



Southfields Primary School

• Good Learners • Accepting • Respectful • Kind

January 2026 – Edition 30



MESSAGES FROM MR GALE



January Update from Mr Gale

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year and what a great start to the New Year it has been!

This term has begun with a range of exciting developments across the school. Staff have continued to strengthen teaching through new links with *White Rose Maths* and our *Early Years Jigsaw Trial Project*. We have also taken part in oracy training with *Voice 21* as part of our work as a Centre of Excellence, and joined moderation with partner schools to ensure consistent, high-quality assessment.

The ICT manager and I attended the **BETT Education Fair** to explore innovative uses of technology to support learning, and I (as headteacher) have joined a city-wide **peer review network** to help drive improvement. We are also delighted to welcome two trainee teachers from **Warwick University** on placement this term. Staff have additionally received training for the new **Families First Partnership Programme**, strengthening the support we offer to families in need.

Pupil Learning Experiences

Year 5 have started their swimming lessons with great enthusiasm, and Year 6 enjoyed an engaging STEM workshop that challenged them to think creatively and solve real-world problems. Pupils across the school have been working incredibly hard across all areas of the curriculum and we look forward to sharing this with you at the upcoming Parents' Evenings.

Our New Library

Our new school library is taking shape beautifully, with the final touches underway. We look forward to opening this inspiring space to our children very soon. We do hope that you will be able to see the full and final finished library at Parents' Evening!

Thank you for your continued support.

Mr James Gale
Headteacher



WANTED

PARENT GOVERNOR

We are looking for a parent / parents to join our governing body to bring the perspective of parents to the strategic decision-making process at school.

If you would like to get involved with school life in more depth and are interested in helping to contribute to the improvement of the school, please get in touch.

For an informal chat about the role, please get in touch with Mr Gale via the school office or email enquiries@southfieldsprimary.org

Thank you

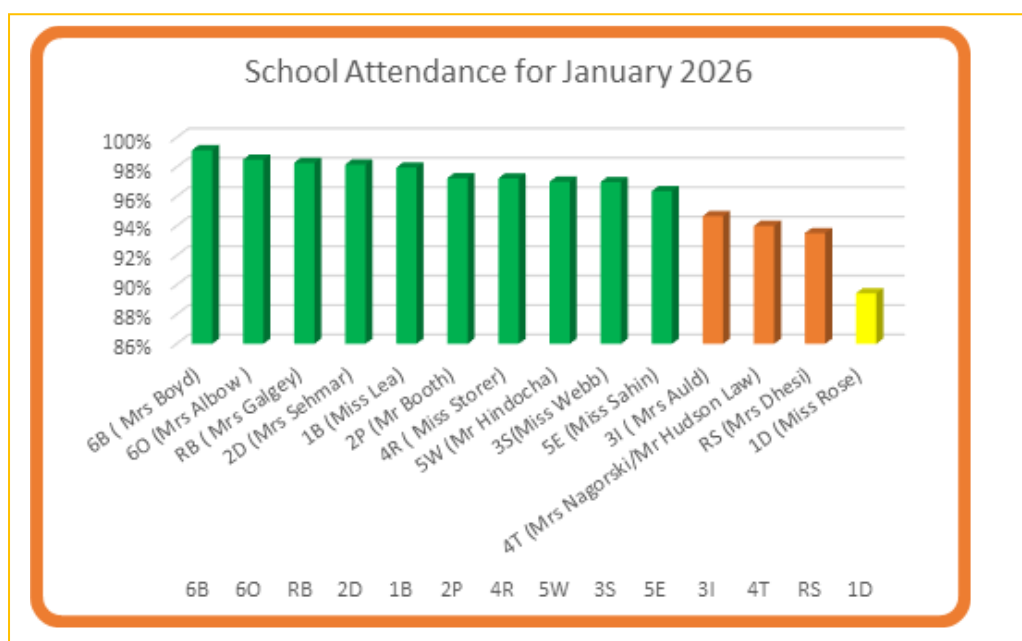
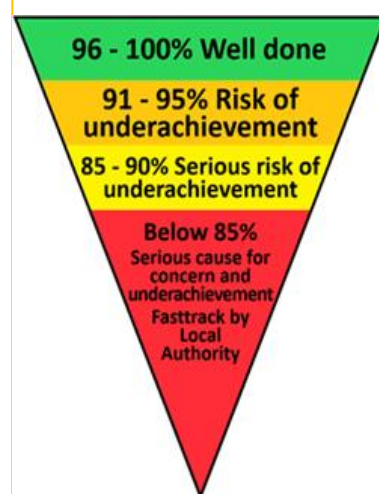




ATTENDANCE UPDATE

Attendance Update – January Whole School – **96.4**

The Attendance Target we have set is 96%!



A reminder **that it's fine to send your child to school** with slight cough or common cold symptoms, such as a runny nose, sore throat or headache, as long as they're otherwise well and do not have a high temperature. Remember to encourage your child to throw away any used tissues and to wash their hands regularly.

**The table below shows: Persistent Absentees
(Pupils who have Less than 90% Attendance)**

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
15	3	6	4	4	3

If this is your child – you **must** make every effort to get your child in to school. Please see the school for help if you are having any problems in getting your child to school.





ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

Dear Parents/Carers

The Department of Education (DfE) **does not consider holidays or leisure travel** to be exceptional circumstances. All requests for Exceptional Leave of Absence must be completed in advance and forms are available from the school office. The Local Authority will issue fines where parents have taken their children out of school, and it has not been authorised by the Head Teacher.

Fines for unauthorised absence:

- **1st Offence** - £160 per parent reduced to £80 if paid within 21 days
- **2nd Offence** - £160 per parent
- **3rd Offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years)** - the third time an Offence is committed a Penalty Notice **will not** be issued, and the parent(s) may be prosecuted under section 444(1).

If fines are unpaid, parents may be prosecuted under the Education Act 1996.

Mr J Gale

Being Late is Never Great!

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
3 hours 23 minutes	2 hours 35 minutes	2 hours 10 minutes	2 hours 44 minutes	2 hours 22 minutes	2 hours 1 minute	1 hours 37 minutes

Total Minutes Lost - 16 hours & 52 minutes

A reminder that the school gates are open between 8.50 and 9.00am.

The knock-on effects being late has on a child's learning is massive. Children have commented on how they dislike being stared at when they enter classrooms late and the anxiety this causes.

Please be aware that if your child is late to school, they will now need to sign in using the monitor by the main office. A reason for the lateness will be required.

Thank you to all those parents who continue to ensure their children arrive on time every day.





School Sport, Clubs, & Competitions

PE and Sport – Newsletter January 2026

Southfields 'Tiger tock' announcement

Our Year 6 children are pleased and proud to unveil their latest dance achievement. Children used their knowledge of the building blocks of dance and understanding of social media dance trends to choreograph, rehearse and perform their own routine to a song of their choice. These videos will be used in school, instead of 'Just Dance' to engage younger children and feed their passion for movement to music. Mr Rogers will use them in PE warm-ups throughout the year. Check out our playlist on the school YouTube channel. Scan the QR Code or use the link below:

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLDQnv27ijY8lhexgommj_7mfv-KTwJR9o



(If your child's video is not shown it is because somebody in their group does not have consent)

Upcoming external sports events

We have an exciting few weeks of sport ahead, with some of our biggest external event happening this term. Watch out on Class Dojo and social media for updates on the following:

Year 6 Sportshall Athletics, Year 6 Rowing, Year 3 Gymnastics, Year 2 Gymnastics. After half term we will also begin our football league and cup fixtures against local schools.

Sports Superstars

Athletes of the Month:

Afrah (4T), Alice (1B) and Jeshika (5W)

Sports Classes of the Month:

4R, 1B and all of Year 5





Southfields Superstars of the Month

Y1 Daisy	Hasibullah -GL Cur	Kevin – GL Ref	Joshua Neto – GL Res	
Y1 Buttercup	Ethan-Respect	Nyla-GL-Ref	Ameena-Respectful	
Y2 Daffodil	Aramis-GL	Zahran-Resilient	Nivaan-GL	
Y2 Poppy	Abubakaar GL	Jason Kindness	Neda- Acceptance	
Y3 Iris	Aryan – GL Curious	Nicholas – GL curious	Mina - GL reflective	
Y3 Sunflower	Inbha GI collaborative	Akam – GL – resilient	Naz – GL curious	
Y4 Rose	Viswanth – GL (resilient)	Hugo – GL Reflective	Mohamad – GL Resilient	
Y4 Tulip	Magdeline – GL (curious)	Aatikia GL reflective	Kweku-Duah GL resilient	
Y5 Elm	Devagna GL reilient	Sarah - Kindness		
Y5 Willow	Bahez - GL resilience	Haris – resilient	Louise – GL - Curious	
Y6 Birch	Siem – GL - Reourceful	Mokolade - Resilient	Amir – GL - Resourceful	
Y6 Oak	Bilal – GL (resilient)	Jagruthi – GL (resilient)	Phoebe – GL (resilient)	





Reading with your child



Each month we award children in each class for REMARKABLE READING. We place reading at the centre of our curriculum and are determined to encourage a love of reading in all of our children. At the end of each month we award our 'Readers of the month' with a book of their choice!

Congratulations to our amazing 'Readers of the Month' for their superb dedication to reading. These children will all receive a book of their choice! Great work!

Year 1: Mohamad and Abasin

Year 2: Jason and Nisa

Year 3: Daniel and Saira

Year 4: Doose and Fikayomi

Year 5: Rahf and Louise

Year 6: Joshua and Abdirahman



Key Diary Dates

- Tue 3rd February - 20 Reception Children visiting Warwick Arts Centre - "Classroom of Creativity"
- Thurs 5th February - Reception NHS Vision Screening
- Thurs 5th February - Class 5E Visit to IPCI Exhibition Centre
- Tue 10th & Wed 11th February – Parents Evening
- Thurs 12th February - Class 5W Visit to IPCI Exhibition Centre
- **Mon 16th to Friday 20th February - Half Term. SCHOOL CLOSED**
- Mon 23rd February - Teacher Training – SCHOOL CLOSED
- Tues 24th February – SCHOOL RE-OPENS
- Wed 25th February - Year 2 Trip to the National Space Centre
- Thurs 26th February - Year 4 Trip to the Belgrade Theatre
- Friday 27th February – Reception Trip to 'All Things Wild'





Pastoral Team Updates

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South Warwickshire University NHS Foundation

COVENTRY SCHOOL NURSING NEWSLETTER

Primary School

Happy New Year!

Happy New Year from the entire School Nursing Team!

We hope that everyone enjoyed a lovely festive break and is now settling back into the school routine.

The school nursing service operates Monday to Friday 9 am - 5 pm, excluding public and bank holidays. You can reach us using the contact details provided below:

Phone: 01926 495321 Ext 7494
Or text us via [ChatHealth](#)
07507 329 114 (Parent Line)

Here's a reminder of what the School Nursing team can support you with:

- Toileting
- Sleep
- Challenges with eating and diet
- Delivering the NCMP for Reception and Year 6 pupils
- Puberty
- Emotional/Mental health
- Managing behaviour
- Hygiene

Winter Water Safety

Cold weather makes rivers, canals and ponds more dangerous. If you're out walking, remember:

- Stay off the ice
- Keep back from the edge
- Keep children and dogs close
- In an emergency, call 999
- If you fall in: float on your back & shout for help

Stay safe this winter! ☺

More tips: [Royal Life Saving Society UK](#)

Staying Active During the Winter

Keeping children active during winter can be tricky, but it's important for their overall health and happiness. Regular movement improves both mind and body.

Here are some tips to help make exercise more fun during the colder months:

- Winter Scavenger Hunt** - search for animal tracks and wildlife
- Plan a Snack Stop** - Bring along some hot chocolate or warm milk, along with a healthy snack.
- Go Geocaching** - www.geocaching.com
- Winter crafts** - collect items for a winter potion or winter-themed arts and crafts.

For more ideas, check out the Woodland Trust website: [9 Fun Ideas for Family Winter Walks - Woodland Trust](#)

Can't Get Outdoors?

Movement and exercise can be done indoors using online resources, creating obstacle courses, or simply turning on some music for dancing.

Here are some helpful online resources:

- Activities for Kids - NHS Healthier Families**
- Activate with Joe - YouTube** - <https://youtube.com/linktree/be-active-be-healthy-team>

For more support with exercise and healthy living for your family, contact the **Be Active Be Healthy Team** - linktree/be-active-be-healthy-team

Free Online Learning for Families from TOGETHERNESS

Coventry City Council offers families free access to Togetherness resources for family wellbeing. Parents, carers, grandparents, and young people can learn from NHS experts and other parents to better understand and manage emotions. Visit the [Togetherness](#) website and use the access code: **SP19ESS** for more information.

Contact us (Monday to Friday, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM, excluding bank holidays)
01926 495321 Ext 7494

Text via [ChatHealth](#)
07507 329 114 (Parent Line)

[Linktree](#)
Linktree: <https://linktree.co.uk/coventry-school-nursing>

[Coventry School Nursing Team](#)
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South Warwickshire University NHS Foundation

COVENTRY SCHOOL NURSING NEWSLETTER

Primary School

Awareness Days January to March 2026

Children's Mental Health Week

Place2Be's Children's Mental Health Week 2026 is due to take place 9th - 15th February 2026. This year's theme is "This is My Place" which is all about highlighting how important it is to support the people and systems around our children so they can grow up in welcoming, supportive environments where they feel like they truly belong and can say, "This is My Place".

Eating Disorders Awareness Week

Eating Disorders Awareness Week runs from Monday, 23rd February to Sunday, 1st March 2026. It focuses on the loneliness experienced by children and young people dealing with eating disorders. BEAT emphasises the importance of community, family, and support networks in helping individuals feel supported and understood as they work towards recovery.

National Storytelling Week

National Storytelling Week takes place from 1st - 9th February to celebrate storytelling and is organised by the Society for Storytelling. The week aims to encourage the sharing of stories and the impact they can have. Storytelling has lots of benefits to children, giving a learning opportunity about things such as kindness and bravery. It helps children understand emotions by encouraging feelings like laughter and sadness. It can also enhance imagination and creativity, and give you wonderful bonding opportunity with your children.

Cold Weather & Child Health

Colder weather can affect children's health, particularly those with asthma, eczema, or other long-term conditions. Here are some tips to keep in mind:

- Hydration and Nutritious Meals** - Help children stay comfortable by keeping them hydrated and eating healthy.
- Indoor Temperature** - Remember to keep indoor temperatures at least 18°C to create a comfortable and cosy environment.
- Layer Clothing** - Dress children in layers for their journey to and from school.
- Warm Accessories** - Dress them in warm coats, gloves, and hats.
- Ventilation** - Ensure proper ventilation while keeping spaces warm.

Health Awareness

Be mindful of when your child should stay at home and keep children home if they have:

- A high temperature
- Vomiting or diarrhoea (must be symptom-free for 48 hours before returning)
- Are too unwell to take part in normal school activities

Asthma, Eczema & Winter Conditions

Cold air and indoor heating can make symptoms worse. Things to remember...

- Inhalers:** Ensure that inhalers are up-to-date and accessible at school.
- Eczema Management:** Moisturise skin regularly to manage eczema.
- Asthma Care:** Illness can trigger asthma flare-up so quick management is essential.

For more information, visit: ukhsa.blog.gov.uk/a-parents-guide-to-keeping-kids-healthy-this-school-year/

Contact us (Monday to Friday, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM, excluding bank holidays)
01926 495321 Ext 7494

Text via [ChatHealth](#)
07507 329 114 (Parent Line)

[Linktree](#)
Linktree: <https://linktree.co.uk/coventry-school-nursing>

[Coventry School Nursing Team](#)
COVSCHOOLNURS

Our pastoral team are here to support you and your child during their time at Southfields. If you would like to contact the team please email / phone:

Email: pastoral@southfieldsprimary.org
Phone: 02476 226810

If ever our children are concerned about anything in school or at home, we encourage them to share these with trusted adults. We let children know that our school website has a 'Virtual Worrybox' where children can share their concerns directly with key professionals in school. This can be found under the 'Key Info' tab.





This month in pictures!

It's been another remarkable month – here are some photographs to show the wonderful learning experiences our children are having...

