



Rugby Free

Primary School

★ **Together we learn, together we shine!** ★

Newsletter 17

Friday 16th January 2026

Panto time!

All of the children had the most amazing time on Thursday at the pantomime – ‘Peter Pan’ which was booked and paid for by our wonderful Friends of Rugby Free Primary! We are so grateful for all of their incredible hard work to enable us to give the children these additional experiences. Also, thank you to parents for donating through events.



Attendance

The government (DfE) and Warwickshire attendance service tell schools that they must support parents, including contacting parents to let parents know their child's current attendance, especially when it is lower than a satisfactory level and offer meetings/support. We have sent several letters out recently to lots of parents regarding this. We have had quite a few parents not happy about this which is not fair as we are simply following our statutory duty. We are trying to ensure that all children attend school as much as possible. **Expected attendance is 97%**, between 90% and 95% needs to be improved and attendance under 90% is classed as persistent absenteeism and will be having a huge effect on your child's learning. Please work with us to ensure your child is at school as much as possible. We love having them here!



Stars of the Week

Reception

Giraffes
Sheikh Omar & Nelly
Zebras
Cain & Mia

Year One

Hedgehogs
Max
Rabbits
Myles

Year Two

Penguins
Kaisen
Seals
Dominic

Year Three

Crocodiles
Theo
Turtles
Ruslan

Year Four

Bears
Annabelle
Eagles
Jasmeet & Aadya

Year Five

Pandas
Coen
Tigers
Rex

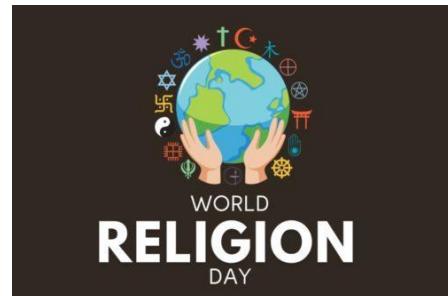
Year Six

Sloths
Romillie
Toucans
Aurelia

World Religion Day

Sunday 18th January 2026 marks World Religion Day. Here are the key themes for 2026.

- **Respect:** Valuing our own traditions while honouring those of others.
- **Harmony:** Focusing on shared values like the "Golden Rule" (treating others as you wish to be treated).
- **Diversity:** Celebrating the "global tapestry" of faith.



As we mark World Religion Day this weekend, here are a few simple ways you can explore different cultures and beliefs at home with your children:

- **Try a new food:** Many religions have traditional dishes; why not try a recipe from a culture different from your own?
- **Focus on "The Big Questions":** Ask your child what they think makes the world a better place.
- **Spot the Symbols:** Look for religious symbols and places of worship in your local community.

The following link is useful for the children to explore, when finding out about different beliefs. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/topics/cmmp3ye818mt>

Job Vacancies

ABM (our school caterers) are recruiting for 2 positions. Please see details attached with this newsletter.



Year 4 Inspire

On Tuesday, Year 4 enjoyed sharing their learning with their parents in their inspire workshop. We had 9 different activities to show our subject learning. We very much enjoyed creating collages, playing the recorders,





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Year 5 Science

As part of their Science unit, Year 5 studied the work of Copernicus and Galileo. They studied the solar system and created their own heliocentric models which they then used in their presentations, sharing their knowledge of our solar system. Parents and carers of Year 5 pupils, please do ask them about their models, they will blow you away with their knowledge and use of scientific vocabulary! We are very proud of them!



Young Voices

On Tuesday, some Year 5 and 6 children went to BP Pulse Arena in Birmingham to perform at Young Voices. We had a wonderful time singing and dancing together. The children showed passion, dedication and resilience as they spent several hours singing and practising. We were all super proud of their behaviour. Young Voices choir 2026 you were amazing!



Year 6 - Recycling materials



This half term, Year 6 are learning about Michelle Reader who is an artist that creates sculptures linked to our environment. She is known for her creation that uses recycled materials displayed at The National Space Station. We will be creating our own



sculptures from recycled materials. over the course of the next few weeks, please could you send in a variety of clean recyclable materials- recycled bottles (variety of sizes), clean plastic, bottle lids, cardboard, can pulls etc. Thank you for your support- Year 6 Team.

NSPCC Number Day Event

NSPCC Number day will be taking place on Friday 6th February 2026 (see details below towards end of newsletter). We will be raising money for the NSPCC. A

The NSPCC is a charity who want to help every child to have a safe and happy childhood.

voluntary donation for this event will be collected and will be going to the NSPCC. Here are some outfit ideas:



Resilience Collaboration Curiosity Respect Kindness Endeavour



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Get Moving – Help Us Reach Our 60 Active Minutes!

We're creating a new display board to celebrate how our children achieve their 60 active minutes a day – a key government initiative that's just as important as getting our 5-a-day! To make it as inspiring as possible, we'd love your help. Please send in a photo of your child being active (if you're happy for it to be displayed in the school corridor) to the school office. **Every photo that is sent in will be put into a raffle and the winning photo will receive a £20 Argos voucher to put towards helping achieve even more active minutes! All runners up will receive 10 dojo points, something that is very important to the children.** Being active doesn't have to mean just playing sports – it could be walking the dog, cycling, dancing in the living room, helping in the garden, or playing in the park. Every minute counts, and together we can show how fun and achievable staying active can be!



Friends of Rugby Free Primary School - (PTA)



Friends of Rugby Free Primary School - (PTA)

Pantomime - Yesterday we funded a pantomime performance of Peter Pan from Outside the Box productions for all the children. This was made possible from the donations we get from yourselves at our events, thank you very much for your support. We hope all the children enjoyed it.



Reception & Years 1&2 Friendship Disco - Wednesday 11th February.

Children are invited to their disco wearing bright/neon colours where possible to enjoy an evening with their friends. Tickets will be £2.50 per child and information for purchasing them will be provided soon. Please keep your eyes peeled for letters. There will also be a quieter room with colouring too.

Donations of books for World Book Day -

We are on the lookout for donations of good condition books for our 'new to you' book sale. Mainly KS 2 appropriate books where possible. If you would like to donate any books please keep an eye out for drop off details or contact us at frrfps@gmail.com.



If you require any pre loved uniform please let us know or fill in a form available in reception, where possible we will get items to you as quickly as possible and where available. Come and join us for our next meeting on 23rd January at Brewers Fayre 7:30pm where we will discuss upcoming events.

We hope you have a lovely weekend.



Safe & Active Schools



Game On Holiday Camp

Game On is operating a Holiday Camp over the February Half term. The booking form is attached with this newsletter. Please liaise with Mr Sheehan directly for bookings.

The dates are: **Monday 16th to Friday 20th February 2026.**





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Diary Dates (please check every week as they are subject to change!)

20th Jan – Y6 Inspire Workshop 8.50 – 10.15am including SATS (Y6 statutory tests) information for parents.

23rd Jan – Friends of RFPS meeting at Brewer's Fayre – 7.30pm

27th Jan – Y1 Inspire Workshop 9.00 – 10.00am (parents welcome)

3rd Feb – Y1 Animal visit

6th Feb – NSPCC Number Day – non uniform/dress up as number/with a number/rockstar)

12th Feb – Y5 Inspire Workshop 9.00 – 10.00

16th – 20th Feb – Half term

26th-27th Feb – Y4 Residential

10th Mar – Y2 Warwick Castle trip

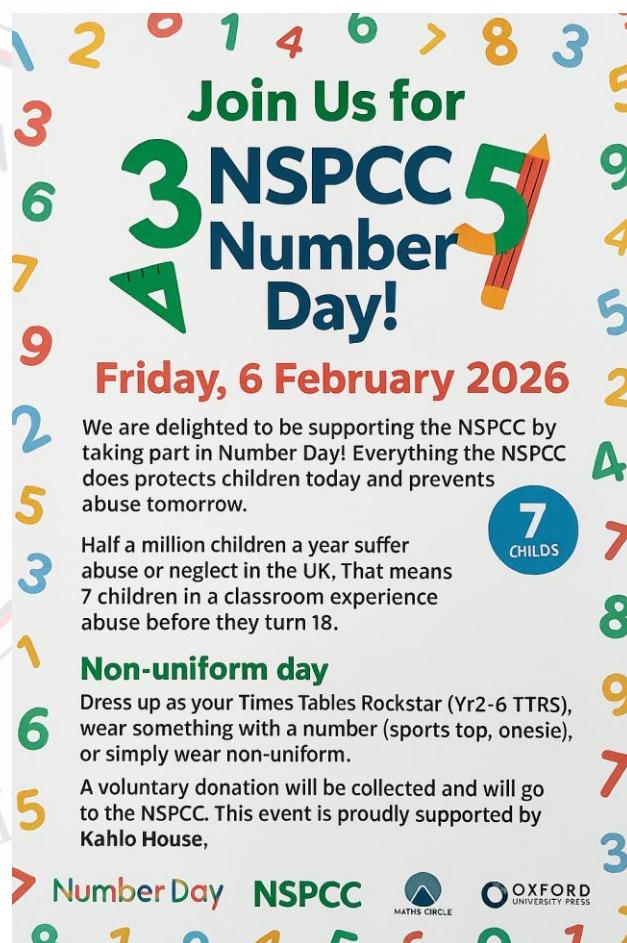
20th Mar – Rec Farm trip

25th Mar – Y6 Beaumanor Hall trip

30th Mar – 10th Apr – Easter Holiday

Safeguarding

If you are concerned that a child appears unhappy or is being abused act now using the contact numbers provided below or alternatively come in to school and ask to speak to a DSL. Contact the **Warwickshire's Family Connect** on **01926 414144**. Lines are open Monday to Thursday 8am-5.30pm, Friday 8.30am- 5.00pm. If you need to get in touch out of usual office hours, please contact the Emergency Duty Team immediately on **01926 886922**. If you think that a child is at immediate risk, contact the police immediately by dialling **999**.





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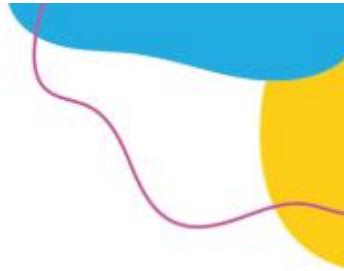
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Mental Health in Schools Team Tips For Wellness Bouncing Back



Bouncing back is all about 'having another go' after we are faced with challenges, this is also called **resilience**! There are times when things will not go how we planned, so being resilient will help us keep going and try again. We can all develop our ability to bounce back, so it is important to maintain a growth mindset and practise this skill by trying the following tips:

Our tips for bouncing back:

1. Watch this **short video** introducing resilience and 'bouncebackability'. Scan the QR code to load the video and other lesson resources:



Young Minds resources

2. Practise **problem solving** as a strategy to overcome practical difficulties and help you bounce back! Follow the steps below, you may want to write the answers down to help you:

1. What is the problem?

2. How does it make you feel?

3. What are the possible solutions?

4. What are the positives and negatives of each solution?

5. Select the best solution and make a plan to try out!

3. Think about a time when you have faced a challenge in the past...how did you overcome it? Would you do anything differently if you came across the same challenge again? You could discuss this with a friend to share ideas.

4. Build your **support network**. Having people that you trust around you through difficult times can help you to bounce back! Try to share how you are feeling with friends, family, teachers and other trusted adults in your life. You can also contact the services below if you struggle talking to people you know:



Young Minds



Samaritans

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.



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RUGBY
Art Gallery
& Museum

Half-term Holiday Fun

14 - 21 February 2026



Get ready to tinker and build as you...

Create Learn Enjoy Discover

in our holiday workshops!

Find out more at www.ragm.co.uk/holidayfun