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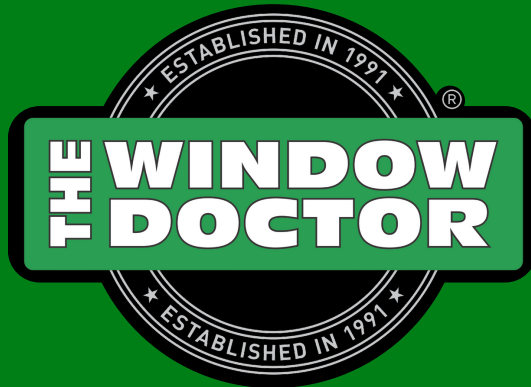
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# School Number Day Raises Cash for George Eliot Hospital Charity

Pupils and staff at Our Lady & St Joseph Catholic Academy have proudly donated £724.05 to the George Eliot Hospital Charity after a fun-filled fundraising event which took place last month.

The school held a special 'Number Day', where students brought in loose change and competed in their classes to create the longest coin line.

The initiative not only encouraged a love for numbers but also helped raise a significant sum for Arbury Lodge at George Eliot Hospital.

The fundraising effort was inspired by Julene Dale, a Ward Clerk at Arbury Lodge and a parent at the school.

After discussing the opportunity with Mrs. Sara Chapman, the school's Principal, the academy saw this as a meaningful way to support the local hospital.

School representatives, including students Brandon Panter, Zachary Smith, Samuel Dale, and Joseph Dale, along with staff members Claire Wright and Sara Chapman, visited George Eliot Hospital to present the donation.

"We're incredibly proud of our students for taking part in this fun and educational challenge while also supporting a fantastic cause," said Mrs. Chapman.

The funds will support Arbury Lodge, a vital unit within George Eliot Hospital, ensuring patients continue to receive the best possible



care.

Maria Holmes-Keeling, spokesperson for George Eliot Hospital Charity, said: *"It's wonderful to see students enjoying themselves while learning, all while making a meaningful contribution to their local hospital."*

The George Eliot Hospital Charity and the hospital staff expressed their heartfelt gratitude for the school's generosity and community spirit.

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# Improving Nuneaton Schools for Vulnerable Learners

**Vulnerable learners across Nuneaton are to be supported by a considerable investment of £80,000.**

Following consultation with headteachers and stakeholders, the Nuneaton Education Alliance, a group created to improve educational attainment in the town, identified key areas of need and developed a support package for the 2024/25 academic year.

This package focuses on improving pupil outcomes within all Nuneaton schools, while also prioritising staff well-being.

The funding is being used to enhance support for behaviour, attendance, and transitions for vulnerable pupils in both primary and secondary schools to support a range of initiatives, including:

## **Targeted training for school staff:**

CPD sessions are focusing on developing strategies for positive behaviour support, improving attendance, and effectively supporting pupils with sensory processing difficulties.

## **Capacity-building bundle:**

A program designed to develop positive behaviour support coaches to share across schools, fostering a sustainable approach to improving behaviour.

## **Improved Transition Support:**

Initiatives aimed at creating smoother transitions for vulnerable learners between primary and secondary school.

*“Supporting vulnerable learners is a top priority for Warwickshire County Council,” said Cllr Kam Kaur, Portfolio Holder for Education. “We have listened to the concerns and ideas for improvement raised by headteachers in Nuneaton and have developed*



*a targeted package of support, guided by their expertise and day to day experience, that will make a real difference to the lives of these young people.”*

The impact of these initiatives will be measured in Autumn 2025 using attendance and exclusion data, along with feedback from key stakeholders. It is hoped, this work will result in a reduction in exclusions, improved staff well-being, and ultimately, better outcomes for all pupils across Nuneaton.

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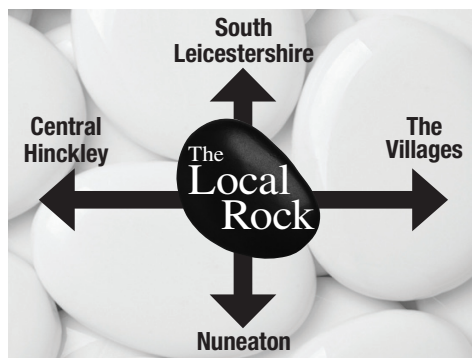


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# Cemetery Reaches Capacity

Nuneaton's Oaston Road Cemetery is full, funeral directors in the borough have been informed.

The remaining lawn section grave spaces at Oaston Road Cemetery have now been allocated.

Funeral directors will now guide bereaved families accordingly with alternative burial space available at another cemetery in the borough.

The borough offers alternative burial sites to serve community needs with the Council managing a cemetery with available burial plots at Marston Lane Cemetery in Bedworth.

However, cremation plots remain available at Oaston Road Cemetery.

Cllr Tim Jenkins, Portfolio Holder for Leisure, Communities and Health, said: *"While Oaston Road Cemetery is approaching its capacity, we want to reassure our residents that there is alternative burial space available within the borough at Marston Lane Cemetery in Bedworth."*

*"All cemeteries in the borough offer dignified resting places for loved ones."*

*"We encourage families and funeral directors to consider this should the need sadly arise."*

Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council says it



remains committed to providing respectful and accessible resting places for deceased people in the borough.



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# Repair Works at Pingles

Swimmers and users of the Pingles Leisure Centre are likely to face some disruption in coming weeks as repair works are carried out.

Following initial investigation works, the next steps to repair the steel columns in the leisure water area at Pingles Leisure Centre have begun.

These works have meant the leisure pool being drained in order for a contractor to undertake a propping solution and arrange for an ultrasound to be carried out on the steel columns to assess the level of repair work required.

Following the ultrasound assessment, the relevant repair works to the steel columns will commence along with any additional maintenance repairs required to the pool.

In order to carry out the repair work safely, temporary propping will be erected to support the area. It is estimated that the temporary propping will be installed in late March or early April.

Additional foundation investigation works have also been carried out externally to the leisure pool area, involving some digging into the ground to assess the foundations.

The smaller leisure pool area will remain closed, and access will remain restricted as it is currently to part of the gym space until this work has been completed.

The main pool, gym and studio services will continue exactly how they are currently running, all of which are available to book online. It is not anticipated that there will be any further disruption to these facilities during the time of these ongoing works.

Cllr Tim Jenkins, Portfolio Holder for Leisure, Communities and Health, said: “We apologise for any inconvenience caused. I’m sure the public will understand the necessary



requirement that this work is carried out with efficiency and accuracy to ensure the safety of everyone working at or using the centre, and for that we thank you for your patience whilst we carry out these repairs.”

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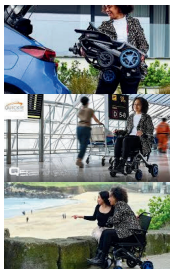
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# Easter Fayre for Nuneaton Mencap

Nuneaton Mencap will hold its Easter Fayre on Saturday 29 March from 11am until 1pm.

Taking place at the Nuneaton Mencap Centre, at Chetwynd House, The Parade (off Prince' Trust) CV11 5NR, the event will feature all of the traditional attractions.

There will be bric-a-brac, tombola, raffles, lucky dip, table top sales and more.

You can also go along and enjoy homemade food, bacon rolls and delicious cakes.

Nuneaton, Bedworth and District Mencap Society is a registered Charity, affiliated to Royal Mencap.

The objectives of the society are to provide and support people with a learning disabilities, their families, dependants and carers and to provide or assist in the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time activities, for people who are members of the society who have a learning



disability, with the object of improving their quality of life, in line with their ability.

Eligibility is for people with a learning disability of all ages.

Senior Group activities include Evening Keep Fit Groups, Cookery Classes, Art Classes, Bingo Sessions and Disco/Games.

All profits from the Easter Fayre will go towards the self-funding charity (Charity No: 244346).



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# Fighting Fly-Tipping

An anti-fly-tipping campaign has been launched in Nuneaton to help residents avoid falling foul of unlicensed waste carriers and crack down on offenders.

Fly-tipping is a criminal offence punishable by a fine of up to £50,000 or 12 months imprisonment if convicted in a Magistrates' Court. The offence can increase to an unlimited fine and up to five years imprisonment if convicted in Crown Court.

The Council is aware that several residents are using social media platforms with best intentions to find somebody to remove their waste. However, if the person(s) collecting your waste then fly tips it, the household that the waste belongs to could face the penalties.

When fly-tipping is found, the Council's Environmental Enforcement team will investigate the waste to look for indication as to who may have dumped it or where it came from, and both parties can be held liable.

It is important to ensure that any person collecting your waste holds a Waste Carriers License, this can be checked by visiting the Environment Agency's website.

To avoid being caught out by unlicensed waste collectors, residents can make use of the Council's own bulky waste collection scheme.

It is estimated that littering and fly-tipping costs



the authority more than £1million a year to clean up, and to clamp down on incurring these costs, it is important that fly-tipping is reported, so as the offenders can be held responsible and penalised.

Follow the SCRAP code to avoid being caught out:

**S** – Suspect all waste carriers. Do not allow your waste to be collected until you know the collector is legitimate

**C** – Check that the waste carrier is registered

**R** – Refuse any unexpected offers to remove your waste

**A** – Ask what will happen to your waste. Ensure the waste will be disposed of responsibly

**P** – Paperwork must be obtained. Obtain an invoice for the waste removal. Do not pay cash to remove your trash. Pay by credit or with a debit card to provide a traceable link

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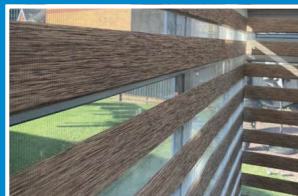
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# Plans for the First Services on the M69

Plans for the first services on the M69, by the A5 at Burbage, have been approved by one of the two councils required.

Welcome Break wants to create petrol stations, a main building with fast food, coffee and convenience shops, a gaming zone, seating, toilets and showers, and units for drive-through businesses to use.

Despite traffic concerns, Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council gave its blessing to the development, off the Stretton Baskerville Roundabout on the A5 at Burbage, at a meeting on 18 February.

The site, currently an unused former compound, sits on the border of Leicestershire and Warwickshire, so approval is also required from Rugby Borough Council.

Rugby council currently expects to rule on the plan by this month and the meeting heard the Warwickshire authority is set to approve the development “*shortly*”.

Welcome Break said the facility would create the equivalent of about 120 full-time jobs.

Businesses named in the plans include KFC, Starbucks, Burger King and Pret A Manger.

The services at junction 1 would have 272 car



parking spaces, picnic and dog walking facilities, and parking for HGVs, coaches, caravans and motorbikes.

These would include 37 charging stations for electric vehicles, Welcome Break said.

Some councillors expressed concerns over the impact on the A5.

The vote to approve the plans was almost unanimous, with only one councillor choosing to abstain.

The road, which links Leicester and Coventry, opened in 1977 but has never had a formal service station.

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