

Templars Primary School

Newsletter 18.9.26

Date: 18th September 2026

Email: admin@templars.coventry.sch.uk

Another Lovely Week at Templars

It has been such a lovely week in school.

This week, all members of SLT have been out and about around school, particularly during lunchtimes — looking at corridors, dining spaces, supervision on the playground and field, and of course our OPAL provision.

It has been a really useful opportunity not just to check that things are running safely and smoothly, but also to see children enjoying themselves, making choices, playing together and making the most of their lunchtime.

Wellies at the Ready

One of our practical priorities at the moment is making sure that **every child has access to a pair of wellies**.

As the weather begins to close in this autumn, this will become increasingly important if we want children to continue enjoying the field and outdoor provision without being restricted by mud and wet weather.

Please make sure your child has a named pair in school if you haven't already done so.

My Favourite OPAL Zone...

I have to admit that my favourite part of OPAL is the **wheeled zone**.

This is the area where children can use things such as bikes and scooters, skateboards and roller skates, and it is a brilliant example of what good play looks like. Children learn to take sensible risks, try something new, persevere when they don't get it right first time and cope with the inevitable bumps and scrapes that come with learning new skills.

What always impresses me is how well the children manage this themselves. They are very good at watching out for one another, judging when it is safe to go and taking responsibility for the space. Despite how energetic the zone can look, actual crashes are thankfully very rare!

That is exactly what we want from our OPAL provision: children being **active, adventurous, sociable and independent** — and learning through play in ways that simply cannot happen sitting still.

Protecting Childhood in a Digital World

One of the conversations taking place across Coventry schools at the moment is about children, smartphones and social media.

Technology can bring many benefits, and it is very much part of the world our children are growing up in. However, there is also increasing concern about children receiving smartphones too early, spending large amounts of time on screens and accessing social media before they are developmentally ready.

Recent work shared with Coventry primary schools has highlighted concerns around sleep, concentration, language and communication, wellbeing and, perhaps most importantly, the amount of time children have simply to **talk, play, explore, read, create and spend time with other people**.

At Templars, we want children to enjoy childhood. We want them outside, playing with friends, talking to adults, developing their imagination, learning how to manage friendships and discovering the things they love.

We also recognise that this is **not something parents can tackle alone**. When every other child seems to have a phone, game or social-media account, it can be incredibly difficult for an individual family to say “*not yet*”.

Over the coming year, we would like to share more information with families about healthy screen habits, smartphones and social media, and to listen to parents’ views too.

This isn’t about judging how families use technology. It is about us working together to ask a simple question:

How do we make sure technology adds to childhood rather than taking childhood away?

Parent Forum – Your Voice Matters

One of the things I value most is hearing directly from parents and carers.

Our **Parent Forum** is an informal opportunity to come in, have a cup of tea with me and talk about Templars.

There is no fixed agenda and it isn’t a formal meeting. It is simply a safe, welcoming space where you can give feedback, ask questions, understand a little more about **how or why we do things**, or share ideas about things we could do differently or better.

It is also an opportunity for me to hear directly what school feels like from a parent’s point of view.

We will run Parent Forum roughly **once every half term**, and I am particularly conscious that working parents should have the same opportunity to have their voice heard. For that reason, each forum will be offered **three times during the day**, including an evening session.

Our first Parent Forum will be on **Tuesday 6 October**. For this first meeting, I would particularly like to hear how you think the start of the school year has gone — what has worked well, anything you have questions about, and any ideas you would like us to consider.

There will be three opportunities to join me:

- **At morning drop-off**
- **Just before afternoon collection**
- **7.00–8.00pm**, particularly for parents and carers who are working during the school day

You don't need to have a problem or a complaint to come along. Sometimes the most useful conversations start with *"I wondered why..."*, *"Have you ever thought about..."* or simply *"I wanted to tell you that this is working really well."*

Please come along, have a cup of tea and a chat. I want Parent Forum to be a genuine opportunity for parents to have a voice in the life of Templars.

Clubs – We Can Do Better

One of our school values is **Honesty**, and that means owning it when we don't get something quite right.

This week, our clubs were shared and then went live too quickly, which didn't give all families enough time to see what was available and make choices.

We recognise that we **could and should do this better**, and we will review the process before clubs are released next time.

Every child. Every day. Every chance.

A new group for parents begins next **Tuesday, from 1pm–3pm at Templars Community Centre**, and I would really love to see some Templars parents there!

Last term, the course was attended only by parents from other schools. It was lovely to see our wider community making use of the opportunity, but we work hard to bring these **FREE courses** here for our own families too.

It is a great chance to get out of the house, meet other parents and learn more about **how we teach things in school**.

The course is useful for any parent, but it may be particularly helpful if you haven't been in a school for a while and want to feel more confident supporting your own child, found school

difficult yourself, are new to the country, or are simply feeling a little isolated and would enjoy some company.

There is no pressure and no judgement — just a friendly face, a warm drink and a welcoming space. We can even promise **heating or air conditioning, whatever the weather!**

Please do come along — these opportunities are here for you, and we would love to see you.

Adult Education Service

Find out more about supporting 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 who have children at Templars in Nursery, Reception or Year 1

What we do:

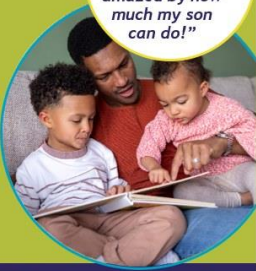
- › learn the correct phonics sounds
- › focus on the reading, grammar, spelling and handwriting taught in modern English primary schools
- › give you fun games to take home
- › share a drink and a snack

Where and when:

- › every Tuesday 1-3pm in school
- › 22 September for ten weeks
- › to reserve a place, contact the school office

› For further details email aeslifeskills@coventry.gov.uk or speak to Ms Swallow in school

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





YEAR 5 & YEAR 6

OPEN EVENING

CALUDON CASTLE SCHOOL



For further information, or to confirm your place, please contact: enquiries@caludoncastle.co.uk



[CALUDON_CASTLE_SCHOOL](https://www.instagram.com/caludon_castle_school)

Tuesday 22 September 2026

5.30pm - 7.30pm

Headteacher talks: 6.15pm or 6.45pm

GUIDED TOUR

Take a guided tour with our enthusiastic Year 7 students and Student Leaders.

EXPLORE FACILITIES

Explore our superb facilities, including our pool, gym and arts spaces.

SAMPLE CATERING

Sample refreshments from our catering team.

DISCOVER OUR TECH

Discover how we use iPads to enhance learning for all students.

WWW.CALUDONCASTLE.CO.UK



A LEADERSHIP SPECIALIST

7 September 2026

Dear Parents, Carers and Prospective Students

We are delighted to invite you to our **Open Evening on Tuesday 22 September from 5.30pm - 7.30pm**. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to explore our school, meet our staff and students, and gain a real sense of the vibrant community we are so proud of.

Throughout the evening, you will be able to:

- Take a guided tour with our enthusiastic Year 7 students and Student Leaders.
- Visit all subject areas, where teachers and students will be showcasing learning activities, examples of work and exciting opportunities available in our curriculum.
- Hear from the Headteacher at one of the two talks (6.15pm or 6.45pm).
- Explore our superb facilities, including our pool, gym and arts spaces.
- Sample refreshments from our catering team.
- Discover how we use iPads to enhance learning for all students.

You will also experience the warmth of our school community, supported by our House system and strong pastoral care, which help every child feel valued and supported as they learn and grow.

Some parking will be available in the school car park and on the playgrounds. However, if you live locally, we encourage you to walk where possible.

You may like to explore our social media in advance of your visit: <https://www.facebook.com/CaludonCastleSchool/> and https://www.instagram.com/caludon_castle_school/

We are very much looking forward to welcoming you to our school and showing you what makes it such a special place to learn.

Yours faithfully



Ms Sarah Kenrick
Headteacher

Asholme Road, Wyken, Coventry CV2 8BD

T: 02476 444 822 | E: enquiries@caludoncastle.co.uk | W: www.caludoncastle.co.uk

Registered office: Castle Phoenix Trust, Asholme Road, Wyken, Coventry CV2 8BD | Registered Number 8331385



Headteacher
Ms S Kenrick

Part of the Castle Phoenix Trust
Leading learning and excelling together
www.castlephoenixtrust.org.uk





Headteacher's Award 2026-27



Each week teachers select a child who has shone, and share their name with me. This might be for demonstrating our school values of pride, honesty and respect or it may be for

showing super learning behaviours. They are presented with a certificate in class and celebrated by their peers then come to a special tea with myself and Mrs Swallow. Parents and carers are invited to join us just before 3pm on the following Friday and can choose to stay to share the moment or collect early and get a headstart on the weekend. (Because Year 5 are taking swimming lessons on a Friday afternoon, I am planning to store up any Celebration Tea winners for a special end of term Year 5 tea on Thursday 22nd October. Parents and carers are welcome to join us!)

1C Jamie for always following the school rules

1P Louis for showing care and respect to our classroom environment and helping others

3W Louis for always showing care and respect every day

4AR Huck for contributions made during class discussions

4A Seve-Lee for always working his hardest, listening to instructions and encouraging others too

4C Udbhav for making a great start in his writing lessons

4T Addison for his effort in writing this week. He has made lots of progress already!

5H Vismaya for brilliant effort in English lessons

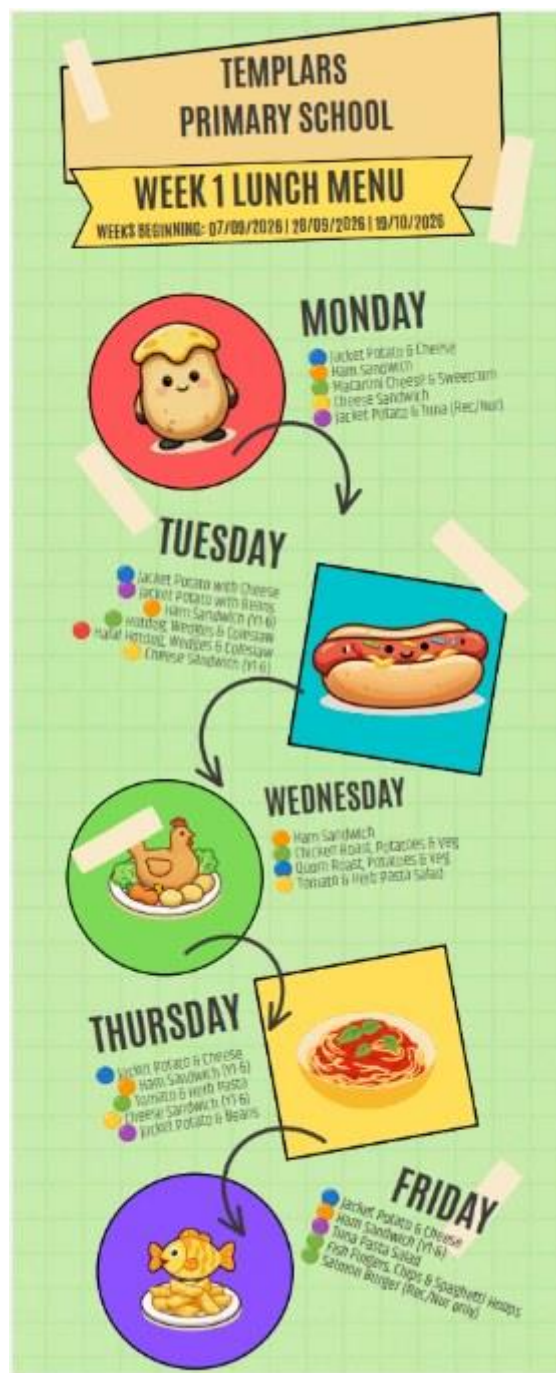
5G Szyman for excellent contributions in our English lessons

6F Lily for trying really hard with her Maths, staying positive and being polite

6DW Jessica for always making the right choices even when no-one is watching

6M Carter for using fantastic language in his writing this week

Lunch Menu - a new look for our menu. If you need nutritional advice, please look at the website version here: [Lunch Menus](#)



1 - Monday; sandwiches are for all years

TEMPLARS PRIMARY SCHOOL WEEK 2 LUNCH MENU

WEEKS BEGINNING: 14/9/26 AND 5/10/26

MONDAY



- Ham Sandwich (V1-6)
- Chicken Curry with Rice (Halal)
- Lentil & Veg Curry with Rice (Rec/Nut)
- Cheese Sandwich (V1-6)

TUESDAY



- Jacket Potato & Cheese
- Ham Sandwich (V1-6)
- Wholesome Pasta Bolognaise
- Cheese Sandwich (V1-6)
- Jacket Potato with Beans

WEDNESDAY



- Quorn Toad in the Hole
- Ham Sandwich
- Toad in the Hole
- Tomato and Herb Pasta Salad
- Roast Chicken (Vegan) (Rec/Nut)

THURSDAY

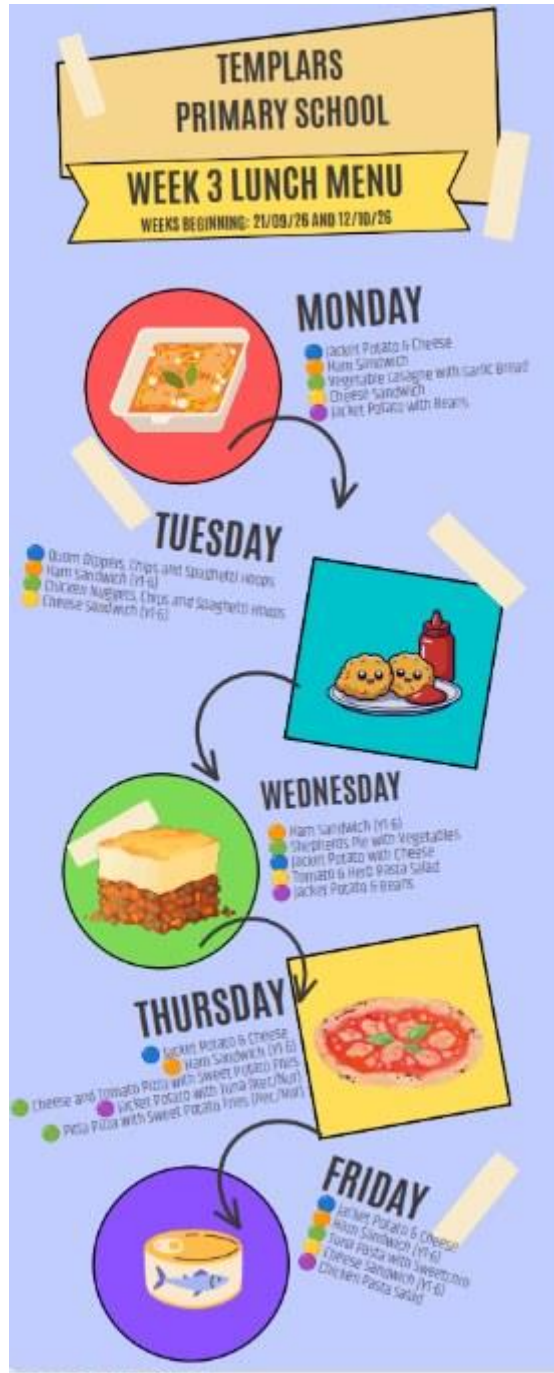


- Jacket Potato & Cheese
- Ham Sandwich (V1-6)
- Chicken Fajita Wrap with Potato Wedges
- Cheese Sandwich (V1-6)
- Jacket Potato with Tuna (Rec/Nut)

FRIDAY



- Tomato Pasta
- Ham Sandwich
- Fish Fingers, Chips and Spaghetti Noodles
- Cheese Sandwich



FREE SCHOOL MEALS



Your child may be able to get FREE school meals

Do you receive any of the following?

- Any amount of Universal Credit
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit

Helen Benarous (helen.benarous@templars.coventry.sch.uk) is signed in for

Universal Offer

Also, Universal Infant free school meals are available to ALL children in Reception, year 1 and year 2.

You can apply as soon as your child's school place is signed in for.

The benefits of free school meals

- You could save more than £500 a year for each child
- It saves time making packed lunches
- Your child gets a healthy, tasty, cooked meal
- Children achieve more when they've had a cooked lunch
- Schools can get extra funding to help children in their education (pupil premium up to £1,550 a year for each child)

Everyone's a winner

Too many children in Coventry are living in food poverty, yet hundreds of children are still not receiving their entitlement to a free school meal. One in four children in Coventry are eligible for a free school meal. More are taking up their entitlement but there are so many more who could benefit. Talk to your neighbour, friends and family to spread the word.

It's really easy to apply online at www.coventry.gov.uk/benefits/free-school-meal/2

If your child qualifies for free school meals, you may be able to take advantage of free activities during the main school holidays with the Holiday Activities and Food Programme.




Dates and Events

Event	Dates
NEW SCHOOL YEAR Training Days	1st to 4 th September
School starts for Years 1-6	Mon 7 th September
Nursery and Reception start dates are on your pack	
Learning to Learn <u>week</u> for all learners	WB Mon 7 th Sept
Year 5 swimming starts	Fri 11 th September
Spark Days and Knowledge Harvests	WB Mon 14 th Sept
After school activities begin	WB Mon 21st Sept
Welcome to Yr group meetings 1-5	WB Mon 21st Sept
Parents Phonics Workshops	WB Mon 28th Sept
Flu Immunisation	Tues 29 th Sept
National Poetry Day	Tues 29 th Sept
Parents Evening (no after school activities on these days)	Wed 14 th Oct 3.30 - 5.30 and Thurs 15th Oct 3.30 - 6.30
Yr6 Sleepover at Rough Close	Thurs 22nd October

<u>PumpkinFest</u>	Wed 21 st October
Half term begins	Mon 28 th October
Back to School	Mon 2 nd November
Learning to Learn week and Boost Day	WB 2 nd November
Year 5 to Tamworth Castle	Wed 4 th November
National Outdoor Learning Day	Thurs 5 th November
Free Breakfast Club Festival Week!	Mon 9 th November
Anti-Bullying Week	WB 16 th November
Year 2 to Selly Manor	Wed 18 th November
Year 3 to Compton Verney	Thurs 19th & Fri 20th
Children in Need Day	Fri 20 th November
Yr6 Doy-y-Moch and SATs Info evening	Tues 24 th November
Assessment fortnight opens	WB 30 th November
Training Day (school closed to children)	Mon 7 th December
Be Our Guest Events across the week	WB 14 th December
Craft Day	Mon 14 th December
Concerts	Tues 15 th December

Christmas Dinner	Wed 16 th December
Party Day	Thurs 17 th December
Reception classes to Warwick Arts	Thurs 17 th December
Whole school Film Club and Dodgeball/Snowball tournament	Fri 18 th December
Christmas Holidays begin	Mon 21 st December
Return to School on	Mon 4 th January
Learning to Learn Week	WB 4 th January
Spark Day and Knowledge Harvests	WB 11 th January
Tizz Time for Reception classes	Tues 12 th January
Whole school Snow White Panto	Thurs 21 st January
Children's Mental Health Week	WB 1 st February
Internet Safety Day	Tues 9 th February
Half Term begins	Mon 15 th February
Return to School	22 nd February
Boost Days	WB 22 nd February

Parents Evening (no after school activities)	Wed 3 rd March 3.30 - 5.30 and Thurs 4 th March 3.30 - 6.30
World Book Day	Thurs 4 th March
STEM week	WB 8 th March
Assessment Fortnight opens	WB 8 th March
Be Our Guest Events	WB 22 nd March
SpringFest	Wed 24 th March
Easter break begins	Mon 29 th March
Return to School	Mon 12 th April
Spark Day and Knowledge Harvest	WB Mon 12 th April
Whole School Art Day	Thurs 29 th April
Bank Holiday	Mon 3 rd May
Yr6 SATs Week	WB 10 th May
Yr 6 Learning to Learn Transition Week	WB 17 th May
Outdoor Classroom Day	Thurs 20 th May
Year6 Dol-Y-Moch Week	WB Mon 24 th May

Careers Week	WB 24 th May
Half Term begins	Mon 31 st May
Return to School	Mon 7 th June
Year 4 Multiplication Check Fortnight opens	WB 7 th June
SEN Parent Meetings	WB 7 th June
Sports Day (new and improved!)	WB 5 th June
Transition Day	Wed 7 th July
Be Our Guest Events	WB 12 th July
Year 6 Leavers events	WB 19 th July
Last Day of School	Wed 21 st July

Breakfast Club Drop-Off between 8.15am and 8.25am

Morning Drop-off between 8.40 am and 8.50 am

Gates shut at 8.50am. Collection 3.20pm

Community Events for Pupils

Coventry Heritage Open Days 2026



Coventry will once again be a part of England's largest festival of history and culture!

Join city-wide venues from Friday 11 to Sunday 20 September 2026.

Whether you're a history enthusiast or just curious to explore, this is your chance to enjoy exclusive behind-the-scenes access, free tours, interactive events and family-friendly activities across the city. **Plus, it's all completely FREE!**



What's on this year?

This year's national theme, 'Everyday Histories' shines a light on more than 50 iconic buildings and spaces across Coventry, alongside six exciting new events supported by the Coventry City Council Heritage Open Days Grant.

The grant supports communities to uncover new stories, explore overlooked heritage and bring underused spaces to life. It also creates opportunities for young people to connect with and contribute to the heritage of their communities.

Together, these events celebrate a more inclusive approach to heritage, one that values everyday places, experiences and community voices, and helps everyone see themselves as part of Coventry's story.

[Take a look at Coventry's events](#) Don't miss your chance to explore:



- Join a [live music and an exhibition](#) celebrating past and present music culture in Coventry at The Tin.

- Get involved with a relaxed [workshop style art session](#). Families and young people from different cultures will come together to create artwork at The Highlife Centre.
- Explore Malaysian-Coventry heritage through everyday objects, traditional [food, music and hands-on activities](#) at Prior Deram Park, Canley.
- Enjoy [family activities](#) and help create a fabric collage celebrating the people, cultures and stories of Canley.
- [Watch the filmed memories of Coventry residents](#) whose journeys were shaped by Partition, war, displacement and migration.
- Discover Coventry's diverse community and broadcasting heritage through local stories, oral histories, archive displays, music and live interviews at [Vanny Radio](#).

Plus, there's plenty more to enjoy, including:

- [Meet characters from the 1940s](#) in the Cathedral Ruins.
- Discover the history of Coventry city centre with [City Centre Walking Tours](#).

Heritage Open Days brings together communities, celebrates our rich and diverse past and opens the doors to places you may have never seen or even knew existed.

Find a full list of events in Coventry on the webpage.

[Heritage Open Days in Coventry](#) **Contact the Go CV Team**

If you need help, you can [email us](#).

You can also follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) @gocvcard



COVENTRY FOOTBALL COACHING COURSE



AT: BISHOP ULLATHORNE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

LEASOWES AVENUE, COVENTRY CV3 6BH

STARTING SEPTEMBER (Autumn school term)

EVERY SATURDAY

Saturdays:	Group 1: School Years Reception, Year 1 & 2.....9.00am-10.00am
	Group 2: School Years 3 & 4.....10.00am-11.00am
	Group 3: School Years 5, 6 & 7.....11.00am-12.00pm

Dear Parents,

I am pleased to inform you that, due to the huge success of our football courses over the last **25 years**, we are following up the football coaching programme for the season starting in September 2026. The course will run for approximately 12 weeks and the programme is for boys and girls aged between 4 and 12.

About our Course

- The unique practice techniques are specifically designed to work with children of all abilities, ranging from the absolute beginner to the more advanced player.
- The course is run by **F.A. qualified coaches**, who are **DBS** checked, and hold an advanced premier skills qualification, they are currently working with children, enabling them to learn essential soccer techniques, building **CONFIDENCE**, improving **FITNESS** and providing the most important ingredient **FUN!**
- Children will be supervised at all times, although parents are welcome to stay and watch.
- Each child will be provided with a football for individual practice and their progress will be recorded each week.
- It is an **indoor** course held in the sports hall, therefore children may wear trainers and sportswear.
- Ex Premier League Birmingham City, West Bromwich Albion and Fulham player Geoff Horsfield** quotes, "I've coached on these courses with the team and they are fantastic in the way they deliver their coaching sessions!"
- Ex England World Cup star and Sky Sports pundit Paul Merson** quotes, "I have presented trophies to the children on these courses and it's great to see the smiles on their faces and sense of achievement!"

Presentation of trophies and award

- On the final week of the course we hold a presentation, whereby **EACH CHILD WILL RECEIVE AN ENGRAVED TROPHY**.
- Children also have a chance to win many other special individual awards and trophies for various skills, including 'premier league' and 'penalty shoot out' competitions.
- Parents and friends are most welcome to attend the presentation and watch the children being presented with their awards, as this encourages a fantastic atmosphere.

The cost of the course is £9 per week; payment is made every 4 weeks, with the first payment of £36 due on week 1. **Please Note:** With a high response expected and limited places available, bookings will be confirmed on a first come, first served basis. **Mark Frith** (course co-ordinator) mark.frith@coventry.gov.uk

TO RESERVE PLACES PLEASE TEXT:

BISHOP ULLATHORNE + CHILD'S NAME + AGE + GROUP NO. (1, 2 or 3)
and receive confirmation by text to:

07827 322780

Support for Parents

Find out how to support your child
with reading and writing

Join our free 10 week online
programme – English in
Primary School

This course is for

All parents and carers with children
in Coventry.

What you'll learn

The phonics, reading, grammar and spelling
used in primary schools and how you can help
at home.

What we do

- email you a new 30-minute course video
each week
- give you digital resources to help your learning
- answer any questions you've got by email

Where it is

A **pre-recorded** online course to watch where and
when you like.

When it is

Online, from September 21 for 10 weeks

How to join

Scan the QR code.

View all Family Learning courses and enrol online at
www.coventry.gov.uk/adulted find out more email
aeslifeskills@coventry.gov.uk



free
online
course

"I work full-time
and couldn't go to
the daytime
classes, so this
fitted in well."



Assume you have a place unless you hear from us

Support your child with primary school maths

free
online
course

Join our free 10-week online course to give you confidence in using maths with your children

This course is for

All parents and carers with children in Coventry.

What you'll learn

The maths words and methods used in primary schools and how you can help at home.

What we do

- email you a new 30-minute course video each week
- give you digital resources to help your learning
- answer any questions you've got by email

Where it is

A pre-recorded online course to watch where and when you like.

When it is

Online, from Monday 21 September for 10 weeks

How to join

Scan the QR code. View all Family Learning courses and enrol online at www.coventry.gov.uk/adulted

To find out more email aeslifeskills@coventry.gov.uk



'I learnt so much – now it's much easier to help my son with his maths.'



Assume you have a place unless you hear from us



Find out how to raise happy, secure and well-behaved children

free
online
course

Join our free 10 week online course – Positive Family Foundations

This course is for

All parents and carers with children in Coventry.

What you'll learn

How children develop with practical examples to support behaviour, well-being and mental health.

What we do

- email you a new 30-minute course video each week
- give you digital resources to help your learning
- answer any questions you've got by email

Where it is

A pre-recorded online course to watch where and when you like.

When it is

Online, from Monday 21 September for 10 weeks

How to join

Scan the QR code View all Family Learning courses and enrol online at www.coventry.gov.uk/adulted

To find out more email aeslifeskills@coventry.gov.uk



'It was easy to get online to do this – even with the kids at home!'



Assume you have a place unless you hear from us



Sarah Jane provides family support, workshops and psychoeducation around autism, ADHD, SEN, executive functioning, sensory processing, behaviour and learning.

Main website

<https://www.autismadhdadvocates.org/>

An overview of the service, free ADHD screening, an executive functioning quiz and family support registration.

What's On

<https://www.autismadhdadvocates.org/whats-on>

Current free online sessions, community workshops and booking information. A diagnosis is not required to attend.

Children's psychoeducation videos

<https://www.youtube.com/@MyAutisticBrainMe>

Short videos helping children and families understand experiences that may be linked to autism.

Blogs

<https://www.autismadhdadvocates.org/blogs>

Free, accessible information that can be shared with parents, carers, adults and professionals.

I have also attached information for parents, education settings and early-intervention services. Please feel free to share anything relevant with the families and professionals you work with.

Kind Regards

Sarah-Jane McGarry

Neurodiversity Specialist | Executive Function Specialist | Founder, The Autism & ADHD Advocates CIC [The Autism & ADHD Advocates CIC | Free Family Support & Psychoeducation](#)