

Templars Primary School

Newsletter 29.11.24

Date: 29th November 2024

Email: admin@templars.coventry.sch.uk

Headteacher's Messages

Good afternoon,

Apologies for the delay! I have been distracted by a rather dental appointment on Friday evening which is a good reminder, and an opportunity to thank our staff, who come to school and put a smile on their face despite all those personal and family life obstacles which can throw us off course.

It's that time of the term where we begin to review what's working well and what could be better in our School Improvement Plan. We have three school improvement targets which all staff are working on:

Improve End of Year Outcomes in Year 1 to 6: our children achieve well above average at the end of Reception and in the Phonics screening test at the end of Year 1, and we are very proud of this. We need those results to be reflected in the end of Year 6 results for more children. Children will be being assessed in these next few weeks to make sure they are making the progress they should be. Teachers meet with senior leaders who discuss this progress and find out what is being done to support those who need more help. Teachers and teaching assistants have training throughout the year and we are proud of the amount of this, much of which is on a Wednesday evening in staff meetings and during training days **(please note Monday 16th December is a training day and school is closed to pupils).**

Improve Attendance: we are just over half way through the term to Christmas Break. This term has been difficult for attendance (89% on Friday) similar to last year. This is way below the national average of 96% and a measure in which Templars does worse than most other primary schools in the country. It is not easy to say this but unfortunately it is knowledge in the public domain and will be being tracked by Ofsted.

I will start with some positive data! The best attendance last week was 3M with 97%, closely followed by 4H, 2C and 1S with 96%. Congratulations those classes.

The table shows you the year to date attendance percentages - green indicates where we match national average.

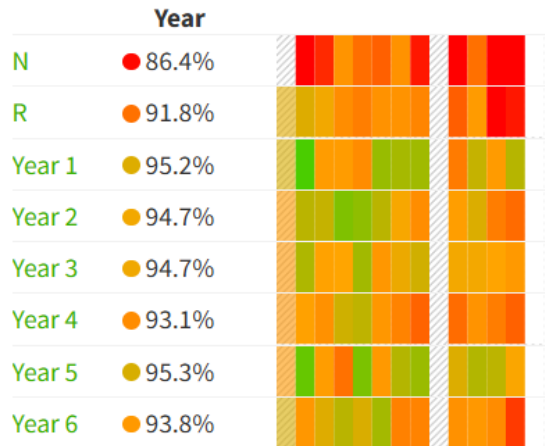
147 Templars pupils in Years 1 to 6 have missed more than 10% of their lessons this year. That is a shocking 22.3% of pupils in Year 1 to 6. In Year 4, the number of pupils persistently absent, above 10% of the time, is twice as high as the national average. Twice as many pupils who have free school meals are persistently absent compared to those who are not.

Attendance directly affects the possibility of improving a pupil's and whole school outcomes, as mentioned above, and it is worth noting that last Year 6 results were very poor, in line with very poor attendance.

We need to change the culture here that missing school is ok - good habits start in childhood. Miss Ross and the Pastoral Team work hard to support families who have real barriers to attendance but there is only so much we can do. I will reiterate that whilst we don't want children who are too poorly to attend, to be sent to school, **children are allowed to school with colds, sniffles and headaches** and it is often a good distraction along with a dose of Calpol. Our next parent forum will address the matter of attendance and I would love to hear your suggestions of how we could do better.

Finally, a great deal of our PSHE curriculum is delivered in the first and last week of term, including this term. If you do not celebrate Christmas, we have a duty to provide teaching and learning for your child and they are expected to be in school.

Weekly Attendance by Year Group



Create a Positive, Respectful and Safe Learning Environment: we have been pleased with the introduction of our new Behaviour Policy and are reviewing the data to ensure that those pupils who need more support are receiving the support they need. There are some pupils who have really turned their behaviour around this year, and I would like to thank them and their parents (you know who you are!) along with the Pastoral Team for their hard work. Teachers and Teaching Assistants too have worked hard on new routines and expectations all of which have meant that children are ready for more learning.

The take up of our new homework platform has been pleasantly surprising at the number of parents using the platform, however we would like the regular reading to be higher. Mrs Dean is creating some competition between classes by publishing this list. The number in brackets, is the number of pupils who met the Reading target last week.

Weekly Reading KS1 Leaderboard!

Who will win a trophy full of tokens next week?

To win, you need to meet the weekly reading target of reading **4 times** a week at home!

1 st	1S (12) 1KF (12)
2 nd	2H (10)
3 rd	1P (7)
4 th	2C (5) 2M (5) RS (5) RB (5)
5 th	RH (3)



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1 st	4H (12)
2 nd	5F (9)
3 rd	6D (8) 6L (8)
4 th	5I (7) 3M (7) 3D (7)
5 th	4A (6) 5A (6)
6 th	3S (5)
7 th	4G (4)
8 th	6T (3)



At the Parent Forum last month, a good discussion was held on communication with parents. We have been looking at what we can do, and will be launching My Child At School in the new year. Many of you will be familiar with this if you have secondary age children and we are hoping that we can reduce the number of apps we use, whilst maintaining the contact we have.


And now to Christmas! Please see below. I believe the first sitting will have sold out by now - there was one last ticket on Friday afternoon. Please note, **Santa will not be visiting the school fayre** this year - he can only offer Templars, a **Supper with Santa** (see below) and this way, he gets to see more children. Buy your tickets quickly to avoid disappointment. To support parents who will need to return to school for the second sitting, we will be offering tea and coffee in the warm library while you wait, and we might find you a job to do to pass the time!

Christmas Dinner Day has been moved to the last Thursday of term, to enable the kitchen to prepare for this mammoth task. Let me explain - Michelle and the team, prepare to cook a meal for EVERY pupil because we do not want any of them to miss out. Yes that is over 600 meals and we thank the hardworking kitchen greatly.

- The menu will go out on Studybugs on Monday 2nd December
- There will only be two meal offers on the day; Christmas dinner or Veggie Christmas dinner
- Teachers will have a class list at the classroom door by Tuesday 3rd December to take orders - Christmas dinner, veggie Christmas dinner or bringing from home (pupils in Year 3-6 can let teachers know themselves)
- Orders will be taken until Monday 9th December
- Unless your child is entitled to FSM, your child's dinner must be paid for on 'Parentpay - School Meals' in advance of the day


- If paying for a school meal is causing hardship, please, please speak to SLT on the gate or your class teacher
- All children will still get a cracker, even if they bring a meal from home!

Dear Templars children,



On Wednesday 11th December you are invited to join meSanta Claus for Supper.
 We will have two sittings. 3.30-4.30pm **OR** 4.45pm- 5.45pm.
 You will have a drink, hotdog and treats.
 We will have Christmas songs and lots of Ho Ho Ho's!
 I have enough presents for everyone that is on the nice list!
 Hope to see you all soon.
 Lots of love,
 Santa XXX

This event is being organised by our fabulous PTA.
 If you would like your child to attend, please pay £3 on Parent pay.
 Please can you make sure that if you have more than one child that would like to come- **that attends the school-** (Nursery-Year 6)
 Please go on to each child's Parent pay account to pay and book for the sitting that you want them to attend.
 Unfortunately, we will have a cutoff date so that we can order the food and presents. **ALTHOUGH HURRY, IT'S FIRST COME FIRST SERVE, IT MAY NOT MAKE IT TO THE DEADLINE, THURSDAY 5TH DECEMBER AT 3.30PM. IF YOU MISS THE DEADLINE PLEASE DO NOT ASK THE OFFICE, IT IS NOT THEIR CALL....IT'S THE ELVES!**
 There will be a meat or vegetarian option- PLEASE specify on the form!



PLEASE NOTE that there will NOT be a Santa's Grotto at our Christmas Fayre this year.

A Note on Dangerous Gifts - Child Accident Prevention Trust

More than ever our Christmas shopping is done online from an increasingly varied list of providers. From imitation manufacturers, to sellers platforms like Etsy and to third party small businesses that use known provider logistics services, we're all trusting people ever further removed from us to provide high quality goods. Unfortunately this is far from guaranteed. Production firms abroad or within a 'cottage industry' may not have the strict manufacturing standards applied in the UK, or expected as industry standard. The Child Accident Prevention Trust has published a list of eight gifts most likely to cause an accident this year. If interested please follow the link below. It's always important to remember that prevention is always better than repairing.

<https://capt.org.uk/8-dangerous-gifts-to-avoid-this-christmas/>

AUTUMN TERM MENU - WEEK 2				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Chicken curry with rice, naan bread and vegetable chutney (Halal option available)	Wholewheat pasta Bolognese with a garlic slice and vegetables	Toad in the hole, mashed potatoes with vegetable and gravy (Halal option available)	Crispy chicken wraps with homemade wedges and salad. (Halal option available)	Fish fingers with chips and beans
Pizza and chips with BBQ beans (Halal, vegetarian)	Jacket potato, beans and cheese (Halal, vegetarian)	Quorn toad in the hole, mashed potato with vegetables and gravy (Halal, vegetarian)	Jacket potato with cheese/beans (Halal, vegetarian)	Wholewheat tuna pasta with a garlic slice and salad
Vegetarian curry with rice, naan bread and vegetable chutney (Halal)	Cheese panini			
	Ham panini			
Served with a rainbow salad				
Potato choice	Potato wedges, roast potatoes, chips, mash, curly fries (difference potato choice each day)			
Vegetable choice	Carrots, peas, green beans, broccoli, sweetcorn, kale, cauliflower, swede, savoy cabbage, broad beans (different vegetable choices each day)			
Dessert choices	Sponge cake, & custard/cream, yoghurt, cheese & crackers, chocolate brownie, cookies, apple crumble, ice-creams, shortbread, eton mess, muffins, chocolate fudge cake, sticky toffee pudding, custard, jam coconut sponge, jam tarts, jam donuts, waffle, jelly, pancakes, banana bread, rocky road, chocolate mousse, iced doughnuts, gingerbread, flapjacks, chocolate crisp, fruit salad (different dessert choice each day)			
Allergen Information				

Find out how to support your child with reading and writing

Join our free 10 week course – English in the Primary School

This course is for
All parents and carers with children at Templars School

What we do

- learn the correct phonics sounds
- explore ways to help your child with reading
- focus on the grammar, spelling and handwriting taught in English primary schools
- give you fun games to take home and play with your children
- share a drink and snack


Where it is
Come to the main school office

When it is
9 –11am every Monday 13th January 2025

How to join
Fill in the reply slip below and return to the school

To find out more email kate.steventon@coventry.gov.uk or speak to Ms Benarous in school

See all Family Learning courses at <https://www.coventry.gov.uk/adulted>



"The games have helped make phonics fun. I am amazed by how much my son can do!"

Did you find school difficult, interrupted or not as happy as it should have been? Do you want things to be easier or better for your children? Are you anxious about helping your children? Are you new to the country or went to school abroad yourself?

No worry is too small and here is a great opportunity- it's free, it's here at Templars and run by a friendly expert who can help you, help your children with their learning. It's open to all parents, carers and family members (grandparents) of our pupils. Drop off and stay on a Monday morning - we promise a warm welcome and a cup of tea or coffee too!

The course does not start until January but we really want you to sign up now so we can plan a space in school, based on numbers.

HEADTEACHERS AWARD 2024-25



Looking forward to seeing parents and carers of last week's winners at our celebration on Friday at 3pm. Come straight to the library.

RS Tommy for working so hard to write his name beautifully. Well done.

RH Bella-Rose for growing in confidence every day!

1KF Jorja for great independent writing

1P Harvey for fantastic comprehension work in Reading lessons

2C Emily for her amazing understanding in Maths

2H Enmaari for her outstanding independent write in English

3D Taleigha for following our school rules and for being a super friend

3D Hunter for always following our school rules and displaying a fantastic attitude towards learning

3S for lovely presentation in her books, consistently

4A Gurshaan for being a kind friend

5A Hidaya for settling so well into Templars

5F Umar for a great improvement in focus and reading comprehension

6D John for engaging and listening well during our Black History Month workshop this week

Dates and Events

Event	Dates
Reception to Warwick Arts Centre	2 nd December
SEN Coffee morning with SENDIASS visitor	2 nd December 9-10am
Prospective parents Reception Open Morning	5 th December 9-11am
KS1 Christmas Nativity – tickets only	Dec 11 th pm and 12 th am and pm
Supper with Santa	11 th December 3.30 to 4.30 or 4.45 to 5.45
Musical Theatre Club show	12 th December 5pm
Yr 4 Greek Experience Day	13 December
Teacher Training Day – school closed for pupils	Mon 16th December
Be Our Guest Christmas Events NO CLUBS THIS WEEK	Year 6 Tues 17 th 9am Year 5 Tues 17 th 2:30pm Year 3 Wed 18 th 9am Year 4 Thurs 19 th 9am Nursery Thursday 19 th 10am/2pm
Christmas Jumper for Fayre donations	17 th December
Christmas Fayre	18 th Dec 3.30 - 5
Christmas Dinner Day	19 th December
School Craft Day for pupils	
Nursery Parent Craft session	19 th December

Pupils Return to School	6 th January
Year 4 and choir to Young Voices	16 th January
Parents Forum	28 th January
SEN Coffee Morning	31 st January
Boot Fund Application deadline	4 th February
Safer Internet Day	11 th February
Half Term	17 th – 21 st February
Pupils Return to School	24 th February
BOOST Day	During this week
National Careers Week	3 rd – 7 th March
World Book Day	6 th March
Parents Evenings (no after-school activities)	18 th –and 19 th March
Templars Community One Stop Shop	3 rd April
Photo Day	8 th April
Be Our Guest Events	7 th to 10 th April
Teacher Training Day – school closed for pupils	Fri 11th April
Easter Holidays	14 th to 25 th April
Pupils Return to School	28 th April

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SEN Parent Coffee Morning	1 st May 9-9.45
Bank Holiday	5 th May
Boot Fund Application deadline	6 th May
KS2 SATs for Year 6	12 th – 16 th May
Mental Health Awareness Week	
Half Term	26 th – 30 th May
Pupils Return to School	2 nd June
BOOST Day	During this week
Yr 4 Multiplication Check	Begins 2 nd June
Year 5 Swimming Sessions	Begin 2 nd June
Yr 1 and 2 Phonics Screening	Begins 9 th June
New to Nursery Parents Evening	18 th June
New to Reception Parents Evening	25 th June
Transition Day	2 nd July
Be Our Guest Events	14 th – 18 th July
Summer Fayre	16 th July
School Ends for Summer	18 th July

Morning Drop-off between 8.40 and 8.50 am. Gates shut at 8.55. 9am Registers Close.

Community Activities for Children



Coventry Open Christmas

We will once again be open 24 hours a day from December 24th, 2:00pm through to December 29th this year, closing at 10:00am.

DO YOU NEED A HOT MEAL OR SAFE PLACE TO GO AT CHRISTMAS?

We will be offering the following services to everybody:

- Emergency overnight sleeping for the homeless or anyone in need.
- Free hot meals at breakfast, lunch, and dinner times.
- Emergency food parcels.
- A warm, non-judgmental place for anyone who needs a safe place to go.
- Entertainment each night, including bingo during the day, prizes, and much more.

VENUE: QUEENS ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH, COVENTRY CV1 3EG
PLEASE GO TO WWW.COVENTRYOPENCHRISTMAS.CO.UK FOR MORE DETAILS

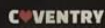
FREE BREAKFAST WITH SANTA
DECEMBER 23RD, 10AM

Everyone welcome. Not only will children have the joy of meeting Santa Claus himself, but they will also receive a free toy and a selection box to make their holiday season even brighter.

Please go to www.coventryopenchristmas.co.uk or our Facebook at Coventry Open Christmas Grubnagclub for more details.

Coventry Open Christmas Registered Charity 118056

DONATIONS NEEDED



All donations can be taken to Queens Road Baptist Church
21st - 23rd December (10am-4pm)
24th - 28th December (Any time)

The shelter provides over 600 meals, over 3,000 hot drinks, extra snacks, clothing and toiletries over 5 nights free of charge for those in need.

BEDDING	Blankets Sleeping Bags Duvets & Pillows (New only)		
CLOTHING Men and Women's - All sizes	Coats/Jackets Jumpers Pieces/Hoodies T-shirts/Long sleeved tops	Trousers Thermals Hats, Scarves, Gloves	Waterproof boots/shoes (new or hardly worn) Socks and Underwear (new and unopened only)
TOILETRIES (NEW ONLY)	Toothbrushes Toothpaste Shampoo/Conditioner Shower Gel	Deodorant Razors Shaving Foam Towels	Face Clothes Wipes Feminine hygiene Items
OTHER ITEMS	Toilet Paper Kitchen paper/Napkins Plastic Paper cups Plastic Cutlery	Cleaning Products Rubbish Bags Cling film/Aluminium Foil	
NON-PERISHABLE FOOD Please ensure 'Use By' date is end December this year or beyond	Tea/Coffee/Hot Chocolate Sugar/Sweetener UHT Milk Squash/Long life fruit juice Cakes/Mince Pies Biscuits/Crisps/Chocolate Tinned Meats/Fish Baked Beans/Spaghetti Tinned Soup	Tinned Tomatoes/Vegetables Tinned Custard Breakfast Cereal/Porridge Bottled Condiments Salt/Pepper/Vinegar Jars of Pickles/Beetroot Cooking Oil	
PERISHABLE FOOD Please drop these items to the shelter on or after the 24th December with 'Use By' date of 29th December or later	Fresh Milk Cheese Bread Sandwich Meat (Ham/Chicken) Bacon	Sausages Eggs Fresh Vegetables Fresh Fruit	Butter Pork Pies Sausage Rolls Quiche

We can only accept unopened non-expired food donations. Unfortunately, we cannot accept pre-prepared or cooked food, or fresh meat such as whole chickens or turkeys.

MONETARY DONATIONS

Monetary donations allow us to buy the food, drinks and other essentials we need to operate the shelter. Any surplus of money is banked and saved so that we can continue our work with the homeless every Saturday throughout the year.

Cheques should be made payable to 'The Grub 'n' Gab Club and posted to us at:
The Grub 'n' Gab Club, Queens Road Baptist Church, Queen's Road, Coventry, CV1 3EG

Contact us at coventryopenchristmas.co.uk Tel: 075 3497 1747 or 077 2205 1585

Coventry Open Christmas is a charity registered in England No. 1189536

Parent Support