



Arden Forest Infant School

www.ardenforest.warwickshire.sch.uk

July 25 Newsletter : No 11



Head's News

Dear Parents and Carers,

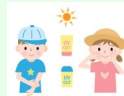
This year has flown by and the last few weeks have been exceptionally busy! We are particularly proud of the children's achievements, especially our Phonics Screening Results. Our Year One pass rate is 82% which is now above National Data. Similarly Year Two have also achieved very well - 86%, which is near the national data. This has been through hard work and commitment to consistency and daily phonics lessons with additional 'Phonic Blasts' in school, together with the support of parents who have practised phonics and reading at home. A combined effort makes a world of difference and sets the children up to be able to access all areas of learning.

We are also proud of our Reception children's achievements. They too have achieved above National, having 79% of children with a 'Good Level of Development'.

Next year we will continue to work on improving writing in school, in particular children's handwriting and stamina for sustained concentration.

We hope that everyone has a wonderful, calm summer holidays and we look forward to seeing everyone back in September.

Mrs Rose Gunn, Headteacher



SCHOOL START AND FINISH TIMES.



Gates open	8.25am
Classroom doors	8.30am
School day starts	8.35am
Registration ends	8.45am
Break time Year 1	10.25 - 10.40am
Year 2	10.45 - 11.00am
Dinner time	12 - 12.45pm
Afternoon start	12.45pm
End of day	3.05pm

SCHOOL RE-OPENS

September 1st & 2nd will be Teacher Training Days.

School will reopen **Wednesday 3rd September** –
Gates open 8.25am and close at 8.33am.

Emergency Telephone Number

Please use the number below and leave a voicemail, text or WhatsApp message if you need to urgently get in touch with the school during the summer holiday. The phone will be checked daily throughout the week.

07821869161



Awards 2025



Well done to Emily who won the Shirley Stoney Award for Contributions to the school. It was a well deserved as Emily had always been a compassionate and considerate pupil, who is keen to be of support pupils and staff alike in every role she has. This has included being an active member of the Eco Council and a Wonderful Walking Leader.



Our awards assembly on Thursday, celebrated the children's achievements and learning, their progress and attitudes and behaviours. We are especially proud of them all:

Teachers Awards: Evie, George, Ethan, Kianna, Bear and Mila,

Governor Awards: Alexander, Thea, Noa, Veera, Freya and Elsie,

Headteacher Awards: Gerry, Nicholas, Ferne, Jay, Aurora, Luca.

BRING & BUY SALE

Raised £149

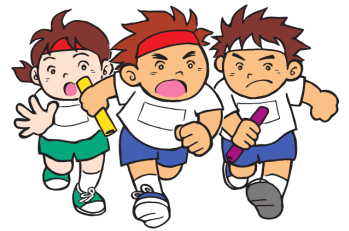
Thank you all for supporting this event. The Eco and School Council will be using this money next year to support some projects, including going for the Eco Award.



Sports Day

Thank you to everyone who attended and helped at our Annual Sports Day events.

Congratulations to our winners, and to everyone who took part for showing a really sporting attitude. Well done!



Children's School Meals

The menu will be sent out via Edulink to all parents and will be starting on **week 3** the first week of term.

You will also find the menu on our notice board on Edulink.



Happy Holidays

Useful Diary Dates



21st July - 31st August—**SUMMER HOLIDAYS**

Monday 1st & 2nd September - Teacher Training Days - **SCHOOL CLOSED**

Wednesday 3rd September - School re-opens gates open at 8.25am



Class Emails

You can communicate with the class teacher via email. Please use the following emails if you wish to ask a question or notify the class teacher of something. Teachers will get back to you within three working days. Therefore if it is urgent, please contact the office via email or telephone.

Please include your child's full name in the email as sometimes it is difficult to identify the pupil if parents have different surnames to their child.

RA – Mrs Amos	RAclass@welearn365.com
& Mrs Robinson	RAclass@welearn365.com
RB – Mrs Winfield	RBclass@welearn365.com
1A – Miss McGee	1Aclass@welearn365.com
1B – Miss Ashby	1Bclass@welearn365.com
2A – Miss Wallace	2Aclass@welearn365.com
& Miss Sargent	2Aclass@welearn365.com
2B – Miss Gailey	2Bclass@welearn365.com
Office -	admin2630@welearn365.com



LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME

UPDATED 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 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 ie 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'. This may result in legal action against the parent, by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice. 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.

Notice for parents

To comply with the Pupil Registration Regulations amended 2016 and Data Protection expectations, it is vitally important that **Arden Forest Infant School** keeps accurate and up to date information relating to every pupil on roll.

The information we are required to record includes:

Pupil's full legal name (and if appropriate, their preferred name).

The name, address and contact details of every person known to the school/academy who is a parent* to the pupil with whom the pupil normally resides (this is the address that has been used to register with their GP).

The name, address and contact details of any additional parent*.

Any other emergency contact details.

In order to gather this information, every year we send out data collection forms. Parents are asked to complete the form with as much information as possible and then return to the school, signed and dated. We would ask that even where there are no amendments to the data collection sheet, parents return the form, signed and dated.

Arden Forest Infant School requests that if you change your contact number, move home or there are any other circumstances which may impact your child, the school is notified as a priority.

N.B. *The Education Act 1996 defines a 'parent' as a). any natural parent, whether married or not, b). any parent who, although not a natural parent, has parental responsibility as defined in the Children Act (1989) for a child or young person c). any person who, although not a natural parent, has care of a child or young person.

Attendance

Good attendance can positively impact on your child's progress and development and vice versa for poor attendance.

National statistics from the DfE show that across the academic year 2022/23, 22.3% of pupils missed 10% or more of their possible sessions and were therefore identified as 'persistently absent'. For a child to be identified as 'Persistently absent' means that they will have missed 10 days in a full academic year. Attendance is also a part of our **Safeguarding duty; therefore, any absence can result in a home visit.** Please also be mindful not to encourage your child to lie about the reason they have been absent, as this is known to cause great anxiety in children. The children will almost always be honest and tell us if they have been on holiday, as they are too excited to share their experiences with the staff!