

# CAWSTON GRANGE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

# Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2025

### **Mental Health and Wellbeing Support**

We believe that children's mental health is just as important as their physical health. Feeling safe, supported, and happy at school helps children to learn and thrive.

#### Why it matters

Children and young people can sometimes feel worried, stressed, or overwhelmed—whether that's because of schoolwork, friendships, or changes at home. Having the right support in place makes a big difference to their confidence and wellbeing.

#### What we do in school

- **Open conversations:** We encourage children to talk about their feelings and reassure them that it's normal to need help sometimes.
- **Trusted adults:** Staff are here to listen and guide children to the right support if they need it.
- **Wellbeing activities:** Circle time, mindfulness, and PSHE lessons help children develop resilience and coping skills.
- **Additional support:** For pupils who may need more help, we can offer small group work, one-to-one check-ins, or referrals to specialist services.

#### How parents can help

- Let your child know it's okay to share how they're feeling.
- Keep an eye out for changes in behaviour—being quieter than usual, struggling to sleep, or seeming more worried.
- Reach out to us if you're concerned. We can work together to support your child.

Please do keep an eye out on Dojo pages for ideas on how to support your child with their Mental Health.

Together, we can help every child in school feel supported, valued, and ready to learn.

Nicola Brookes
Deputy Headteacher
Mental Health Lead

# 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.

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 <u>each parent of each absent child</u>, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means <u>each</u> 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.

# Art and Writing Competition

Christine Assheton, the Churchwarden at St Mark's Church has invited our school to take part in an Art and Writing Competition this Autumn.

The theme for the competition is "Community" in the widest sense of the word to celebrate the many communities we know and may be involved in.

Entries will be in 3 groups:

Infant- EYFS, Year 1, Year 2

Junior- Year 3 to Year 6

Senior- Year 7 and above.

**The Art Competition**: Entries can be drawings, paintings, photography, textiles, collage or any other medium. Entries are limited to A4 size for individuals.

The Writing Competition: Entries can be any kind of poetry such as Haiku, Free verse, Acrostic, Ode, Elegy, Ballad or short stories, descriptions of their community / communities perhaps as letters to some-one else, memoirs (such as the tales my grandparents / great grandparents told me). Entries are limited to 500 words.

Comics / Comic Books / Graphic Novels Journaling and Scrap Booking are also welcome as well but should remain within the word limit with accompanying pictures again A4 size due to the space available for display.

The competition will run during this half-term. Please submit your entries to school by Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October. We have been asked to submit the best 3 entries from each year group and these entries will be put on display in and around St Mark's Church in early November. There will be 2 public viewings on Saturdays 15th and 22nd November when attendees will be able to vote for their favourite artwork or piece of writing. Refreshments will be available. The winners will be announced before the 28th November.

Good luck everyone!

### Weekly Online Safety Bulletin - Online Slang

This free guide decodes popular online slang, helping parents and educators understand key terms and their implications – from harmless trends to language that could disguise bullying or mental health concerns.

#### **Sunset Club**

Places at our new after-school club are open for bookings now! Please make sure that you have completed your registration form and handed it in to the school office. You can book spaces at the club using Scopay.

To help us ensure that we can order the correct food and have appropriate staffing levels, it would be helpful if parents could book their sessions as soon as you know what you will need. If you have booked a session and no longer plan to use it, please inform us 24 hours in advance to avoid being charged.



If you are paying with Childcare vouchers/Tax Free Childcare scheme, please e-mail the school office <a href="mailto:admin3594@welearn365.com">admin3594@welearn365.com</a> to let us know which account the money is for i.e. Breakfast club or Sunset Club, we will then be able to allocate the funds to the correct account.

A reminder that our extra-curricular clubs (both teacher-led and those run by independent providers) will open for bookings in September.

# **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**

Please remember that all bookings and payment for breakfast club places need to be made via your SCOPAY account, all breakfast places must be pre booked at least 5 days in advance. If you have booked a session and no longer plan to use it, please inform us 24 hours in advance to avoid being charged. If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

### School Lunches - SwiftKitchen app

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.



### **Parking Reminder**

# PLEASE BE CONSIDERATE. PARK IT RIGHT.

# **IMPORTANT**

Buses, Emergency Vehicles and residential traffic are finding it harder to navigate the streets in this area. You are breaking the law if you are parked too near to a junction.

For more information contact the Rugby Police Team on 101 or 01788 853846







### The Highway Code Rule for Parking near a Junction

#### **Rule 243**

**DO NOT** stop or park opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction, except in an authorised parking space.

#### Why it should not be done

The parked vehicles can obstruct the view of cars in motion. Potentially leading to accidents.

The parked vehicles can obscure the vision of both pedestrians and drivers. Junctions are a popular crossing place for many pedestrians which could lead to accidents.

Emergency vehicles can also have their vision or even their movement blocked. Emergency vehicles, such as fire engines often need more room to turn than a car.

#### What is the punishment?

If a police officer observes a vehicle breaking this rule they can:

- Provide the owner of the vehicle with a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN).
- Tow the vehicle.
- Put points onto the vehicles owners license.



# **School Year 2025/2026**

Diary Dates – Autumn Term 2025

October 2025				
21/10/25	Parents Evening	More details to follow		
23/10/25	Parents Evening	More details to follow		
23/10/25	School Closes for Half Term 3.30pm			
24/10/25	<b>Designated Teacher Training Day</b>	School Closed to all pupils		
Half Term – Monday 27th October – Friday 31st October 2025				
November 2025				
03/11/25	School Reopens at 8.40am			
14/11/25	<b>Designated Teacher Training Day</b>	School Closed to all pupils		
December 2025				
19/12/25	School closes for Christmas 3.30pm			

**Diary Dates - Spring Term 2026** 

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January 2026				
05/01/26	School Reopens at 8.40am			
27/01/26	Young Voices	Sign up and consent details sent via SCOPAY – Closing date 23 <sup>rd</sup> September 2025		
February 2026				
13/02/26	School Closes for Half Term 3.30pm			
Half Term – Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> February 2026				
23/02/26	School Reopens at 8.40am			
March 2026				
27/03/26	School Closes for Easter at 3.30pm			

**Diary Dates - Summer Term 2026** 

April 2026				
13/04/26	School Reopens at 8.40am			
May 2026				
04/05/26	Bank Holiday	School Closed to all pupils		
22/05/26	School Closes at 3.30pm			
	Half Term – Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> May – Fri	iday 29 <sup>th</sup> May 2026		
June 2026				
01/06/26	School Reopens at 8.40am			
19/06/26	<b>Designated Teacher Training Day</b>	School Closed to all pupils		
July 2026				
17/07/26	School Closes for Summer at 3.30pm			

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

#### **Attachments**

Pupil Premium Funding Leaflet Weekly Online Safety Bulletin – Online Slang Funstar afterschool club letter

\*spaces available, pay for remaining sessions only!

Street Dance - Wednesday

3:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Musical Theatre - Thursday

3:30 pm - 4:30pm





Email us:

info@funstareducation.co.uk

subject line FREE TRIAL for a taster session





At Cub Scouts, boys and girls ages 8-10.5 years old embark on an unforgettable experience that builds character, instills values, and nurtures leadership skills. Look no further and join us!

### **PLACES NOW AVAILABLE**

