

## CAWSTON GRANGE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025**

### Our Fabulous Curriculum!

This week has been filled with creativity, inspiration, and new challenges as we continue to make our curriculum exciting and engaging for all learners! We were blown away by the amazing entries for our DT Cracking Contraptions Competition – the creativity and ingenuity on display were truly inspiring! This week, we also had an exciting assembly focused on inspiring our writers, encouraging all our budding authors to dream big and put their imaginations to paper. Meanwhile, a brand-new PSHE challenge has been sent out on DOJO, giving children the chance to explore important themes in a fun and thought-provoking way.

### Cross County

On Wednesday afternoon, 12 children ran in the first ever Year 4 cross country race at Bilton Junior School. There were approximately 50 children in each race. Conditions were good and team spirit was fantastic. A HUGE well done to all of the children who represented our school.

### Coming up...

Looking ahead, don't forget that on Monday, we welcome the brilliant author Alan Durrant, who will be visiting to share his insights and passion for storytelling. Then, on Thursday 6th March, we invite all staff and children to come to school dressed as their favourite book character to celebrate World Book Day! To top off the fun, children can return to school at 4.30pm in their pyjamas for an hour of storytelling and hot chocolate – cuddly toys are more than welcome to join in too!

We love seeing our children so engaged in their learning and extra-curricular activities – thank you for your ongoing support in making our curriculum and experiences rich, exciting, and full of wonder!

Mrs Brookes  
Deputy Head Teacher

## **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 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 2024-25

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.**



## Mental Health in Schools – Gratitude



### Mental Health in Schools Team Tips For Wellness



## Gratitude

Gratitude is the act of looking for things that make us feel happy and being thankful for them. For example, saying "thank you" to someone who did an act of kindness such as holding a door open for you, or telling your friend that you're happy they make you laugh and tell you funny jokes.

We can also be thankful to ourselves. We all have different skills and talents which bring us joy. What is yours? It might be skateboarding, cooking, sport or dancing. Whatever your skill or talent is, be thankful for it!

*"Joy is the simplest form of gratitude." – Karl Barth*

#### Notice the good in your life - practise gratitude

**Look around**, can you see something that makes you feel happy? For example, your best friend's smiling face. **Listen**, can you hear something that makes you feel happy? For example, music that makes you want to dance.

Being thankful for the good things in your life can improve your wellbeing and reduce feelings of frustration. It gives you the chance to reflect on the good things you have accomplished and have a more positive mindset.

Each day this week, try and notice three people/places/things that you are thankful for. Write these down on your phone or a notepad to be able to look back on and appreciate the positive aspects of your week.

#### Express gratitude

Show your appreciation to someone who did something nice. Say: "It was really kind of you to...", "It really helped me out when you..."

Tell the people in your life how you feel and what they mean to you. This can be as simple as "Mum, good dinner. Thanks!"

Scan the QR code for lots of other ideas around gratitude activities:



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.**

## Weekly Online Safety Bulletin – WhatsApp



According to Ofcom's most recent Media Use and Attitudes Report, roughly 55% of 3-17 year olds in the UK are using WhatsApp as their primary messaging service. Not only does that make WhatsApp the most popular messaging platform among children and young people in the UK; it also means that of the app's approximately three billion users, over seven million of them are British youngsters – keeping in touch with friends and family, but also being exposed to its various risks. This free guide delves into the online safety risks of WhatsApp and offers expert advice on how to safeguard any young people who use the platform.

### Playtime Snacks

Key Stage 2 children are allowed to bring a snack from home to eat at playtime. Please ensure that this is either a piece of fruit or a cereal bar (nut free). Many children are taking items such as packets of crisps or sandwiches from their lunchboxes but these should be eaten at lunch, not playtime. We have also reminded the children of this in school.



### Breakfast Club

Just a reminder that bookings and payment for breakfast club places is via SCOPAY, all breakfast places must be pre booked 5 days in advance. Any questions please contact the school office

### School Lunches - New Ordering system



Thank you to those who have downloaded and registered on the new SwiftKitchen app, the children have really enjoyed using the new tablet system when collecting their lunches. If you are struggling with the new app please contact the school office and we will be happy to help you with your queries.

Remember that if your child is having a hot school dinner, meals need to be booked no later than 9am via your Swiftkitchen app. If you have booked a lunch and no longer require please cancel it before 9am on the day, as we are unable to remove orders.

## School Year

**2024/2025**

### Diary Dates – Spring Term 2025

March 2025		
06/03/25	World Book Day	Children can come to school dressed as their favourite character
06/03/25	Story Time 4.30pm-5.30pm	Children can come to school at 4.30pm in their pyjamas for a story in their classroom
07/03/25	Final Payment for Year 6 residential due	
21/03/25	Year 1 Spring Assembly 2.30pm	Book your seat via SCOPAY, Maximum of 2 adults per child
25/03/25	Year 6 Leavers Hoodies, Final order Day	Details sent via e-mail
27/03/25	Year 1 Butterflies DT Workshop	2pm, Please book places via SCOPAY account
28/03/25	Year 1 Red Pandas DT Workshop	2pm, Please book places via SCOPAY account
31/03/25	Last Week of Teacher Led After School Clubs	
April 2025		
01/04/25	Year 1 West Lodge Farm Trip	Consent and payment via SCOPAY accounts
03/04/25	Year 2 Seaside Day Workshop	Consent and payment via SCOPAY accounts
03/04/25	PTA Joules Outlet Sales Evening	Booking via PTA
05/04/25	Years 5 & 6 Primary School Swimming Gala	More details to follow, teams to be selected
07/04/25	RockSteady Concert to parents with children attending RockSteady Club	2.30pm School hall
8/04/25 & 10/04/25	Parents evening	More details to follow
11/04/25	PTA Easter Hunt	More details to follow
11/04/25	School Closes at 3.30pm for Easter	

### Diary Dates – Summer Term 2025

April 2025		
28/04/25	School reopens at 8.40am	
May 2025		
05/05/25	Bank Holiday	School Closed to Pupils
21/05/25-23/05/24	Year 6 Residential	
23/05/25	School Closes at 3.30pm for Half Term	



26/05/25 to 30/05/25 Half Term		
June 2025		
02/06/25	School reopens at 8.40am	
20/06/25	Designated Teacher Training Day	School Closed to Pupils
July 2025		
05/07/25	Summer Sizzler	
7-18/07/25	Year 3 & 4 Swimming Lessons	More details to follow
17/07/25	Year 5 Trip to London	Consent and Payment via SCOPAY
18/07/25	School Closes at 3.30pm for Summer Holidays	

*Please check dates regularly as more trips and events will be added as the year progresses.*

## Attachments

Mental Health in Schools – Gratitude

Weekly Online Safety Bulletin – Whatsapp



Dear Headteacher

RARE Productions is the largest amateur production company in the UK, currently presenting over 60 shows per year at over 40 major theatres across the country with over 4000 young people taking part over the past year.

RARE has an open audition policy for all its shows, and its casts of young people, between the ages of 8 and 21, are drawn entirely from auditions held in the locality of the venue where each show will be presented.

Our aim as a company is to provide young people with the opportunity to perform in major productions at major theatres with professional standard sets, sound and lighting. The shows currently on RARE's roster include Annie, Bugsy Malone, Matilda Jr, High School Musical, The Little Mermaid and Les Miserables (School Edition), and amongst the theatres being used are the Alban Arena, Aylesbury Waterside, Towngate Theatre in Basildon, Dunstable Grove Theatre and The Gordon Craig Theatre in Stevenage.

RARE has been producing shows at Benn Hall for many years, and we are now about to audition for our next production. We are really excited to announce that this will be 'Annie', and full details are on the attached flyers. Prospective cast members need only attend one audition. A show fee is payable by all successful auditionees who join the cast. The show goes on stage at Benn Hall from 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> June 2025.

We are anticipating a very large turnout at the auditions for this hugely popular production. To ensure as many youngsters as possible know about the auditions, we enclose a supply of posters and we hope that you will be able to distribute them around your school. We are also able to provide you with a PDF version of this poster, please email [info@rareproductions.co.uk](mailto:info@rareproductions.co.uk) if you would like a digital copy sent over to you.

We look forward to welcoming some of your pupils to the auditions.

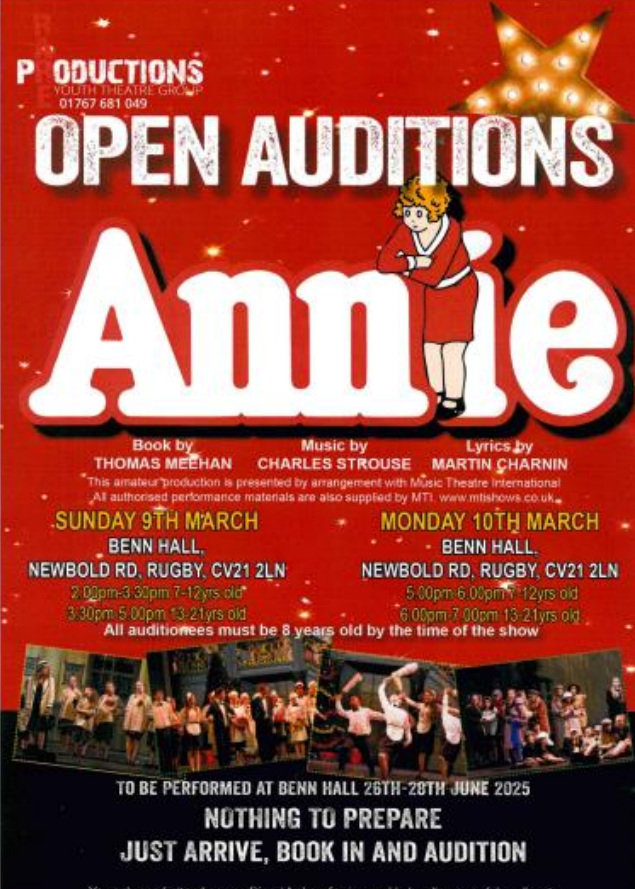
Yours sincerely

ANDREW BURTON

Director

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Phone: 01767 681049 | Email: [info@rareproductions.co.uk](mailto:info@rareproductions.co.uk) | Address: Grosden, 14, Canon, CB93 3PL



**P PRODUCTIONS**  
YOUTH THEATRE GROUP  
01767 681 049

# OPEN AUDITIONS

# Annie

Book by **THOMAS MEEHAN** Music by **CHARLES STROUSE** Lyrics by **MARTIN CHARNIN**

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International. All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI. [www.mtishows.co.uk](http://www.mtishows.co.uk)

**SUNDAY 9TH MARCH**  
BENN HALL,  
NEWBOLD RD, RUGBY, CV21 2LN  
2.00pm-3.30pm 7-12yrs old  
3.30pm-5.00pm 13-21yrs old  
All auditionees must be 8 years old by the time of the show

**MONDAY 10TH MARCH**  
BENN HALL,  
NEWBOLD RD, RUGBY, CV21 2LN  
5.00pm-6.00pm 7-12yrs old  
6.00pm-7.00pm 13-21yrs old  
All auditionees must be 8 years old by the time of the show

TO BE PERFORMED AT BENN HALL 26TH-28TH JUNE 2025

## NOTHING TO PREPARE

## JUST ARRIVE, BOOK IN AND AUDITION

You only need attend one audition / A show fee is payable by all successful applicants

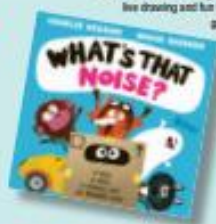
# Events for Families

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May

Nadia Shireen  
and Charlie Higson  
What's That Noise?  
£8 11.10am 1 Age 4+



Join author, actor and comedian Charlie Higson and award-winning illustrator Nadia Shireen for this fast and funny event based on their brand new picture book, What's That Noise? Laughs, noisy games, live drawing and fun for all the family guaranteed!



Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May

Dame Jacqueline Wilson  
The Seaside Sleepover  
£8 11.10am 1 Age 6+



One of the UK's bestselling children's authors (and a Festival Ambassador) brings you the latest in her hugely popular Sleepovers series featuring Daisy and her friends - and Daisy's sister Lily. The summer holidays have finally arrived, and Daisy longs for a proper holiday at the seaside, building sandcastles, eating lots of ice cream and maybe even spotting a mermaid in the sea. Daisy's sister, Lily, wants to come too, but she uses a wheelchair which can make trips to the seaside tricky. Especially with all that sand! Then Scruff arrives in their life...



Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May

Bunny vs Monkey Trail  
FREE 1 All day

Can you find intrepid Bunny, Monkey and their friends around the Festival site? Go on a hunt for these beloved characters in this family-friendly trail created especially for us by Bunny vs Monkey author and illustrator Jamie Smart.



FREE  
drop-in  
FUN!



Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May

Superhero Drop-In and Do  
Drawing, craft and games!  
FREE 1 11am-1pm 1 Age 5+

Pop along and get creative with superheroes craft and games, plus create your own character with The Phoenix Comic artist Abby Bulmer.



Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May

Maz Evans  
Oh What a Knight!  
£8 11.30am-12.30pm 1 Age 7+



Embark on a madcap journey with superstar author Maz Evans - from the Maps Underworld, through Ancient Egypt and all the way to Camelot to find Excalibur and save the world. Join in the fun and games and discover ancient myths and Arthurian legend in this hilarious, energetic event.



Box Office: 0333 666 3366 or online at stratfest.co.uk

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Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May

Gareth P Jones  
Fairytale Musical Mash-Up  
£8 11.10am 1 Age 5+



Author, performer, musician, Gareth does it all! Come and sing, laugh and learn along as he brings his books to life in an interactive musical performance based on his fairytale retellings: Redwood, Snowy White and Cinderella.

# Events for Families

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May

Comic Workshop  
With The Phoenix Comic  
£10 1 2.30pm 1 Age 8+



Channel your inner artist and get creative in this interactive comic creation workshop with cartoonist and comic artist Abby Bulmer as seen in The Phoenix comic, Struck the Hedgehog and My Little Pony.



Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May

Introduction to  
Dungeons and Dragons  
£10 1 3.30-4.30pm 1 Age 11-16



Interested in playing Dungeons and Dragons but not sure where to start? Or perhaps you are a Dungeon Master looking for tips and tricks? Bring your friends along to this interactive D&D workshop where you'll explore how to play, how to create characters and how to run your own game at home!

Please note: Adults are also expected to buy a ticket to events.  
See full terms and conditions.

## Terms and Conditions

Most events take place at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, but please check your ticket and website before you travel.

- All events take place at the venue printed on your ticket. You will be contacted by email in advance of an event if the venue or any details change.
- Tickets are sold through an external box office. Tickets are non-refundable and cannot be exchanged. All tickets booked by phone or online incur a booking fee. This booking fee is charged by our external box office. Postal ticket delivery is an additional £2.50. Should a ticket be refunded because of an unavoidable cancellation or circumstances beyond the Festival's control, the booking fee will not be returned.
- Tickets will be on sale at the Festival information desk during the Festival, unless an event is sold out. The booking number and online booking link can be found on each page of our programme and on our website.
- All seats are unreserved. Some events may have staggered pricing based on where you will be seated in the auditorium.
- No animals are permitted into the Crowne Plaza Hotel except assistance dogs.
- Accessibility: all venues can accommodate wheelchairs and those with mobility issues, and there is an accessible toilet. All venues have step-free access. Please contact us on info@stratfest.co.uk if you have particular needs or require a seat close to the stage due to hearing or sight challenges. All speakers use a microphone.
- Children under 16 years must be accompanied by a responsible adult (over 18 years of age). We cannot accept responsibility for unaccompanied children. Children over 16 may attend alone but must be delivered and collected by a responsible adult and are not the responsibility of the Festival. Adults attending children's events are expected to buy a ticket unless otherwise stated. Children under 2 and babies in arms who do not require a seat do not need a ticket.
- We reserve the right to alter the programme or substitute performers if circumstances dictate and we will do our very best to replace like with like. Please check our website or follow us on Instagram for programme change alerts. Ticketbookers will also be emailed about any programme changes.
- All events are on a first-come basis unless otherwise stated. Books are available to buy at each event and authors will sign copies of their books after each event. Books featured at the Festival and those signed at earlier events will be on sale at Waterstones, 8 High Street. We request that you do not bring copies of books for signature not purchased at the event.
- Some events may be filmed or recorded. By buying a ticket you are giving your consent to be filmed or recorded as a member of the audience. Please do not wish to be in a photograph.
- All details and prices are correct at time of going to press.

## How to Book

By phone: 0333 666 3366 (Mon-Fri 9am-7pm)

Online: stratfest.co.uk

In person during the Festival:  
At the Box Office and Information Desk,  
Crowne Plaza Hotel, Bridge Foot,  
Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 9YH  
(during the Festival only)

All tickets incur a booking fee to cover the costs of our external box office. There will be a £2.50 charge to post tickets.



Go to our website at stratfest.co.uk for the latest news and any programme changes or additions

Annie Ashworth (Festival Director)  
Charlotte Brennan (Festival Administrator)  
Jo James (Operations Director and Programming)  
Becci Smith (Schools and Children's Events Programming)  
Suzanne Worthington (Stewards and Volunteers Coordinator)  
Alison Morris (Author Care)  
Liz Wise (Books with Friends Coordinator)  
Judy Reaves (Set Design)

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