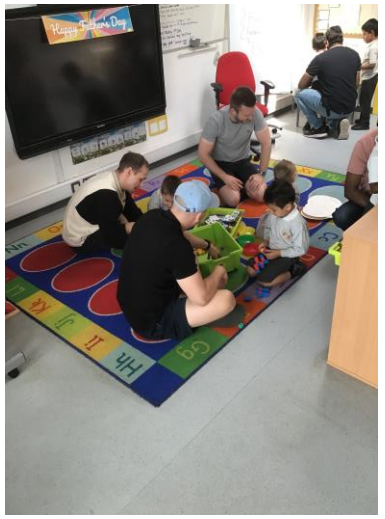
Weekly Learning Update

13th June 2025

Nursery

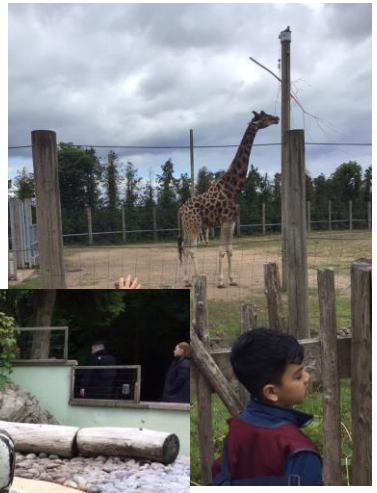
Thank you for attending the Father's Day Brunch; the children have really enjoyed spending time with you all!

Have the best weekend celebrating!



Reception (King Class and Parks Class)

What another wonderful and busy week it has been in Reception! Last Friday we went to Twycross Zoo and were so proud of all of the children. They set a fantastic example of the expectations of St Gabriel's whilst we were out in the wider community. All children enjoyed the experience so much and it was fantastic being able to take our learning out of the school and see a number of the animals that we have started to learn about to support our unit of learning this half term.



English:

Following our fantastic school trip to Twycross Zoo last Friday, we have spent time reflecting on the day and wrote a recount. The recount detailed specific events of the day in time order. This also included their favourite parts of the day and why.

We have also continued to explore our key text 'Handa's Surprise' and write sentences linked to the events of the story.

Maths:

We have been exploring pattern within number and developing our understanding of the value of two-digit numbers. Time has been spent exploring the value of ones and tens and then thinking about the way that two-digit numbers can be partitioned into these.

Within PE, we have been exploring different games and the importance of turn taking and sharing resources. This week we also explored movement and collaboration, with children working in pairs playing a variety of 'tag' inspired games.

Year 1 (Bell Class and Windsor Class)

We would like to start this week's learning update by saying a huge well done to each and every child in Year 1 for completing their Phonics Screening Check this week. We are incredibly proud of the hard work that they all put into this and for the amazing growth that they have all shown in their reading. They all tried their very best and should be very proud of themselves. We had a lovely afternoon celebrating with ice lollies and extra play time!

In English this week, we enjoyed reading to the end of The Secret Sky Garden to find out how Funni transformed the car park into a beautiful space. The children spent some time designing their own secret gardens and thought of adjectives they could use to describe it. We then looked at a variety of different setting descriptions, ready to write our own next week.

In Science, we have been comparing deciduous and evergreen trees and thinking about their changes through the seasons.

In RE, we have celebrated Pentecost by creating Pentecost wheels and making birthday cards to celebrate the birth of Christianity. We hope the children enjoyed sharing these with you at home.

In History, we learnt about some important British monarchs and ordered them on a timeline.

In PSHE, we started our unit of learning 'Growing and Changing', with a focus on life cycles and how humans and animals change as they grow.

In D&T, the children designed their own thrones for King Teddy, thinking about the materials they could use.

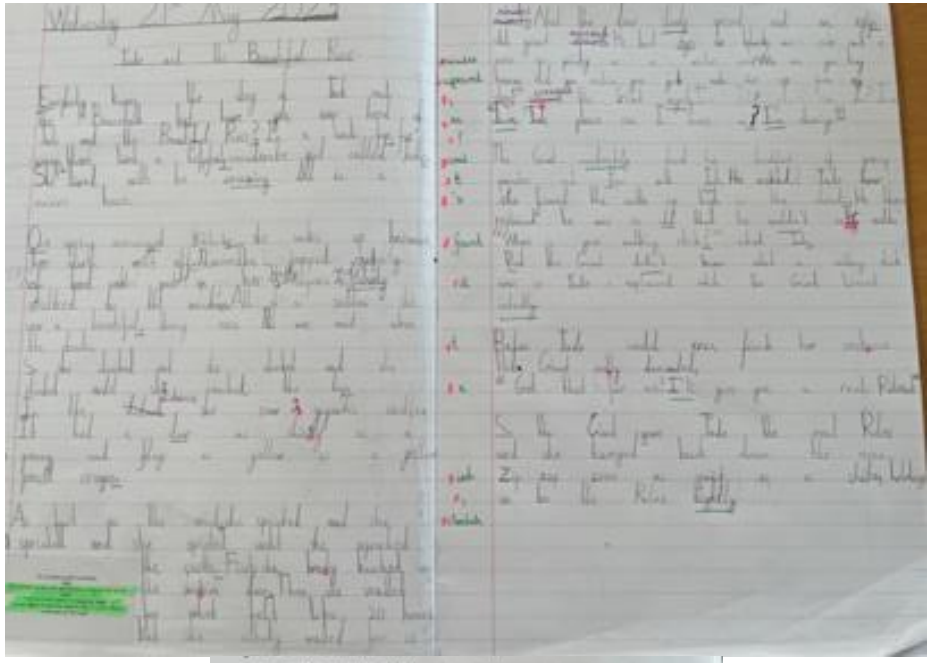
We also celebrated Empathy Day on Thursday by listening to a powerful story that helped us to think about feelings and experiences of others.

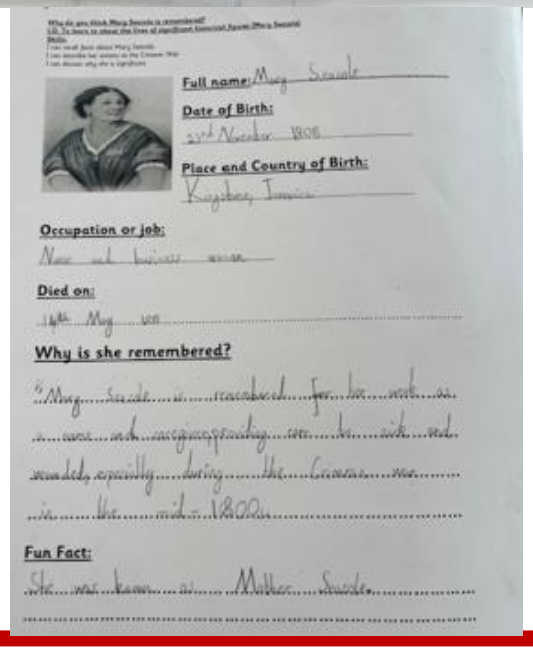
Year 2 (Braille Class and Kerr Class)

We have had another fantastic week!

English:
In English we have continued writing our own versions of 'Jim and the Beanstalk.'

Handwriting:
This week, we have been focusing on learning to form the letters c, o and a using cursive handwriting.

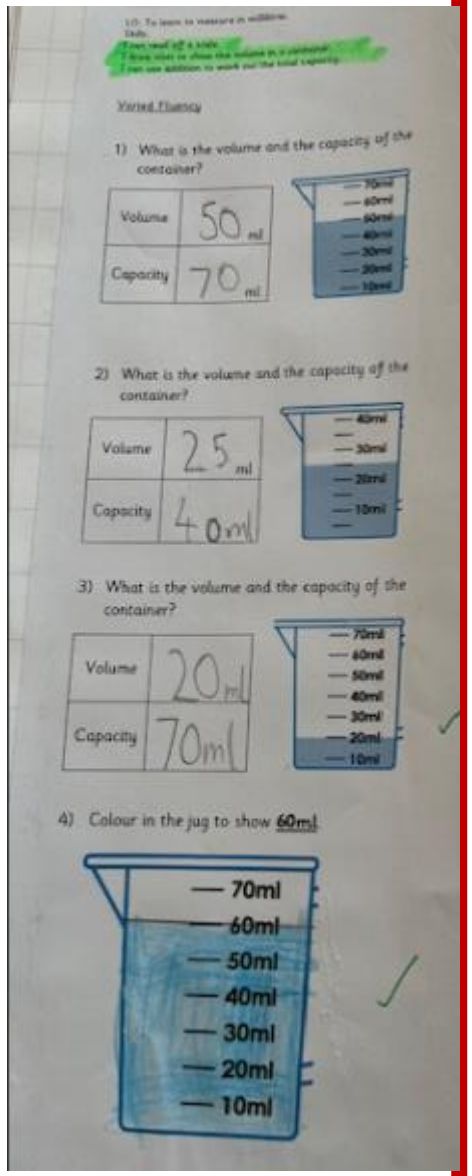




History:
In History, we started learning about Mary Seacole and why she was significant during the Crimean War.

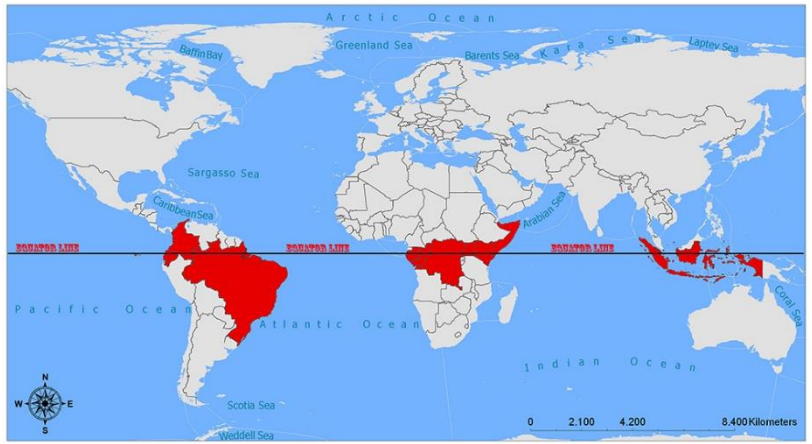
Science:
In Science, we planned an investigation to determine which material would be most suitable for making a raincoat.

Maths:
In Maths, we learnt to measure capacity and volume using millilitres and litres.



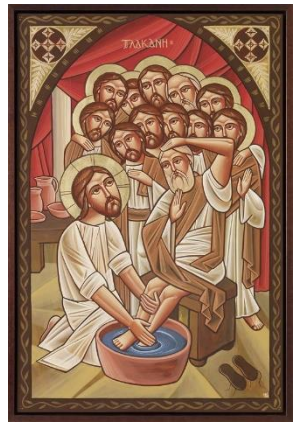
Year 3 (Malala Class and Anning Class)

In English, we have been writing our alternative ending to the film 'Catch A LOT'. The purpose of our writing was to entertain the reader and we have been looking at how we can make an impact on the reader, as writers. All of the children did a fantastic job and it was amazing to see their creativity and imagination come to life through their writing.



In Maths, we have been developing our understanding of volume and capacity. We have also been measuring different quantities using litres and millilitres. The children have been using their knowledge of scales to solve problems as well as deepening their explanations and reasoning.

In Geography, we have continued to use maps, atlases and globes and this week, we have been using them to locate the equator and countries within the northern and southern hemisphere. We also looked at climate maps and used this to help us discuss how the location of a country in contrast to the equator affects its climate.



In RE, we have started our unit on how art and architecture is used to represent religion and different worldviews. This week, we looked at how the baptism of Christ is represented in different cultures but how the message of the images is the same. We spoke about how time, culture and religion can impact how art and architecture is presented.

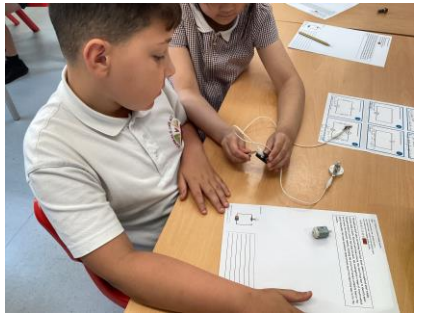
Year 4 (Turing Class and Tagore Class)

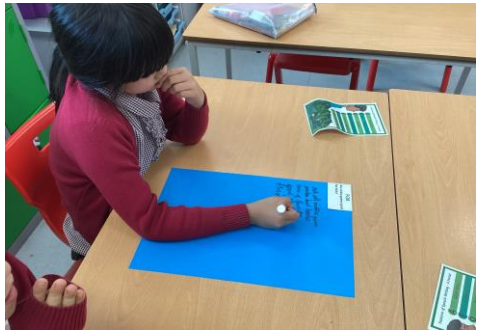
We have had a truly great week filled with energy, progress, and inspiring learning moments! The children have been working diligently, and we are excited to share some highlights with you.

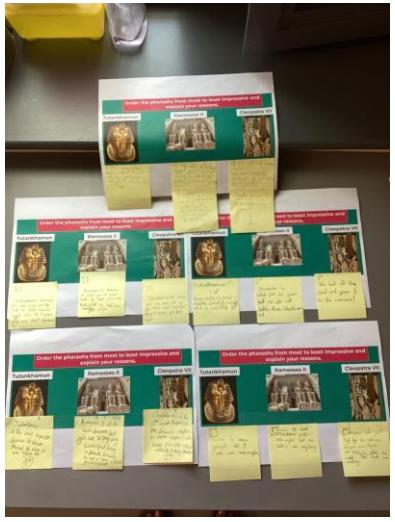
Firstly, congratulations on years of hard work as the children have mastered their times tables. A huge well done to everyone for completing the Multiplication Tables Check—their determination has paid off, and they should be very proud!

In English, our focus on persuasive writing really ignited the classroom. The debates on topics such as "Are video games good for kids?" were filled with excitement and genuine passion. The children eagerly prepared their positions, using emotive language to capture the audience's attention and to persuade with conviction. Their dynamic participation and confident delivery not only made the sessions lively but also paved the way for future leadership skills. It was a joy to witness their creativity in action!

In Maths, we continued our time unit by converting between analogue and digital formats. The children practised sorting times into AM and PM and applied this knowledge to engaging reasoning problems. In Science, our explorations centered on understanding the role of a switch within a circuit. Meanwhile, History lessons brought ancient Egyptian society to life as we examined the leadership of three famous pharaohs — evaluating both positive and negative aspects to decide who might have been the best leader.







Year 5 (Attenborough Class and Gandhi Class)

In English, we have planned and written our own piece of suspense writing inspired by Alma. We had a photo stimulus from the short film and used this as our inspiration to generate a range of vocabulary, figurative language and short sentences which we could use in our writing.

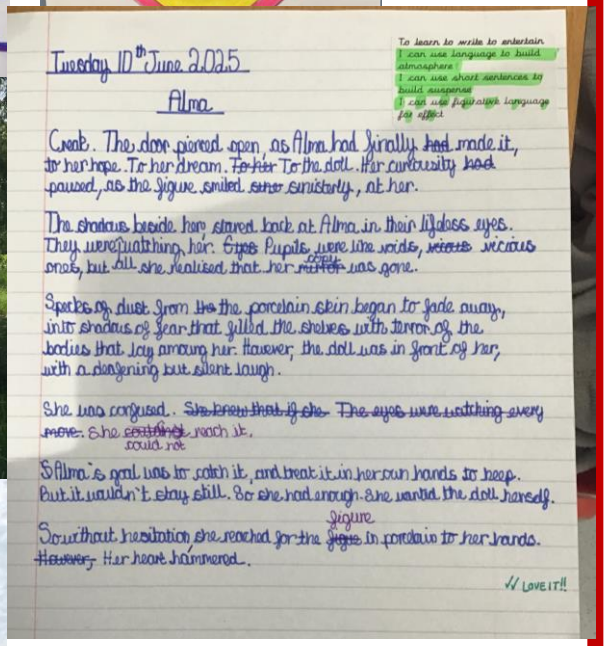
In Maths, we have finished our unit on decimals, by multiplying and dividing numbers by 10, 100 and 1000. We have used our knowledge of place value to see whether we move the digits one place, two places or three places to the left when we multiply by 10, 100 and 1000 or to the right when we divide.

In Science, we have been exploring asexual plant reproduction, and how there is only one parent plant which produces a clone of itself. Some plants use bulbs to store energy underground and produce shoots which grow into a new plant the following Spring, some use tubers to create new plants, and others use runners or side branches with a plantlet at the end which grows into the new plant.

In RE, we have celebrated Ascension Day and Pentecost by created Holy Spirit Banners which represent the flame of the Holy Spirit and how Jesus' disciples were given the fruits of the spirit to guide them as Jesus ascended into Heaven.

We have also made excellent progress with our AYLA project, as we have been on a local walk into our community. We reviewed the great things about our community but also considered how we could make a change and improve it! We will be using these ideas for our final project in a few weeks' time.

We are really looking forward to the next couple of weeks, with Gandhi Class residential taking place next week and Attenborough Class residential taking place the week after!



Year 6 (Pogson Class and Ahmad Class)

It has been another productive week in Year 6 this week!

In English, we have been writing our suspense narratives, inspired by Dave Eggars' film, 'Francis'. The children have done an amazing job at combining their use of differing sentence structures and writing techniques, such as figurative language, parenthesis and speech to effectively build tension within their stories and keep their readers hooked!

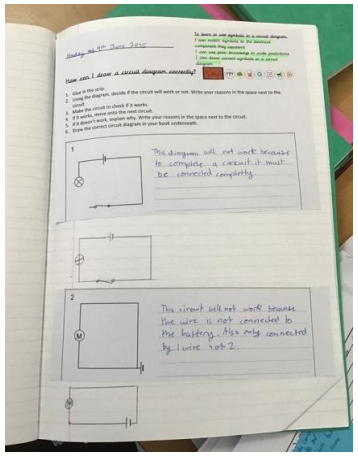
In Maths, for Make £5 Grow, children have now been arranged into their groups as they have begun carrying out market research, developing their ideas and marketing of their product. It has been really great to see how invested the children have become as they implement a range of skills to achieve a common goal.

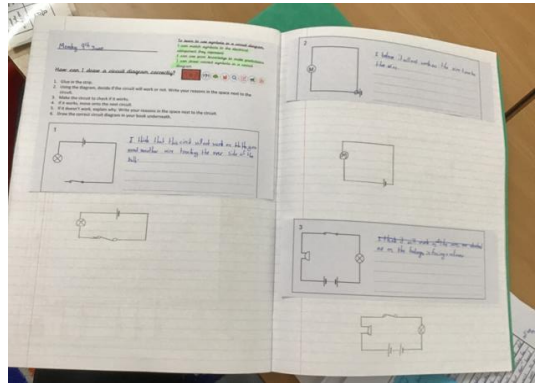
In Science, we have built upon our learning from last week by exploring the more specific symbols used when drawing an accurate circuit diagram. The children were given a range of diagrams of circuits. Using their knowledge of circuits so far, they had to predict whether or not the circuit would work properly, explain why, test the circuit and then redraw the diagram correctly.

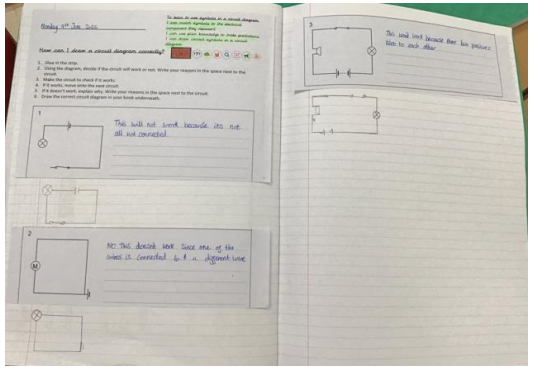
In Geography, we looked at coastal features and what processes take place in order for them to form. We looked closely at the specific features of a coastline and the children were tasked with outlining the steps that take place for bays, headlands, beaches, coves, arches, stacks and stumps to form.

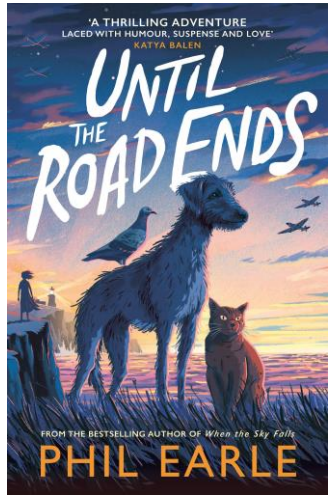
In RE, we shifted our focus from the Sikh worldview towards Islam as we explored how Islamic dress has changed over time. We explored the teachings of the Qur'an and its suggestions to both men and women about how to dress with modesty. After that, we read from Ibtihaj Muhammad's book, 'The Proudest Blue', to gain further insight into the experiences of someone with a Muslim perspective. We explored how people have been treated differently because of their appearance and the importance of showing respect to others.

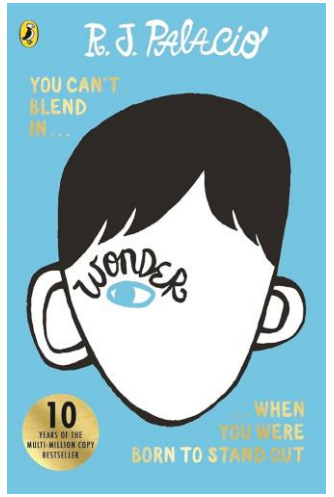
Finally, this week we also took the time to celebrate Empathy Day – a very important day at St Gabriel's to think about the importance of empathy as a vital life skill and ways in which we can develop it. We took some time to read from a couple of books that explore a range of emotions and experiences: R J Palacio's 'Wonder' and Phil Earle's 'Until the Road Ends'. We can't wait to keep reading them!











Collective Worship

During class worship this week the children have been learning more about Pentecost which was celebrated last Sunday. This is the day Christians believe Jesus sent the **Holy Spirit to his disciples** and is also considered the **birthday of Christianity** - when Jesus sent his disciples to spread the word of God and baptise others. To mark this important time the school's prayer tables have been covered with a red cloth symbolising **flames of the Holy Spirit.**

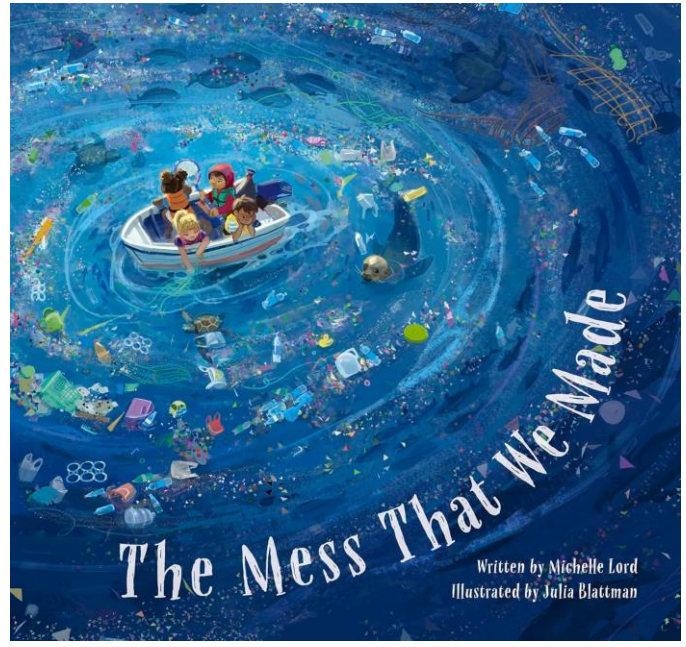
This week, King class led Celebration Worship sharing their learning including: a performance of Handa's Surprise; a visit from the police; a number bond song and a video of their visit to Twycross Zoo.

Collective worship at St Gabriel's always aims to be **inspirational** for all, **invitational** to all and **inclusive** of all.

Recommended Read

'The Mess That We Made' by *Michelle Lord*

The Mess That We Made explores the environmental impact of trash and plastic on the ocean and marine life, and it inspires kids to do their part to combat pollution. Children can imagine themselves as one of the four multi-ethnic occupants of the little boat surrounded by swirling plastic in the middle of the ocean, witnessing the cycle of destruction and the harm it causes to plants, animals, and humans. The first half of the book portrays the growing magnitude of the issue, and the second half rallies children and adults to make the necessary changes to save our oceans.



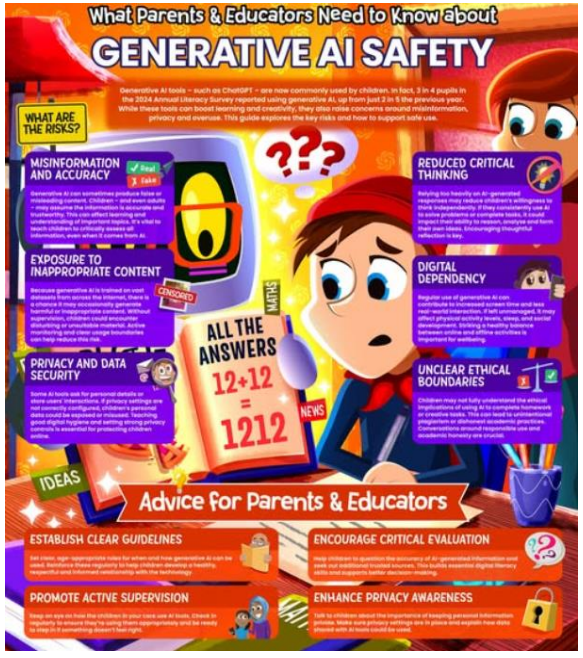
Online Safety

Generative AI tools – such as ChatGPT – are now commonly used by children. In fact, 3 in 4 pupils in the 2024 Annual Literacy Survey reported using generative AI, up from just 2 in 5 the previous year.

While these tools can boost learning and creativity, they also raise concerns around misinformation, privacy and overuse.

See the below guide to explore the key risks and find out how to support safe use:

https://nationalcollege.com/guides/generative-ai-safety



Whole School Attendance	
Attendance since September	96.5%
This week's attendance	96.4%
Latest Local Authority ranking	11th out of 195 schools
Latest National ranking	Top 10% of schools

Outstanding	**100%**	190 days of full learning All lessons complete
Very Good	**98%**	186 days of learning 4 days and 20 lessons missed
Good	**96%**	182 days of learning 8 days and 40 lessons missed
More needed	**94%**	178 days of learning 12 days and 60 lessons missed
Concerning	**92%**	174 days of learning 16 days and 80 lessons missed
Very concerning	**90%**	171 days of learning 19 days and 95 lessons missed

Whole school target is 96%

National research shows, on average, children who meet expected standards in reading, writing and mathematics have higher attendance than those who did not.

Please contact the school for support and advice if you are concerned about your child's attendance.

NHS England has provided helpful guidance for parents and carers when making the difficult decision regarding not sending a child to school.

NHS guidance- Is my child too ill for school?

Family Support

This week's Family Information Service newsletter includes information about:

- School readiness health questionnaire
- Domestic abuse services in Warwickshire
- Carers Week 2025

and much more!

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