



# Bawnmore Community Infant School and Cygnets Pre-School Newsletter



7th November 2025

## Head of School's Letter



Dear Parents and Carers,

What a fantastic Friday we've had! Our Children in Need non-uniform day has already raised an amazing £140.38- thank you so much for your generosity. The children look brilliant in their Pudsey gear and colourful outfits; the school has been full of smiles all day!

Just a gentle reminder: non-uniform days are not the same as costume days. Costumes can sometimes make learning activities tricky, so if we ever plan a dress-up day, we'll make sure to let you know in advance.

This week was also Anti-Bullying Week, and we've been exploring the theme "Power for Good" in our assemblies. The children have shared thoughtful ideas about kindness, respect, and how we can all use our influence to make school a happy and safe place for everyone.

On Tuesday, we marked Remembrance Day together. The children took part in special assemblies in their classrooms and created beautiful poppy-themed activities in art and maths- a lovely way to reflect and remember.

Year 2 have had an incredible time celebrating African Day today. They cooked delicious Jollof rice and created stunning African-inspired artwork- the creativity and enthusiasm were wonderful to see and it was lovely to see so many parents and carers at their special workshop this afternoon. We hope you had a good time!

Looking ahead:

- Reception Reading Meeting – Monday 17th at 2.15pm. Reception parents and carers are warmly invited to join us.
- Rugby School Musicians – Wednesday afternoon. We're excited to welcome these talented performers to share their music with all our children. Sorry parents and carers are not able to join us for this event.

Finally, a quick parking reminder: We completely understand how busy mornings and afternoons can be, and convenience matters. However, for safety reasons, please do not drive onto the school site before school unless you hold a Blue Badge and have arranged this with the office. Our driveway and car park are narrow and used by many pedestrians, so only staff vehicles are permitted in the mornings. Parents and carers who require on-site parking should speak to the admin team for a permit. Anybody parking on site in the morning without a pass will be asked to leave.

If you're 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 only- space is very limited, and the access road is too narrow for extra traffic. Thank you for helping us keep everyone safe.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend,  
Have a lovely weekend,  
Pam Davey

## Club Creations

Puffin Club have been thinking about poppies for Remembrance Day this week. They made Poppy lanterns, cork printing pictures, poppy paintings and poppy biscuits.



# Values Book

Date: 14.11.25

Class	Child's Name	Award	Reason
<b>1H</b>	Orla	Wonderful Work	For an amazing missing poster, with great use of phonics to spell.
	Arlo T	Certificate	For a brilliant attitude to learning, both in and out of school.
	Aria	Values Sticker	For working hard and looking after our classroom, making her a great role model to others.
	Elise	Values Sticker	For working hard to develop her writing skills.
	Sophia	Values Sticker	For building resilience.
<b>1R</b>	Milan	Wonderful Work	For working hard and producing a lovely lost poster.
	Tomek	Certificate	For always being super engaged during carpet time.
	Elliot	Values Sticker	For reading independently as part of a group during book talk.
	Theo	Values Sticker	For always being willing to help his friends.
	Daniel S	Values Sticker	For working hard at his writing.
<b>2K</b>	Amelia	Wonderful Work	For superb effort in her writing tasks.
	Izzy	Certificate	For making great progress in maths.
	Josie	Values Sticker	For increased engagement in lessons.
	Dylan	Values Sticker	For developing the stamina of his writing.
	Ada	Values Sticker	For always being a helpful member of our class.
<b>2W</b>	Chun Yuet	Wonderful Work	For fabulous descriptive writing.
	Emily	Certificate	For excellent contributions to class discussions.
	Aanish	Values Sticker	For a great attitude to learning!
	Dilan	Values Sticker	For rehearsing his play lines brilliantly!
	Zoya	Values Sticker	For always demonstrating respect!

## 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
<b>Monday</b>	Musical Theatre	Funstar Dance	3.10pm-4.10pm	Reception, Years One and Two	Spaces
<b>Monday</b>	Maths in Action	Mrs Holston	3.10pm-4.10pm	Years One and Two	Spaces
<b>Tuesday</b>	Music Lessons	Rocksteady	8.30am-11am	Reception, Years One and Two	Spaces
<b>Tuesday</b>	Gym	Miss Sprayson	3.10pm-4.10pm	Reception, Years One and Two	Full
<b>Tuesday</b>	Cookery	Miss Bourton	3.10pm-4.10pm	Years One and Two	Full
<b>Wednesday</b>	Cheerleading	Funstar Dance	3.10pm-4.10pm	Reception, Years One and Two	Spaces
<b>Thursday</b>	Art	Mrs Lear and Mrs Wigginton	3.10pm-4.30pm	Years One and Two	Full
<b>Friday</b>	Outdoor	Miss Sprayson	3.10pm- 4.10pm	Reception, Years One and Two	Full
<b>Friday</b>	Football	DM Coaching	3.10pm-4.30pm	Age 5 and above	1 space

## Celebrations

### Attendance Award

Congratulations to RS who have been chosen as our Attendance Champions this week with 98.9% attendance. Congratulations!  
Our whole school attendance was 95%. Thank you to all parents and carers for supporting their children to make this happen.



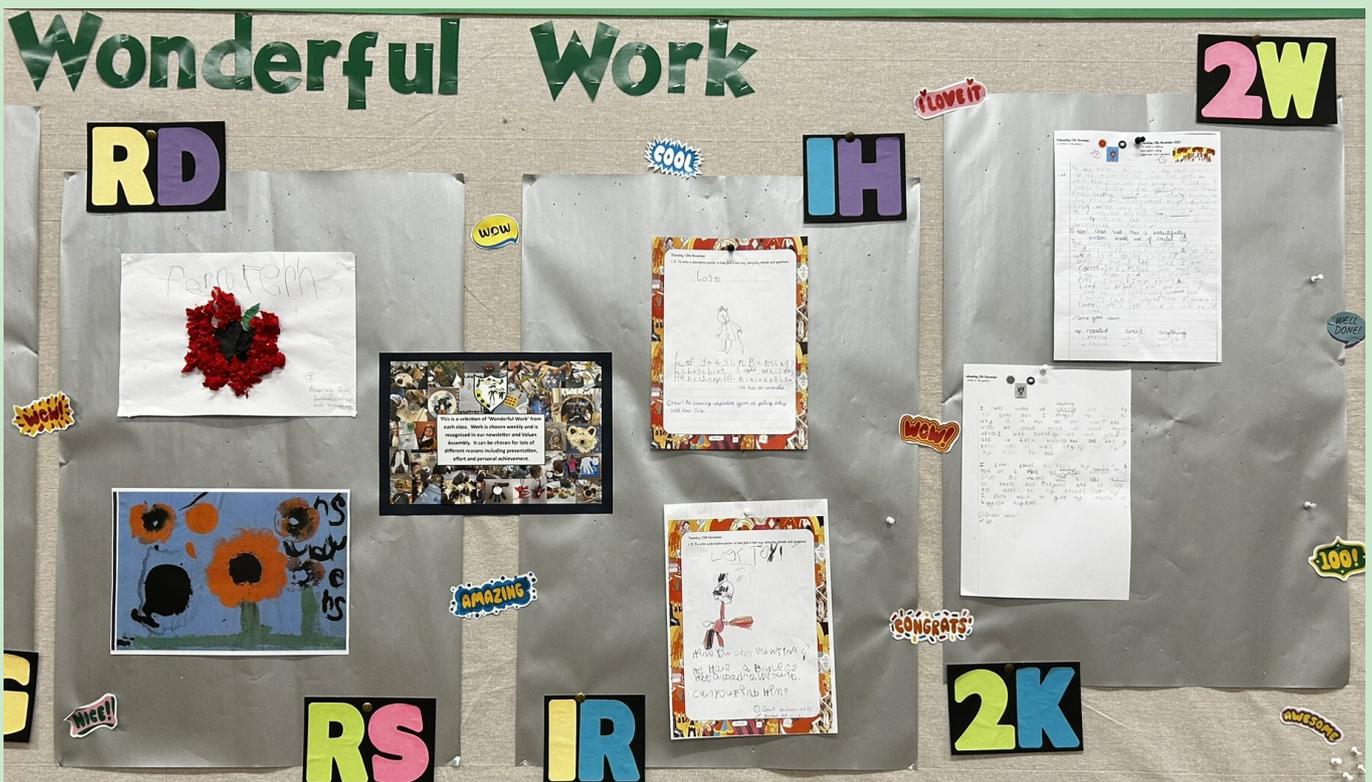
### Assembly Award

Congratulations to 1R who have been chosen as our Assembly Champions this week.

### Lunchtime Award

Congratulations to 2K who have been chosen as our Lunchtime Winners this week.

## Wonderful Work



# Calendar

Half Term Holiday Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup> October – Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November					
Autumn 2 2025					
3	Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> 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	Thu 20 <sup>th</sup> November	8pm	All parents and carers	Fighting Cocks Pub	FOB Meeting– All welcome. This will be an in person meeting held at The Fighting Cocks. A great time to socialise as well as help plan our next events.
4	Mon 24 <sup>th</sup> November and Tue 25 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> 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	Tue 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	9am	Rock- steady families	School Hall	Parents and carers of children attending Rocksteady music lessons are invited to attend their first ever concert!
5	Fri 5 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> 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	Sun 7 <sup>th</sup> December	4.00pm	All	St Mark's Church	Our choir have been invited to sing at the Christingle Service at St Mark's Church. Everybody is welcome to this festive celebration.
6	Tue 9 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> 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	Thu 11 <sup>th</sup> December	During school day	All pupils	School Hall	The whole school will enjoy an early lunch followed by watching a touring production of "Dick Whittington".
6	Fri 12 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> December	3.15pm- 4.30pm  4.45pm- 6.00pm	Cygnets and Re- ception 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 <sup>th</sup> December	3.10pm	All		End of term. Puffins Wraparound Care closes <b>at 5.00pm</b> on this day.

**Christmas Holidays**

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> December- Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> January**

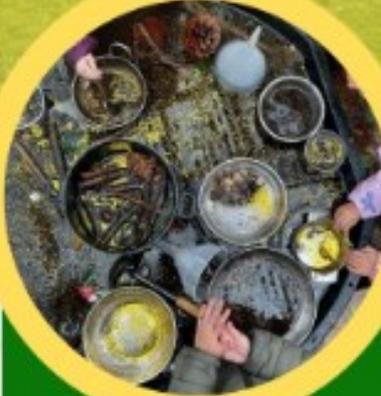
**(5<sup>th</sup> January: Staff Training Day- School closed to children)**

# Bawnmore Community Infant School Preschool & Reception Open Days

*Are you interested in enrolling your child at our fantastic preschool, Cygnets? Or are you thinking about Bawnmore Community Infant School for your child to attend Reception in September 2026? How about trying a taster session to get a feel for our engaging environments, welcoming staff and school community?*



Interactive, fun  
and engaging  
learning  
experiences



A curriculum planned  
to meet the children's  
specific interests,  
needs and  
development



A safe and  
welcoming  
environment to grow  
in confidence

**COME AND JOIN US!**

**Cygnets Preschool - Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup>  
November 1.30 - 3pm**

**Reception - Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November  
9.30 - 11am or Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup>  
November 9.30 - 11am**

Please contact us as soon as possible to secure a space at a taster session for you and your child.

*Come along to have a play and explore our preschool or Reception provision and ask any questions you may have. We'd love to meet you!*

01788 810065

admin2423@welearn365.com



## **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 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 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.

Second Leave of Absence offence within a 3 year period (from the date of issue of the first penalty notice): The amount of £160 paid within 28 days. No reduced amount.

Payment plans will not be offered and/or payments received outside of the 28 day period will not be accepted. Where a penalty notice expires unpaid the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider criminal prosecution.

Third Leave of Absence offence within a 3 year period (from the date of issue of the first penalty notice): A penalty notices will be not be issued and the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal prosecution proceedings under S444 of Education Act 1996.

**Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority.**

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about YOUTUBE KIDS



## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

As its name suggests, YouTube Kids is a child-friendly version of Google's online video-sharing platform. Its colourful user interface is designed with young people in mind, and it offers a curated, family-friendly experience with features like age-based content settings and parental controls.

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT BYPASSING FILTERS



YouTube Kids is less likely to show inappropriate material than YouTube, but there have been reports of the app showing age-inappropriate content to young viewers. One investigation found that YouTube Kids had shown videos that promote skin bleaching, weight loss, drug culture and firearms to children as young as two, as inappropriate content had bypassed the platform's algorithms and human moderators.

### BE WARY OF ADVERTISING



Like Google's regular YouTube app, YouTube Kids features pervasive advertising before a video plays. While these adverts are designed to be family friendly and are subject to a strict review process, it's worth noting that YouTube Kids collects information around children's viewing to inform targeted content and advertisements.

### DESIGNED TO BE ADDICTIVE



YouTube Kids is designed to be addictive. The platform's design features, such as the constant stream of new videos and the reward system of points or virtual stickers, can be very engaging and make it difficult for children to switch off. Research has shown that spending too much time using digital services such as YouTube can lead to screen addiction, affecting children's daily routines, studies, and even their social lives.

### SETTINGS CAN BE CIRCUMVENTED



YouTube Kids offers built-in parental controls, enabling you to set screen time limits and curate the content children are able to view; however, children are often more tech-savvy than we think. They can easily bypass or tweak these settings if they have access to the associated Google account password, thereby exposing themselves to age-inappropriate and potentially dangerous content.

### AI-GENERATED MISINFORMATION



There is also a risk of children accessing videos that contain disinformation and misinformation. A BBC investigation found that some YouTube channels are using artificial intelligence (AI) technology to create misleading "scientific" videos that are recommended to children as educational content. These videos included conspiracy theories and ideas that lack scientific backing.

### DATA COLLECTION RISK



While there are limits on the data that YouTube can collect on children under 13, children can still inadvertently give away sensitive information when using YouTube Kids. The platform collects data on children's viewing habits, content searches and location, which YouTube and third-party advertisers can use.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### PARENTAL CONTROLS



YouTube Kids offers several settings that allow you to manage what content children can view. For example, you can choose what level of content you want them to access, such as "Preschool" or "Younger". You can also turn off the search function, so that only those videos approved by the YouTube Kids team themselves will appear on a child's recommendations list.

### SET TIME LIMITS



The built-in parental controls let you keep a tab on how long children spend watching videos. You can set a timer that limits screen time and disables the YouTube Kids app once a specified length of time has been reached. It's also worth speaking to children about the dangers of spending too much time on YouTube, to ensure they remain focused on other, more important activities.

### CHECK WATCH HISTORY



YouTube Kids has made it easy for you to keep an eye on what the children in your care have been watching on the app. By clicking on the "Recommended" icon at the top right of the home screen, you can see which videos they've been viewing, and how much of each. If a child watches YouTube Kids while signed into a Google account, you can check their history through Google's "My Activity" page.

### WATCH TOGETHER



It's important that you try to make YouTube Kids a fun and positive experience for children. One way to do this is by introducing watching sessions, where you all gather around and share the most enjoyable videos that you have recently watched. This can be a great way of giving you both new things to talk about and of keeping an eye on what they're watching.

### Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced journalist with more than 10 years of experience covering the technology industry. Previously a senior cybersecurity reporter at TechCrunch, Carly is now a freelance journalist, editor, and copywriter. Her bylines include Forbes, TechRadar, Tes, THE INQUIRER, The Metro, Uswitch, and WIRED.





Mental Health in Schools Team  
**Tips For Wellness**



## Thoughtfulness

Being thoughtful is when you consider, or think about, how your actions and words will affect other people's feelings. Taking the time to make ourselves aware of the needs and feelings of others and then taking action to help them is great for our mental health; it helps reduce stress, improve friendships and creates a sense of belonging.

When we think about how others feel and show kindness, it makes us feel good inside and boosts our confidence!

### Our tips for Thoughtfulness:

You can be thoughtful through small acts of kindness; it doesn't have to be a grand gesture! Here are some examples below:

- Smile at someone.
- Listen carefully when someone is talking—it shows you care about what they're saying.
- Give someone a nice compliment.
- Help out without being asked, like sharing your things or tidying up.
- Think about how others might feel before you act or say something.
- Hug someone you care about (e.g., parents/carers, family members or a friend).
- Hold the door open for the person behind you.
- Say kind things to others and try to cheer someone up if they're feeling sad.
- Say "thank you" and "please"—small words can make a big difference.
- Tell someone that they are important to you.

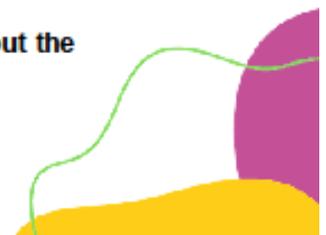
*Scan the QR code for more information about the benefits of being kind and thoughtful to ourselves and others:*



**In Coventry and Warwickshire, for any urgent mental health concerns, contact the RISE Crisis Helpline available 24/7, by calling NHS 111. Alternatively, call 999 or visit A&E in an emergency, for example if medical attention is required.**

**MHST are available to support you and your school throughout the school year including term time and school holidays.**

**Please contact your school's Mental Health Lead for information and advice.**



# **FREE ONLINE SAFETY WORKSHOP**

## FOR PARENTS OF SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN

Get practical hints and tips to support your children and keep them safe online, and learn how to keep up to date in the ever changing online world.

 **Mon 10th**  
**NOVEMBER**    **7pm-8pm**



Speaker

**LYNDSEY VAUGHTON**

Education & Wellbeing Training Lead (UK)  
Smoothwall



Access the event here:

<https://meet.google.com/cze-sgju-fbj>

With a background in law enforcement, Lyndsey is a seasoned child protection advocate with extensive expertise in safeguarding education. She is passionate about fostering safe student environments, offering support in policy implementation, training, and committee establishment, as well as furthering her commitment to student wellbeing through her PhD research on the effects of domestic abuse on children.

For more information on online safety, visit <https://warwickshire.onlinesafetyhub.uk/>

# MONEY ADVICE MARKET

Get help with cost of living pressures . . .

- Citizen's Advice
- Foodbank
- Finance and debt advice
- Energy and fuel
- Childcare costs
- Loans and savings
- Help for families
- Housing support
- Love Food Hate Waste
- Mental health and wellbeing
- PLUS...
- Lots of money saving freebies!



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**FRIDAY 14 NOVEMBER,  
9.30AM - 12.30PM**

Free refreshments!  
Everyone's welcome!

[www.facebook.com/RugbyCommunities](https://www.facebook.com/RugbyCommunities)  
[www.facebook.com/RugbyLibrary](https://www.facebook.com/RugbyLibrary)



# BOOK ADVENT CALENDAR

We're excited to share a special project that will bring fresh energy to our class reading corners this winter—and your child has helped shape it!

## WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Our reading corners are much-loved spaces, but they're ready for a refresh. To make them vibrant and inspiring, we've launched our Book Advent Calendar Project. Each class will receive three bundles of new books during December—six books per bundle—so that every child can enjoy exciting stories and fascinating facts in the run-up to the holidays.

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

If you'd like to support this project, we'd be so grateful for any families who feel able to donate a book—which School Council helped create with input from all classes.



**2  
DAYS**



**Christmas Jumpers Welcome!**

AK



COACHING

## Christmas Holiday Club

- Football
- Tag Rugby
- Frisbee
- Dodgeball
- Basketball
- Netball
- Hockey
- Tennis
- Cricket
- Rounders
- Gymnastics
- Table Tennis

PLUS, PLENTY OF OTHER FUN GAMES




**MON 22<sup>ND</sup> DEC  
TUE 23<sup>RD</sup> DEC**

0900-1600

**£17 FOR THE DAY**

AGE 5-11

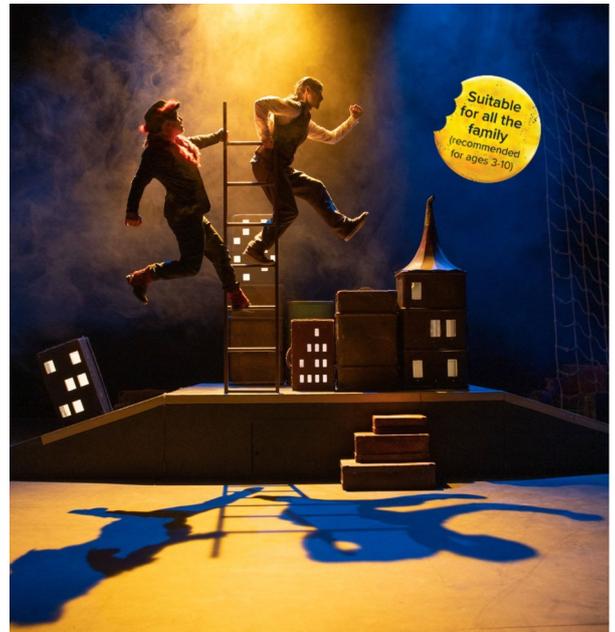
**BILTON JUNIOR SCHOOL**

BOOK NOW USING THE QR CODE

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07725 876 612  
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Suitable for all the family (recommended for ages 3-10)

**The Gingerbread Man**  
14 - 23 Dec & 2 - 4 Jan



Find out more & book now at  
[www.macreadytheatre.co.uk](http://www.macreadytheatre.co.uk)

