



Coten End Newsletter

Issue No 9

Friday 30 January 2026

Message from Mr Williams

Dear Parents and Carers,

I want to start by thanking everyone for their resilience and support over January. The weather has been awful, sickness is travelling around and the days are still getting dark far too early, yet here we are, and the children have continued to have brilliant experiences in school. Spring is on the horizon!

We have had the opportunity recently to show our playtime provision to colleagues within Stowe Valley MAT. It's always a pleasure to see how people react to what our playtimes look like. The freedom children have, the choices, the opportunity to be daring and fearless. It all contributes to the personal, social and emotional development of our children. I would like to take the opportunity also to thank our parent/carer community for their support with OPAL. January is a very hard month in terms of keeping everything going. The temptation to take the occasional day inside is there, as is the option of closing various play areas. We also understand that many parents would much prefer us to keep children in when it is wet and muddy! I appreciate your patience and tolerance, because I know that children can get very wet and muddy, even with good wellies and coats. We have lots to work on still to make OPAL everything we want it to be, but it is made much easier by the support we get from our parent community.

We had the KS2 Disco last week which was a great success and I am sure it will be the same for Reception and KS1 next Friday. There are some great articles in the Newsletter this week so please take time to read them. Don't forget that Parents' Evening Bookings open on Tuesday 10th February, and like last time myself, Mr Grana, Mrs Pope, Mrs Munday and Mrs Pittaway will be available to meet with parents if you would like to book a meeting.

Best wishes,

Nick Williams

Young Voices — message from Mrs Sheepy

On Friday 16th January, I again had the immense privilege and pleasure of taking the Young Voices Choir to the bpPulse Arena in Birmingham for their concert. After weeks of rehearsing, the children finally got the chance to perform alongside 5000 other children to friends and family. The concert is always a magical and memorable experience and one, I hope, children will remember for years to come. The logistics and commitment from staff are huge but it was worth it when we saw the enjoyment and pride on the faces of the children. Their behaviour was impeccable and they coped admirably with the very long and overwhelming day. I would like to especially thank Miss Allsopp, Mrs Arben, Mrs Campbell and Mrs Travis who supported the rehearsals each week along with the parent, governor and staff volunteers who accompanied the choir on the day. We were also very proud to learn that we were the biggest choir (150 children) there, not only on the day but for the whole week of concerts in Birmingham. The joy of singing can never be underestimated, and this was wholly evident on the day. Thank you to all the children and parents for your support. Here's to YV2027!



BE SAFE BE RESPECTFUL

Holocaust Memorial Day



HOLOCAUST
MEMORIAL
DAY TRUST

On Tuesday 27th January, Executive Committee and Mr Williams represented Coten End at Warwick's Holocaust Memorial Day event led by the Mayor.

This is always a poignant event. As a school, we take part to demonstrate our commitment to educating children about the Holocaust. Children in Year 6 learn about this in an age-appropriate way alongside their Battle of Britain WW2 topic and make a commitment to not forget about the awfulness of genocide.

Our Chairperson, Gurbani Singh, and our Vice-Chairperson, Otilie Pallister-Read, read information about the event, and a Poem by Pavel Friedmann. I have shared the transcript of this below. Well done to both girls for reading with such clarity and personality.

Pavel Friedmann was born in Prague. He was a Jewish Czechoslovak poet. When he was 21, the occupying German authorities had him transported to Terezin Concentration Camp, in the fortress and garrison city of Terezin in what is now the Czech Republic. There he wrote the Poem "The Butterfly" on a piece of thin copy paper. Several of his poems were discovered after the liberation of Auschwitz. The poem also inspired the Butterfly Project, an exhibition where 1.5 million paper butterflies were created to symbolize the same number of children who were murdered in the Holocaust. On 29 September 1944, Pavel was deported to Auschwitz concentration camp, where he was murdered aged 23.

The Butterfly

He was the last. Truly the last.
Such yellowness was bitter and blinding
Like the sun's tear shattered on stone.
That was his true colour.
And how easily he climbed, and how high,
Certainly, climbing, he wanted
To kiss the last of my world.

I have been here seven weeks,
'Ghettoized'.
Who loved me have found me,
Daisies call to me,
And the branches also of the white chestnut in the yard.
But I haven't seen a butterfly here.
That last one was the last one.
There are no butterflies, here, in the ghetto.

[PICTURE SPECIAL: Young people help mark Holocaust Memorial Day in Warwick - The Leamington Observer](#)



NSPCC Number day—Friday 6th February



NSPCC Number Day makes maths meaningful and is a great way to make numbers fun and bring about a positive, 'can-do' attitude towards mathematics.

We are having a fun day of maths activities on Friday, and we will be taking part in *Dress up for Digits*. **Pupils are asked to wear an item of clothing with a number on it (sports top, eg football, rugby, netball, hockey shirt or cap). Or get even more creative and become a human calculator, dice or domino by dressing in a maths or numbers theme.**

(Please do not buy anything special for this day, a simple number on a top will be absolutely fine.)

We are also taking on Buddy's Key Challenge in our classes.

We are working to solve exciting maths puzzles in our classes, against the clock with Buddy, the 'Speak out. Stay safe' mascot.

By taking part in the Number Day we are also hoping to raise money for the NSPCC via any donations that you would like to make.

We are asking for donations to be made via GiftT, using the QR code. Using GiftT will enable to NSPCC to claim back Gift Aid.



Thank you for your support.

Miss Chacko and Mrs Leadbeater

Primary Maths Challenge

A total of 42 children from Years 4–6 took part in the **Primary Maths Challenge**. The challenge is a national competition designed to encourage children to enjoy maths through **problem solving, logical thinking and reasoning**, rather than just straightforward calculations. The questions are deliberately tricky and often require pupils to think carefully, spot patterns and apply their maths in different ways.

All of the children showed fantastic **resilience and determination** while taking part. Many of the questions were challenging, but everyone gave their best effort and stayed focused throughout, which we are extremely proud of. Taking part in a competition like this is a real achievement in itself.

We are pleased to celebrate the children who received awards:

Bronze Awards:

Armaan, 4JL
Aniket, 4JL
Archie, 5MC
Isabel, 5BM
Alvin, 5HA
Shourjak, 5HA
Joun, 6AJ
Louisa, 6MC
Defne, 5HA
Leana, 6AJ
Ellis, 4JL
Emel, 5MC
Louis, 5MC
Jordyn, 5MC
Jessica A, 6AJ
Haruto, 4JL
Bani, 5MC
Vogue, 5HA

Silver Awards:

Sophia, 5HA
Luca, 5BM
Gurbani, 6WS
Otilie, 6MC
Genevieve, 6MC
Frederic, 6AJ
Milo, 5HA
Mason DA, 6MC
Aanya, 6MC
Sam, 6MC
Johnny, 5BM
Erin, 6WS
Lisa, 6MC
Emily, 6AJ
Fiona, 6WS

Gold Awards:

Parth, 5BM
Mikael, 6MC
Laura, 6AJ
Isaac, 6WS
Merryn, 4JL
Laurence, 5BM
Maggie, 6WS
Harry D, 6MC
Bethany, 6MC



Well done to everyone who took part — you should all be very proud of yourselves for rising to the challenge and showing such a positive attitude towards maths!

Young Voices 2026

YV2026 was one of the most magical concerts that we ever experienced. We arrived at the BP Pulse Live Arena in Birmingham, where we did our concert rehearsals with our conductor David Lawrence.

After a quick break, it was time to get our concert on! The concert started at 7p.m. It was amazing! Gigi (host) introduced us as well as Urban Strides (the dance team) and the orchestra who pulled it all together.

We had a great time with the rest of the YV choir. It was a long night, but it was worth it!

Joun and Elena, 6AJ

Stowe Valley Mat Values Calendar 2026

Last year, students across the Trust created postcards that illustrate one or all of the Trust values: Kindness, Confidence & Resilience. The 52 winning entries have gone into the first Trust Values Calendar.

Calendars are available to buy on ParentPay for £8.50 each until 8 February (**please do not select one-click payment**).



No Dogs on School Site

This is a reminder that dogs (including those that are carried) are not allowed on the school site at any point during the day, including for Kids Club drop off and pick up.

This is with the exception of assistance dogs.

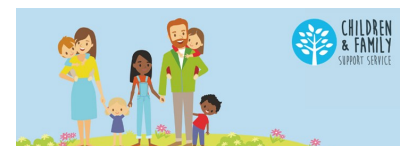
If you have to bring your dog at drop off and pick up time we kindly ask that they are securely tied up well away from the school gates.



Family Information Service

The latest edition of the Family Information Service newsletter is available to read at:

[FIS Newsletter](#)



Understanding 'Brainrot' themed games on Roblox

Many children are talking about 'Brainrot' games on Roblox - a term that covers a group of viral, user-created experiences inspired by the online 'brainrot' meme. As a parent or carer, it helps to know what these games are, why they're popular and how you can help your child play safely.

What are 'Brainrot' themed games on Roblox?

'Brainrot' themed games on Roblox draw on a blend of surreal humour, meme culture and fast-paced gameplay. Players often see absurd characters - cartoonish, strange or AI-inspired and games tend to be chaotic, unpredictable and highly addictive.

The standout example is **Steal a Brainrot** - released in 2025 - where players collect or steal 'brainrots' (meme-style characters), build a base, compete with others and manage a sort of in-game economy.

Many other games follow the same meme-driven, chaotic style: sometimes offering milder, more structured play - but often still using rapid visuals, loud audio and unpredictable social dynamics. For primary-aged children especially, this mixture of silliness, peer hype and impulsive gameplay can be very appealing.

What parents and carers should be aware of

- **It can be too loud and fast-paced:** Games such as Steal a Brainrot move very quickly, have bright colours and loud sounds and involve stealing from other players. This can feel exciting at first but for some children it becomes overwhelming or upsetting.
- **It can be hard for children to stop playing:** The game encourages players to collect more 'brainrots' to move up levels. This can make children want to play for longer, spend more in-game money (Robux) and get frustrated if they lose.
- **Children may meet people they don't know:** Like many Roblox games, children can come across strangers, unkind behaviour or content that isn't suitable - even when the game looks harmless. This is why safety settings and supervision are so important.
- **Fun can quickly turn into stress:** The silly, fast humour can be enjoyable but losing items or having other players steal from them can cause upset or arguments. Some children get very emotional, especially if they feel left out or teased.

In this issue:

- Brainrot games
- Child-on-parent violence

SUPPORTING SAFE, BALANCED ROBLOX PLAY — WHAT PARENTS AND CARERS CAN DO

ASK WHICH GAME THEY'RE PLAYING AND EXPLORE IT TOGETHER



Don't assume all games are the same. Ask your child to show you the game - whether it's Steal a Brainrot or another - so you can understand what they like or find worrying. Shared exploration builds trust.

ADJUST ROBLOX SAFETY AND PRIVACY SETTINGS

- Activate safety tools:
 - Set chat to "Friends Only" or limit messaging.
 - Disable voice chat for young children.
 - Require approval for friend requests and game invites.
 - Implement spending limits or parental PINs for Robux use.



ENCOURAGE PLAYING ONLY WITH KNOWN FRIENDS OR FAMILY

Suggest they only accept friends they know offline - or play in supervised sessions with siblings or parents. Remind them it's always okay to leave a game if it feels uncomfortable.



SET CLEAR, SHARED BOUNDARIES AROUND PLAY TIME & ENVIRONMENT

- Encourage playing in communal spaces (not bedrooms).
- Limit time on high-stimulus games like Brainrot - especially close to bedtime.
- Make sure screen time is balanced with quieter, creative or physical activities.



'Brainrot-games' is not a single title but a genre, the exact content and risks depend on which game a child plays - making it especially important for parents and carers to stay informed

SPOTLIGHT ON SAFEGUARDING

Understanding Child-to-Parent Violence (CPV)

Child-to-Parent Violence, also known as CPV, is something more families experience than many people realise - yet it's rarely talked about openly. It can be incredibly distressing for parents and carers, and it's common to feel ashamed, isolated or unsure of where to turn. This newsletter aims to give clear, compassionate information and guidance, without judgement or blame.

What is Child-to-Parent Violence?

CPV describes situations where a child or young person uses physical aggression, verbal abuse, intimidation or controlling behaviours towards a parent or caregiver.

It can look like:

- Hitting, kicking, pushing or throwing objects
- Shouting, name-calling or threats
- Destroying property
- Controlling routines, money or family rules
- Emotional manipulation or explosive outbursts

Important reassurance for parents and carers

- **You are not alone.** Many families experience some form of CPV, even if no one talks about it.
- **It is not a sign of 'bad parenting'.** CPV often emerges from a young person's difficulty managing big emotions, unmet needs, developmental differences, trauma or additional pressures in their life.
- **You deserve support.** Looking for help is a sign of strength, not failure.
- **Your relationship with your child still matters deeply** - and can improve.

This is a behaviour, not an identity. Children exhibiting violence are not 'bad kids'. They are struggling and need guidance, boundaries and connection.

What parents and carers can do - supportive steps

Stay calm where possible - safety first



If an incident is escalating, prioritise safety. Step back and create space until your child has calmed.

Notice triggers



Identify what tends to spark outbursts:

- Transitions (bedtime, homework, school)
- Overwhelm, hunger or tiredness
- Demands they find difficult
- Sibling conflict
- Sudden changes

Validate feelings, while holding boundaries



You can say things like:

- "I can see you're upset."
- "Your feelings are real, I'm here to help."
- "It's okay to be angry, but it's not okay to hurt."

Validation helps children feel seen, while boundaries keep everyone safe.

Teach regulation skills - gradually



Try practising:

- Deep breathing
- Counting backwards
- Sensory tools (stretch bands, fidget items, weighted blanket)
- Visual schedules

Make these tools normal, not punitive.

Repair after conflict



Once everyone is calm, reflect gently:

- "What happened?"
- "How were you feeling?"
- "What could help next time?"

This builds connection and growth.

LITERACY NEWS



Discover Your Next Great Read!



"Books can take you anywhere – all you have to do is open one and start the journey!"

2026 is the **National Year of Reading**, so what better time to dive into a brand-new story? This week, we're excited to share a collection of **book recommendations!**

Reading helps us learn new ideas, grow our imaginations and feel calm and happy. Whether you love funny stories, magical adventures, fascinating facts or colourful picture books, there's something for everyone.

Take a look at the recommendations below, try something new and let your next story whisk you away. **Happy reading!**

Amazing Shark: Guardian of the Seas (Amazing Ocean)

What do you really know about sharks? Did you know that the largest and scariest ones only eat tiny plankton? Or that their rough skin is made up of countless mini teeth? You might think they are vicious man-eaters always on the hunt for a tasty human lunch, but that's just a myth. In fact, the shark is probably one of the most misunderstood animals on the planet. In this breathtaking illustrated adventure, dive into the extraordinary world of the ocean's greatest guardian. Encounter mythical sharks, flying sharks and even glow-in-the-dark sharks! Are you ready to discover the mind-boggling secrets of the deep? Then let's go!



This brand-new adventure (suitable for 9-12-year-olds) is perfect for fans of Percy Jackson, Michael Morpurgo and Wild Robot.



**ONE BOY
ONE HORSE
ONE CHANCE**

From the author of *The Boy with Flowers in His Hair*

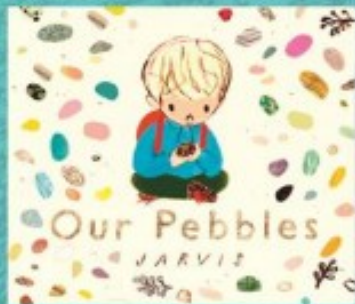
Our Pebbles

by

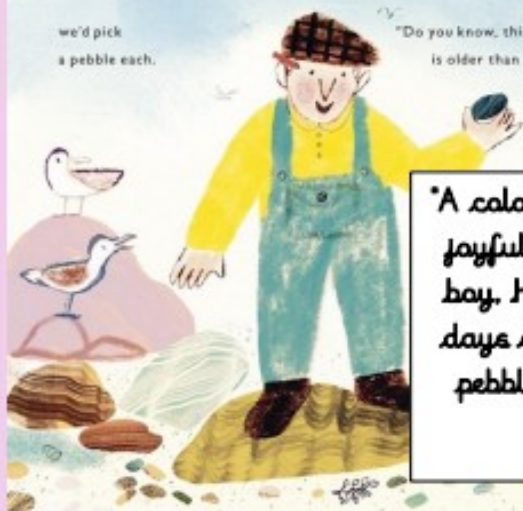
JARVIS



WALKER BOOKS



we'd pick a pebble each.



"Do you know, this pebble is older than me?"

I wasn't sure if that was one of his made-up things. Like when he said he'd had a tea party with an octopus. Grandad definitely looked older than the pebble.

"A colourful, almost tangibly joyful picture book about a boy, his grandad and their days on the beach, painting pebbles to mark treasured memories."



AGGIE AND THE GHOST



MATTHEW FORSYTHE

One day Aggie told the ghost, "If you stay here, you have to follow some rules."

"I'm listening," said the ghost.

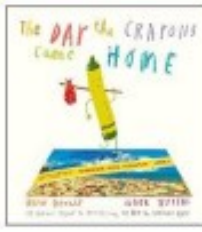
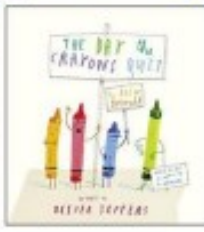
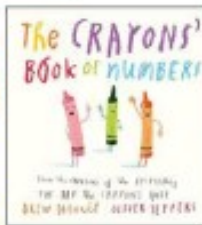
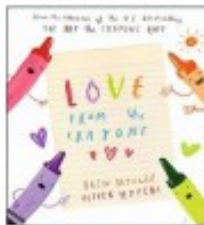
"Good," said Aggie. "These are the rules."

4 - 8 years



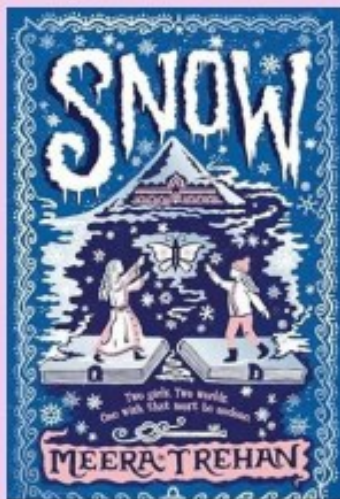
Aggie is very excited to live on her own—until she finds out her new house is haunted. But no fear, the situation is nothing that can't be fixed with a carefully considered list of rules: No haunting after dark. No stealing socks. No eating all the food. But the ghost doesn't like playing by the rules and challenges Aggie to an epic game of tic-tac-toe—winner gets the house.

If you're looking for a story that's thoughtful, funny, and beautifully illustrated, an Oliver Jeffers book is always a brilliant choice!



Lost and Found

OLIVER JEFFERS



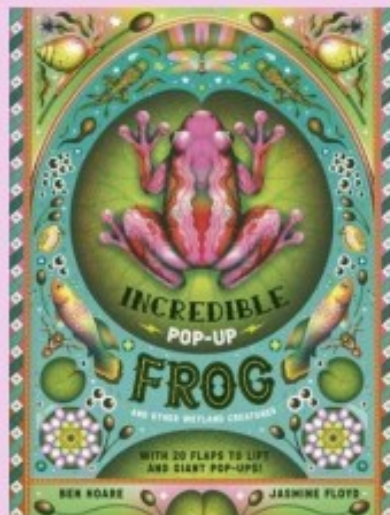
Snow: A magical winter fantasy for children age 9-12 - a fairy-tale adventure of princesses, secrets, friendship and a kingdom in peril.

Perfect for fans of *Frozen*, *The Snow Queen* and *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, this magical fairy-tale adventure follows an imprisoned princess who needs the help of a girl from the modern world to undo a wish gone wrong and save her snowy kingdom.



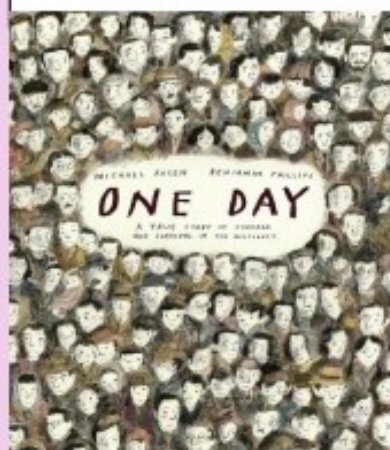
Move, Mr Mountain! This heart-warming story includes themes on unexpected friendships, consideration for others and an appreciation for all the beauty the world has to offer.

Ages 4-7



The Incredible Pop-up Frog: And other Wetland Creatures

Written by award-winning wildlife journalist and nature nerd Ben Hoare and illustrated in striking colour and texture by rising star Jasmine Floyd, this fact-packed pop-up shows the true beauty of frogs, amphibians and the wildlife they live alongside. Perfect for readers from 7 to 100.



One Day: A True Story of Courage and Survival in the Holocaust: A powerful introduction to a key history topic from an award-winning author and illustrator. A powerful piece of art where words and pictures work together to inform readers aged 7+

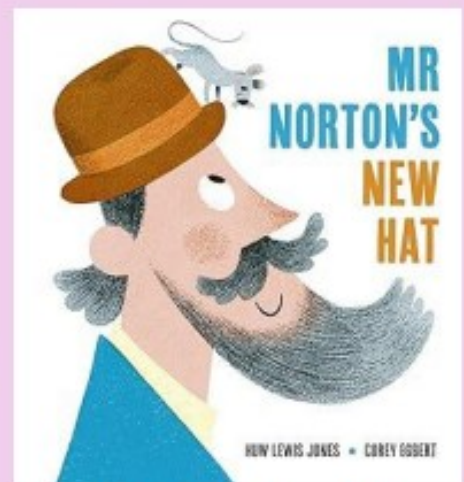
Oh Dear, Look What I Got!



Michael Rosen Helen Oxenbury

Oh Dear, Look What I Got!: A new instant rhyming classic from Michael Rosen and Helen Oxenbury, creators of WERE GOING ON A BEAR HUNT.

Perfect for 3-7-year-olds.



Mr Norton's New Hat

A celebration of kindness. The story ends with a peace offering from the animals, and new friends for the lonely Mr Norton! Mr Norton and his cacophony of animals are brought to life by Corey Egbert's stylish and timeless illustrations.

Perfect for EYFS.

	Morning		Afternoon/Evening	After School Clubs
Monday 2nd February				Football (Y2-4) Girls' Football (Y3/4) Spanish (Y1-6) Dance (Y3—6) Mandarin (Y1-6) Boys' Football Squad
Tuesday 3rd February				Football (Y1) Netball (Y5 & 6) Hockey (Y3 & 4) Drama (Y3-6) Cookery (Y2-6) Advanced Sewing (Y3-6)
Wednesday 4th February				Judo (Y2—6) Arts & Crafts (Y1 & 2) Football (Y5 & 6) Spanish Sewing (Y3-6)
Thursday 5th February				Multi-Sports (Y2—4) 11+ Maths & English (Y5) Young Voices (Y3-6) Multi-Sports (Rec & Y1) Puzzle Club (Y3)
Friday 6th February	NSPCC Number Day		Discos (LS Hall) Rec—3.15pm—4.00pm Y1 — 4.15—5.00pm Y2 —5.15—6.00pm	Dance (Rec—2) Chess (Y3-6) Girls' Football Squad
Monday 9th February	Children's Mental Health Week			Football (Y2-4) Girls' Football (Y3/4) Spanish (Y1-6) Dance (Y3—6) Mandarin (Y1-6) Boys' Football Squad
Tuesday 10th February	Safer Internet Day			Football (Y1) Netball (Y5 & 6) Hockey (Y3 & 4) Drama (Y3-6) Cookery (Y2-6) Advanced Sewing (Y3-6)
Wednesday 11th February	Year 6 Magistrates Workshop			Judo (Y2—6) Arts & Crafts (Y1 & 2) Football (Y5 & 6) Spanish Sewing (Y3-6)
Thursday 12th February				Multi-Sports (Y2—4) 11+ Maths & English (Y5) Young Voices (Y3-6) Multi-Sports (Rec & Y1) Puzzle Club (Y3)
Friday 13th February	Year 6 & Myton German workshop KS2 Orchestra of the Swan workshop		<i>Half-term</i> <i>Children return on</i> <i>Monday 23rd February</i>	Dance (Rec—2) Chess (Y3-6) Girls' Football Squad

7TH FEBRUARY

FREE

TASTER
SESSION

AGES 7 - 12

Fence WITH US!

COME AND TRY THE OLYMPIC
SPORT OF FENCING - A UNIQUE
EXPERIENCE THAT TEACHES
CONFIDENCE AND DISCIPLINE!

SIGN UP HERE AT:

[SHAKESPEARESSWORDS.COM](https://shakespearesswords.com)

The session will take place from 9:00AM - 10:00AM at King Edward VI School, Stratford. All equipment is provided and the session is free. Interested parents can book through the Shakespeare's Swords website: [Shakespeare's Swords | Fencing | West Midlands, UK](https://shakespearesswords.com)



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MONDAY NIGHT - OAKLEY SCHOOL 6PM - 7PM

FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

GIRLS FOOTBALL COACHING (PROGRESSION TO TEAMS)

GOALKEEPER COACHING

FRIDAY NIGHT - OAKLEY SCHOOL 6PM - 7PM

FUTURE STARS (PROGRESSION TO TEAMS)

SATURDAY MORNING - AYLESFORD SCHOOL 10.45AM - 12.00PM

PAN DISABILITY FOOTBALL

HALF TERM CAMPS @ CHAMPION SCHOOL

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FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE EMAIL

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Fitt4Kids HOLIDAY CAMPS



Multisports Camps!



CHILD CARE
VOUCHERS
ACCEPTED



AGE
4-11
YEARS

Football Camps!



Monday 16th – Friday 20th February 2026
www.fitt4kids.org.uk/holiday-clubs/



EMMANUEL CHURCH

TREASURE SEEKERS

HOLIDAY BIBLE CLUB

JOIN THE FUN,
UNCOVER THE TRUTH

30 MARCH - 2 APRIL 2026

10AM - 12:15PM

FAMILY EVENT - 2 APRIL

STARTING AT 6PM

BIBLE STORIES
GAMES & CRAFTS
SONGS & QUIZZES

FOR PRIMARY AGED CHILDREN

emmanuel-church.org.uk/holidaybibleclub
Emmanuel Church, Heath Terrace CV32 5LY

McDonald's VI Fun Football Sessions

Dates: Five consecutive sessions from Thursday 26th February-26th March

Time: 6-7pm

Cost: Free



Leamington Brakes Community Foundation

Warwick School, Myton Road, Warwick, CV34 6PP



Book via the link below:

[Fun Football Sessions](#)



FEB FOOTBALL CAMP

BOYS & GIRLS AGED 5-13



Our football camps emphasize skill development, confidence, and teamwork while creating a fun and encouraging experience for every player.

£20.00
PER DAY

MON 16TH - FRI 20TH
9:00AM - 3:00PM

£90.00
WHOLE WEEK

20% SIBLING DISCOUNT AVAILABLE!

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AIMS
Accountants for Business



Brownies

Join Us! 4-10
Girls age
Welcome

Tuesdays!
6-7.30pm

Where: All Saints Church
Contact Centre
Text: 075944043385

