m. Year 2- 2.30pm Children can be taken home following their performance if you wish.
6	Wed 10 th December	R 1.20pm Y1 1.50pm Y2 2.30pm	All	School Hall	Year Group Christmas Assemblies. Performance 2. Families are invited to watch their child(ren)'s assembly. 2 tickets per family will be issued for each date. Reception -1.20 p.m. Year 1- 1.50p.m. Year 2- 2.30pm Children can be taken home following their performance if you wish.
6	Fri 12 th December	9am-11am	Cygnets		Cygnets Christmas Crafts Morning. Cygnets families are invited to take part in some seasonal arts and crafts activities.
7	Tue 16 th December	During school day	Rec-Year 2 Pupils, parents and carers	St Mark's Church	Join us as we walk to St Mark's Church for a Christmas Service.
7	Wed 17 th December	During school day	All pupils	School Hall/ Classrooms	Christmas lunch & class parties. Children are invited to come to school in non-uniform.
7	Thu 18 th December	3.15pm-4.30pm 4.45pm-6.00pm	Cygnets and Reception pupils Year One and Year Two pupils	School Hall	School Discos. Adult helpers will be required. More details later on. Cygnets and Reception pupils are invited to attend a disco from 3.15pm-4.30pm. All children attending this disco will need to be accompanied by a designated adult. 4.45pm-6.00pm. Year 1 and 2 pupils are then invited to attend their disco without an adult.
7	Fri 19 th December	3.10pm	All		End of term. Puffins Wraparound Care closes at 5.00pm on this day.

Christmas Holidays

Saturday 20th December- Sunday 4th January

(5th January: Staff Training Day- School closed to children)

LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Supreme Court has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time (Platt v Isle of Wright 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 law states a leave of absence may only be granted by a school if an application is made in advance and if it considers there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application.

Schools must judge each application individually considering the specific facts and circumstances and relevant background context behind each request.

A leave of absence is granted entirely at the school's discretion. Generally, a need or desire for a holiday or other absence for the purpose of leisure and recreation would not constitute an exceptional circumstance.

Where a leave of absence is granted, the school will determine the number of days a pupil can be absent from school.

When making an application for Leave of Absence 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. The school may also request further information on the application and supporting documentation where appropriate.

It is advised that if the resident parent has not received notification or a response regarding the leave of absence application, it is the parents' 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 ie the parent with whom the child normally resides.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child is expected 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. 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.

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. Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices and in the first instance, as an alternative to prosecution proceedings.

Leave of Absence taken in the academic year 2025-26

The law relating to Penalty Notices changed with effect from 19 August 2024. Therefore, Penalty Notices issued for Leave of Absence taken from September 2024 will be issued in accordance with the updated legislation.

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 – 4 in total).

First Leave of Absence offence: The Penalty Notice amount of £160 to be paid within 28 days, this is reduced to £80 each child if paid within 21 days.