



Ryton-on-Dunsmore Provost Williams

Church of England Academy

@RytonPWAcademy



## Newsletter 18th November 2024

*"Let your light shine"*

Last week, Year 3, 4 and 5 mustered their inner Roman when they attended Bosworth Battlefield as part of their new history topic. It was wonderful to hear what they had learnt, and see the smiles on their faces as they shared their new knowledge with their parents and carers.

In school, we held our third open day session for perspective parents for Reception intake 2025. It was great to share our school and the opportunities that we can offer children and parents in the village and surrounding area. A number of parents have already completed their application, which is great. As a reminder to any Nursery parents who haven't yet complete the application you have until 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

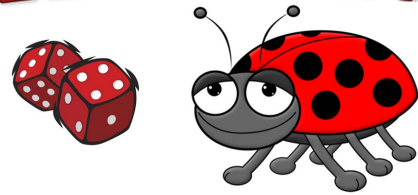
Due to unforeseen circumstances, Year 3 and 4 Come and Learn will not go ahead on Tuesday and will be rescheduled for after Christmas. We are sorry for the inconvenience that this change may have caused.

Miss Cullen, Head Teacher



# Ark News

## BEETLE DRIVE

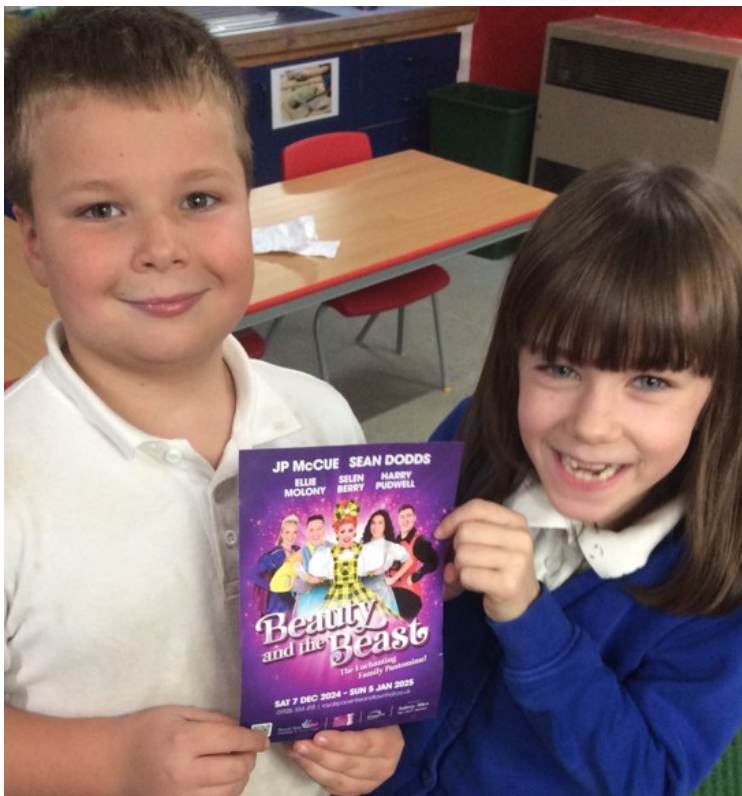
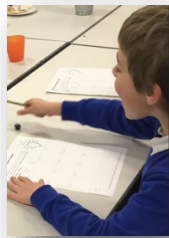


Children in the Ark last week were introduced to the excitement of a Beetle Drive!

Mrs Tombs and Miss Kelly also put our party food as a treat for snack time.

If you would like to book your child in to the Ark (perhaps for a one off Christmas shopping trip!) please contact the office.

The price is £8.50 to 5pm and £12.10 to 6pm.



We are off to the pantomime!

One of the highlights of our Christmas calendar is the whole school trip to the pantomime. This year, we are off to see Beauty and the Beast at the Spa Centre in Leamington. The cost of the trip is £16.20 per child. To give consent, log into Parentpay and click the consent button before making your payment.



We raised £61 for Children In Need last week!  
Thank you everyone.

With our Safeguarding focus this term being on Anti-Bullying, please take a moment to look at this information about encouraging respect.

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](https://nationalcollege.com).

# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators ENCOURAGING CHILDREN TO CHOOSE RESPECT

Sometimes, differences between children can escalate into bullying, potentially impacting their mental health in a way that can persist into adulthood. While it's natural to disagree sometimes, teaching children the importance of respect is essential – especially in difficult situations. This guide provides strategies for encouraging considerate behaviour, even during a dispute, to foster a kinder, more inclusive environment for everyone.

## 1 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

As adults, we play a crucial role in modelling respectful behaviour for children: they observe and learn from our actions every day. Be mindful of the way you interact with others in front of children. Keep in mind that you should always approach others with an attitude of mutual respect, even if you disagree with them. Demonstrating this behaviour can influence young people and help them to handle their own conflicts in a healthy way.

## 2 AGREE TO DISAGREE

Make sure children know that it's fine to have differing opinions – and that disagreeing with someone doesn't mean you can't get along or respect each other's point of view. Help them understand that sometimes we can 'agree to disagree'. Using active listening skills when doing this can also help to build empathy and understanding of others.

## 3 PROMOTE ACTIVE LISTENING

Teach children about the importance of active listening: that is, making a genuine effort to listen to the other person's perspective without interrupting, before responding in a way that shows you understand their viewpoint, even (or perhaps especially) if you disagree with it. This makes people feel respected and allows for a better comprehension of their point of view, which in turn can make it easier for you to communicate your own opinions to them.

## 4 ENCOURAGE THE USE OF "I" STATEMENTS

If a child finds themselves in a disagreement with someone, it can be useful to encourage them to use "I" statements during the discussion. Framing their thoughts and feelings using statements like "I feel ..." or "I think ..." can help them avoid an accusatory tone and encourages them to take responsibility for their own emotions.

## 5 FOCUS ON BEHAVIOUR, NOT CHARACTER

When disagreements happen, encourage children to focus on critiquing and addressing the specific actions or behaviours that caused this upset, rather than attacking the person's character. For example, "I didn't like how you interrupted me" is better than "You're so rude". This can help children avoid hurting someone's feelings, which is likely to inflame the situation.

## 6 STAY CALM AND TAKE BREAKS

It's perfectly normal to feel upset during a disagreement – especially if it's getting heated. Remind children that if they feel overwhelmed, they should try to take deep breaths or even go for a short break to help them stay composed. If a conversation becomes too intense, remind them it's OK to suggest continuing it later or in a different setting. This can prevent things getting out of hand, allowing cooler heads to prevail.

## 7 START CONVERSATIONS ABOUT RESPECT

Talk openly to children about what respect means – to you and to them. Discuss how they might show respect to each other, to friends, to strangers and even to people we might disagree with. You could use examples of considerate or inconsiderate behaviour in books, films or TV to open discussions about the importance of giving others due regard.

## 8 SEEK COMMON GROUND

When a disagreement has occurred between children, they may find it hard to move past it. You can support them in finding a more positive way forward by helping identify areas of agreement or common ground with the other party. This can help to build bridges between differing opinions and foster a more cooperative atmosphere, as well as preventing those involved from demonising each another.

## 9 AVOID MAKING THINGS PERSONAL

It's important that we make it clear to children they must avoid name-calling, swearing or derogatory remarks in a disagreement with others. Respectful language sets a positive tone and helps keep the conversation productive. Reminding children to stay calm and take breaks – as mentioned previously – can help them avoid getting too emotional and saying or doing something hurtful.

## 10 REFLECT AND LEARN

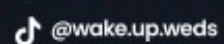
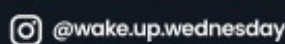
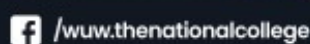
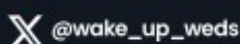
After a child has had a disagreement, encourage them to reflect on the experience and think about what they can learn from it. What did they handle well? How might they improve their communication skills to handle conflicts more effectively in the future? You could use role play, writing and drawing pictures, or hypothetical examples to further develop their skills in showing respect during a disagreement.

## Meet Our Expert

The Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA) co-ordinate Anti-Bullying Week each year. ABA is a unique coalition of organisations and individuals, working together to achieve their vision to stop bullying and create safer environments in which children and young people can live, grow, play and learn. They welcome membership from any organisation or individual that supports this vision and support a free network of thousands of schools and colleges.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/choose-respect>



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**Phonics and Reading Open Morning  
Wednesday 27th November  
Years 1,3,4,5 and 6  
(Year 2 will be on another date)**

See how we teach reading and phonics

9.30-10am Join your child's class

10.00-10.30am In the hall with our literacy  
lead, Mrs Gayler.





Ryton on Dunsmore Academy

**Non Uniform Day**  
**Friday 29th November**  
**in exchange for:-**

Early Years, Year 1 and 2 - Chocolate

Years 3 4 5 and 6 - Alcohol

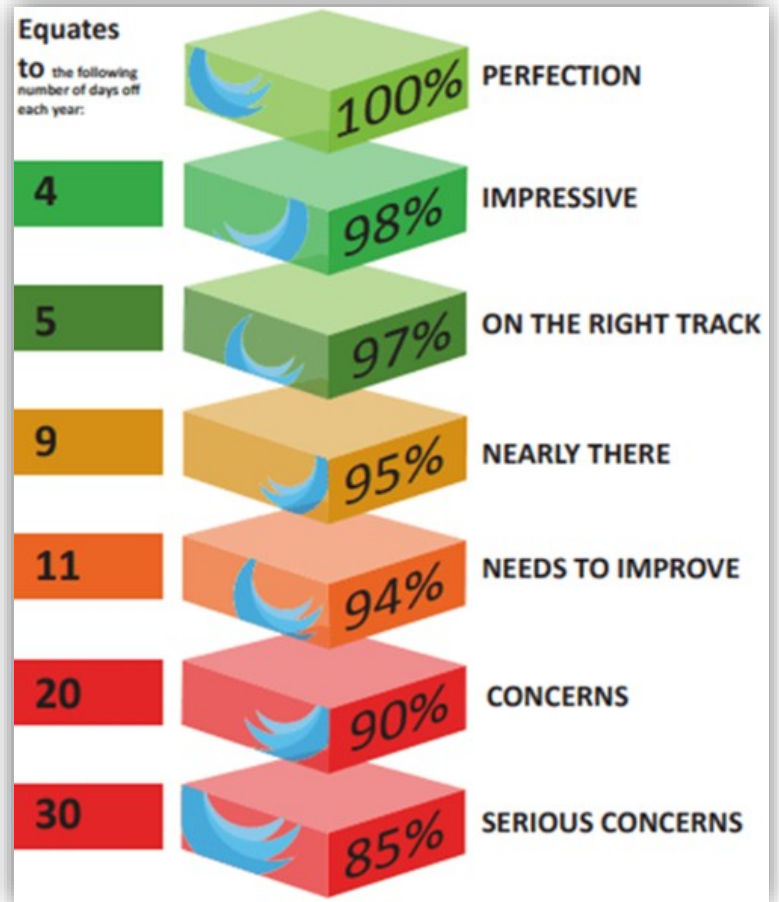
For our PTA Christmas Fair

*Thank you!*



# Attendance Update

Attendance	
Nursery	90.6%
Reception	85.6%
Year 1	96.4%
Year 2	93.1%
Year 3	83.8%
Year 4	86%
Year 5	77.9%
Year 6	89.6%



We take school absence very seriously. We identify students whose attendance drops below 96% and provide support to help improve this. We will contact any family whose child's attendance drops below 90% which is the persistent absence threshold. It is important that parents/carers and school work together to reduce absence and prevent legal action being taken as a result of persistent absence. We understand that sometimes sickness cannot be helped but still should be in school unless they have a fever, sickness/diarrhoea (this would result in 48hours off school). Please ensure that you call school on each day of their absents.

Attendance Matters



Be In **SCHOOL**  
Be On **TIME**



Monday 18th November	Flu immunisation letters will be sent out to parents
Tuesday 19th November 2.45pm	Year 3/4 Come and Learn
Wednesday 27th November 9.30am	Reading event (see separate page on this newsletter)
Friday 29th November	Non Uniform Day in exchange for Christmas Fair donations
Monday 2nd December	Monthly Movie Monday
Wednesday 4th December	Year 4/5 Come and Learn
Wednesday 11th December	PTA Christmas Fair
Thursday 12th December	Flu vaccinations for Nursery-Year 6 for children with consent
	Open Day 11am and 3.30pm for prospective parents
Tuesday 17th December	Whole school panto trip
18th/19th December	Early Years/KS1 Nativity
Friday 20th December	Christmas Day in school (Breakfast in PJ's, a gift for each child, Christmas Dinner, games and activities)
	Break up

See all Christmas activities on the next page....

Let's celebrate together!

# CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

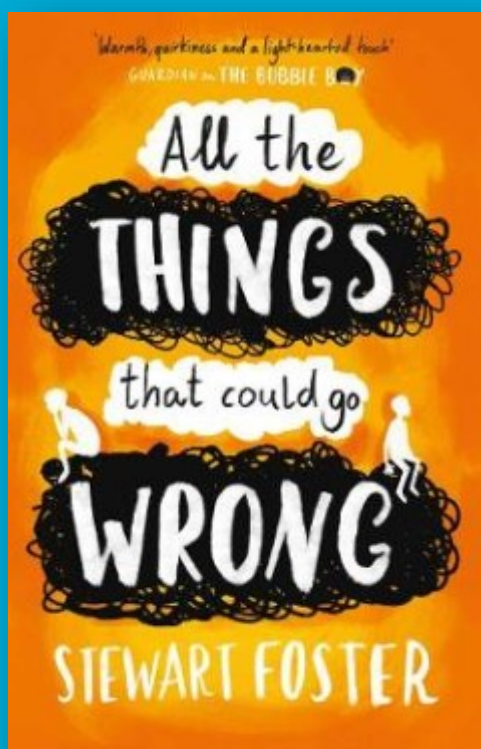
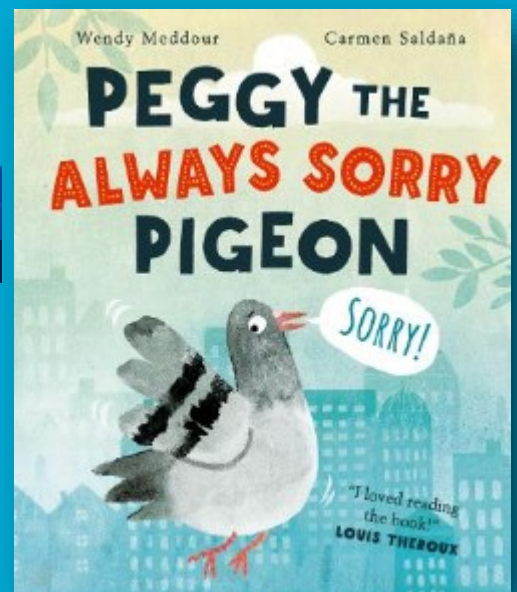
## AT RYTON ON DUNSMORE ACADEMY

<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December</b>	Monthly Movie Monday (Christmas Film)	3.15pm to 5.00pm	Sign up on Parentpay
<b>Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December</b>	PTA Christmas Fair	3.00pm to 5.00pm	Children who travel on school transport can go in early at 3pm.  Fair opens at 3.15pm after children have been collected.
<b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Christingle Service at St Leonard's Church	10.00am to 11.00am	In the afternoon, all children will make Christingles in class.
<b>Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Beauty and the Beast Pantomime at Royal Spa Centre	Depart school 9.15am, return approx. 12.30pm.	Payment on Parentpay please, click the "consent" button then paying.
<b>Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Early Years, Year 1 and Year 2 performance of "Prickly Hay"	9.30am	Tickets are free. 2 tickets per child, per performance. A link will be sent to book.
	Years 3 4 5 and 6 Carol Service	10.30am	Tickets are free. 2 tickets per child, per performance. A link will be sent to book.
<b>Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Early Years, Year 1 and Year 2 performance of "Prickly Hay"	9.30am	Tickets are free. 2 tickets per child, per performance. A link will be sent to book.
	Years 3 4 5 and 6	11.00am (Years 3 and 4 will swim as normal)	Tickets are free. 2 tickets per child, per performance. A link will be sent to book.
<b>Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Children can arrive in pyjamas. Open gifts by the "fire" in classrooms. Games and crafts. Christmas Lunch. Christmas Film.	Timings as normal.	Parents to send clothes in a bag for children who arrive in pyjamas. Festive clothes please (Christmas jumpers/dresses)



## Miss Cullen's Recommended Reads

Peggy is a pigeon who always apologises – whether she has done something wrong or not! She lands in various places and then apologises when another character comes along and moves her along. She meets a feisty seagull who encourages her to stand up for herself by just being a bit louder – and saying the first thing that comes into her head! This has delightfully funny consequences as Peggy comes out with some very silly phrases – which are always repeated, giving great opportunities for children to join in.



There are two sides to every story Dan is angry. Nothing has been the same since his big brother left, and he's taking it out on the nearest and weakest target: Alex. Alex is struggling. His severe OCD makes it hard for him to leave the house, especially when Dan and his gang are waiting for him at school ...Then the boys' mums arrange for them to meet up and finish building the raft that Dan started with his brother. Two enemies stuck together for the whole of the school holidays - what could possibly go wrong?



## YOU'D BETTER GET YOUR SKATES ON!

Our incredible, outdoor, undercover rink is open every day right through to Christmas and New Year. Thrills (and sometimes spills) with 45 fun-packed minutes on the ice, with each skating session starting promptly on the hour. It is recommended you book online to ensure your skating time slot.

There is a café, right by the rink selling snacks and hot drinks and quality ice skate hire is included in the price. Skate Aids - Push-a-longs are available to hire separately.

IT'S FANTASTIC FESTIVE FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY

There are a number of opportunities to see Santa this Christmas. "The Best Grotto for Smiles!" Year-on-year the Grotto just gets better and better - and that's what our visitors say - as we continue to offer the best Father Christmas experience and value for money this side of the North Pole. Santa will be in his magical Grotto, welcoming good boys and girls with a special premium gift included in the visit.

WE ARE OPEN ALL THROUGHOUT THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS. WE ARE CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY AND BOXING DAY. WE ARE OPEN NEW YEARS DAY.

Did you know, ho ho? We do not charge extra for Booking Fees on our online booking system.



### FREE PARKING

For all events it is advised to PRE-BOOK online to avoid disappointment. For the very latest prices please refer to our website where you will also find the best discounts and latest offers.

**Whilton Locks Winter Wonderland**  
Nr. Daventry, Northamptonshire.  
NN11 2NH • 01327 843100  
[www.whiltonlocksgardenvillage.com](http://www.whiltonlocksgardenvillage.com)  
e: [christmas@wlgv.co.uk](mailto:christmas@wlgv.co.uk)

BOOK ONLINE NOW



WHILTON LOCKS GARDEN VILLAGE

## Christmas WINTER WONDERLAND

- ICE SKATING (ON REAL ICE)
- SANTA'S GROTTTO
- BREAKFAST WITH SANTA
- TEA WITH SANTA
- VIRTUAL REALITY SLEIGH RIDE WITH DASH
- WREATH MAKING
- MEET ELSA
- AMAZING DECORATIONS & DISPLAYS
- REAL CHRISTMAS TREES
- FABULOUS FOOD
- and snow much more!



Scan the QR code with your phone camera to go ho ho straight to our Christmas website



## LADYBUG LODGE CHRISTMAS PROVISION

Ladybug Lodge are incredibly excited to host a range of activities over the Christmas Break! All activities must be booked separately, families are welcome to book as many dates as they wish!

All sessions hosted at: Tiverton School, Ashington Grove Whitley, CV3 4DE

### SANTA'S GROTTTO

Christmas Activity sessions for all ages with private Santa's Grotto Family Experience! Access to Sensory Room, Soft Play, Indoor Swing and a range of activities

Session 1	9:45am - 11:15am
Session 2	11:45am - 1:15pm
Session 3	1:45pm - 3:15pm
Session 4	3:45pm - 5:15pm

Saturday 21st December 2024

### STAY AND PLAY

Sensory Stay and Play for the whole family Access to Sensory Room, Soft Play, Indoor Swing, and a range of activities

Thursday 2nd January 2025  
Friday 3rd January 2025

### DANCE

Small group and 11 sessions hosted by Alexis from Off Balance Dance. SEN Children only

Thursday 2nd January 2025  
Friday 3rd January 2025

Advance booking via the website is essential via QR code link or web address below

[www.ladybuglodge.co.uk/activities/holiday](http://www.ladybuglodge.co.uk/activities/holiday)



SUITABLE FOR AGES 0 - 19

PLEASE NOTE: All sessions require an upfront donation which can be made payable via the website.

