



# News from Shottery St Andrew's CofE Primary School

Week 22— Friday 28th February 2025



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable half-term break. Spring is most definitely in the air—the days are getting longer, the temperatures are rising, and the sight of snowdrops blooming is a sure sign that brighter days are ahead.

This week, we made the most of the warmer weather as our Year 3 and 4 children ventured into the Heart of England forest for a magical evening of star gazing. The children (and staff!) had an incredible time learning about the constellations, making and launching rockets, toasting marshmallows, and even taking part in a torch-free night walk. The conditions couldn't have been better, as we were lucky enough to witness a rare 'planetary parade,' where Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune aligned in the night sky. What a fantastic experience!

In Hedgehogs class, the children have been busy learning about Noah's Ark, creating some beautifully crafted puppets, and even sewing them together—what a wonderful skill to develop!

Year 5 and 6 have had an exciting start to the half term, beginning their swimming lessons in PE and diving into their new class book, *Robot Girl*, a thought-provoking story that explores what it means to be human. Meanwhile, in Year 2, the children were delighted to welcome Miss Morys back and begin their new topics. They have started reading *Tadpole's Promise* and have been exploring different life cycles in their Science lessons.

A highlight of the week has been our Charity Committee's much-anticipated *Break the Rules Day!* There was a wonderful buzz around school as children embraced the opportunity to wear nail varnish, mix up their footwear, sport wacky hairstyles, and even don superhero capes! It was all in aid of our chosen charity, Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, and we are so proud of the enthusiasm and generosity shown by our school community.

What a brilliant start to the half term—it's great to be back!

I wish you all a very lovely weekend.

Mrs L Withers

Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.' Matthew 5:16



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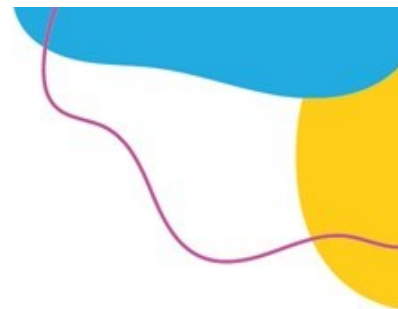


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## Mental Health in Schools Team Tips For Wellness



### 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*

#### Our tips for showing gratitude:

##### 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!”

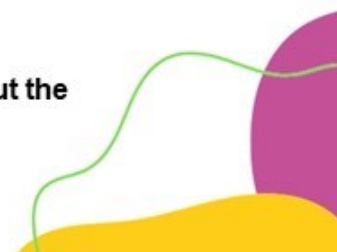
Scan the QR code for lots of other ideas around gratitude activities:



**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.**




# EVERY DAY COUNTS!

School and **future success** starts with good attendance!



Remember - your education is important - **don't miss out!**



**Spring term dates – 2025**

**\*FSSA dates to follow!**

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January** - Teacher Training Day (school closed to pupils)

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January** – Children return

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January** - Charity Committee Film Night

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January** – FSSA Dress Down Day (please see poster for further details)

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February** – Children’s Mental Health Week

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February** – SEND Coffee morning

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February** – NSPCC Number Day – Dress up for digits (Charity Committee event)

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February** – FSSA Disco (more information to follow)

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February** – Safer Internet Day

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February** - NSPCC Assembly and workshops: Year 2 – Year 6

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February** – Break up for half term

**Half term – Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2024 – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024**

**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February** – Year 3 and 4 Star Gazing afternoon and evening

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February** – Break the Rules day for Action Duchenne

**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March** – Rock and Roll Bingo (FSSA – more information to follow)

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March** – Pancake races in the playground

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March** – World Book Day – Dress as a Word!

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March** – World Day of Prayer (more details to follow)


**Monday 10-14<sup>th</sup> March** – British Science Week – Change and Adapt!

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March** – Parents and children Science exploration afternoon, from 2:00pm

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March** – Holi festival of Spring and Love (Hindu festival of colour)

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March** – Comic Relief

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> March** – Shakespeare Week



**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> March – Year 5 and 6 to Tudor World**

**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March – Year 3 and 4 to Tudor World**

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March – Scholastic Book Fair in school**

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March – Shakespeare Topic Sharing event for families**

**Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March – Parent Consultations**

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April – Parent Consultations**

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April – Rock Steady Concert**

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> April – Year 5 and 6 Residential Trip (Boundless Outdoors)**

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April – Easter Service at St Andrew’s Church (9:00am start)**

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April - FSSA Easter Raffle/Easter Egg Hunt around Shottery (more information to follow)**

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April – Break up for the Easter holidays**

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April – Teaching Training Day (school closed to pupils)**

Break up for Easter holidays

**Easter holidays – Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2025**

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April – Shakespeare Birthday Celebrations (in Stratford town centre)**

**Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April – Children return for the start of the Summer term**

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May – Family Prosecco, puddings and games night (FSSA – more information to follow)**



# **DRESS DOWN DAY**

**FRIDAY  
28TH  
MARCH**

**PLEASE WEAR YOUR OWN CLOTHES IN  
EXCHANGE FOR A DONATION OF AN  
EASTER-THEMED ITEM FOR THE  
TOMBOLA AT OUR EASTER  
CELEBRATION.  
THANK YOU.**



# EASTER CELEBRATION



Join us for our Easter  
celebration on  
Thursday 10th April

## EASTER ACTIVITIES

Easter raffle draw

Easter egg hunt

Drinks & Cakes

Chocolate tombola

Bunny races

Hook a duck

Face paint

On school grounds  
2:00pm - 3:30pm



# WORRIED? WE'RE HERE TO LISTEN

Call Childline on 0800 1111



**childline**

ONLINE, ON THE PHONE, ANYTIME  
childline.org.uk | 0800 1111

Whatever your worry, call us  
and a friendly person will be there  
to listen. **It's free, you don't have  
to tell us your name, and we're  
here all day and night.**