



Dear parents, children, staff, and parishioners,

What a wonderful end to our first week back after half term! Our children have had a fabulous day celebrating the wonderful world of books! This year's theme was 'Books can change the world' – each of the classes selected books with really thought-provoking messages, designed to promote conversation, debate and ignite curiosity and some important issues. Across the school, children have participated in some amazing creative activities to celebrate World Book Day.



Bookie Breakfast was a roaring success this morning – children loved tucking in to a scrumptious breakfast of cereals, fruit and pastries whilst listening to some brilliant stories. What a great way to start the day!



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Principal: Paul Madia



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## Walk with me Oh Lord.



### Lent 2023

On Monday, we made a wonderful, prayerful start to our Lent journey in school with our Lent Day. We began the day with a special mission where we reminded children of the significance of Lent and then discussed what we would 'Fast from' and 'Feast on' over the week. Together, we decided we would fast from unkind words and feast on kindness! Children then spent the day in prayer, receiving the ashes from Father Tony, writing Lenten promises and making Lent prayer bags.

Please remember to take the time to look at the Diocesan 'Walk With Me' calendar that the children brought home, for ideas on how to support their Lent journey every day. During Lent, we are all asked to pray more, repent, support charities and to give something up or do something extra. It would be wonderful to see all members of our school community showing support as we make an extra special effort during Lent.



### Lent Cake Sales

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March – Year 5 and Year 1  
Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March – Year 4 and Year 2  
Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March – Year 3 and Nursery

### Worker of the Week

Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
PE Days – Spring 2							
N/A	Monday	Thursday	Friday	Wednesday	Tuesday	Tuesday	Thursday
<b>Attendance: 94.7% Overall (total attendance for the week for the whole school) Our school target for this year is 97%.</b>							
94.2%	94.2%	96.7%	92.7%	97.8%	99.4% 😊	93.2%	97.2%
<b>House Point Winner</b>		N/A					
<b>Class Attendance Winner</b>		3H Mrs O'Connor & Miss Gibson 😊					



### Romero Spelling Bee

Next week, we will be creating a buzzzzzz about spelling as we hold our Romero Spelling Bee competition! The Sacred Heart year group competition will take place on Monday and then the 4 winning children from each year group will compete head to head against other schools in Romero to be crowned champion Queen or King Bee! Spellings were sent out via arbor at the start of half term – we hope you've been practising!

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### Movies and Munchies

Our Movies and Munchies evening has had to be postponed. We will send out a new date via arbor.

### School Council Cake Sale

I wanted to share a lovely letter that we have received from the Red Cross, following our School Council Cake Sale before half term. Well done to our brilliant School Council and all those, who supported the event – you should feel very proud of yourselves children.

Dear Sacred Heart Pupils

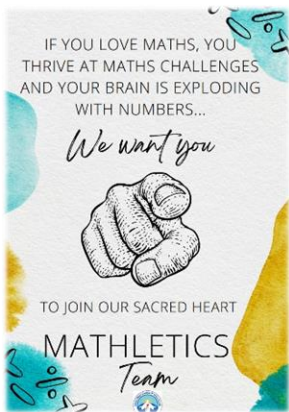
I wanted to say a huge thank you for your £116.00 gift to our Turkey-Syria Earthquake appeal.

The scale of this catastrophe is almost unimaginable, and the challenges our teams are facing are no less extreme. But support like this, from you, is a reminder that in times of crisis we see the very best of people.

As more information comes in about the situation and what our teams are doing, we'll provide updates on our website and by email. In the meantime, you can keep an eye on our social media channels for the latest.

Thank you again

British Red Cross



### Mathletics Team

Mrs Davies and Miss Gibson are looking for mathematicians, who love a challenge, to join their Mathletics Team. This is a fantastic opportunity for children to be involved in promoting maths in their year group, whilst also challenging themselves and developing their own math's skills. If you are interested in joining the team, then please let your class teacher know.

### Parking reminder

Please can I continue to ask that parents are considerate when parking to collect children from school and mindful of the residents of Brays Lane. Residents have mentioned that a number of parents are still parking well in advance of 3:20pm – some as early as 2:30pm. Please can I request that this doesn't happen as it directly impacts residents ability to park outside their houses. Please can you also ensure that engines are switched off when you are parked as leaving engines running creates unnecessary pollution and affects the air quality of our area. Many thanks for your cooperation with these issues.

**Reading at home with your child is the BEST thing you can do to support their learning.** Please try and spend at least **10 minutes** a night hearing your child read and sharing stories. Good readers make good writers and helps to improve children's imagination, creativity and knowledge of the world. We would love for you to share your favourite books with us! Why not put a review of your favourite book on the school reading padlet? Let's share our love of books with each other and give some recommendations to our friends. To access the padlet, please scan the QR code or follow the padlet link. <https://padlet.com/mtaggart4/115cpcoorjckyh4h>



[Year 1 parents are invited to join us for a story time on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm](#)

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**Year 3 Gymnastics Team**

This week, 16 of our Year 3 children represented the school at a 'Your School Games' competition at Tribe: Cheer, Dance & Fitness Club. The children have been working hard for months to perfect their floor and vault routines which they all performed with amazing confidence. We're incredibly proud of them all and we can't wait to hear how they've scored very soon. Well done Team SH #Romerothrives



**British Dodgeball Competition**

On Monday, we took two teams, the Sacred Heart Warriors and Lions, to compete in the West Midlands heats of the British dodgeball primary school championships. Both teams were incredible and represented the school with skill, resilience and teamwork. They had a highly competitive day and they came away with the amazing result of 3rd and 4th!

Well done Team SH

[#romerothrives](#)



**Teacher Training Day – Friday 3rd March 2023**

A reminder that school will be closed to pupils tomorrow - Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March - as we have a Romero Staff Training Day.

Week at a glance

Date	Time	Activity
<b>Value and Virtue – Learned and Wise</b>		
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	All Day	Guitar Lessons
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	All Day All Day Morning Morning Morning Afternoon	Piano and violin lessons Great Big Dance Off Regional Heat – Dance Team Drumming lessons Y1 and Y5 Cake Sale Y5 Rowing Competition Stay Safe Speak Out NSPCC assembly Key Stage 1
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	9:00am Afternoon	Lent Mass Key Stage 2 (in school) Rowing competition
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	9:00am 9:00am Morning	Year 2 to Mass Stay Safe Speak Out NSPCC assembly Key Stage 2 Romero Spelling Bee Year 1-3
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	9:00am Morning	Parent Prayer time Romero Spelling Bee Year 4-6

I hope you have a wonderful weekend.

Mrs R Ellis  
Head of School

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Issue 23:  
Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup>  
March 2023



# EXTREME READING COMPETITION

Take a photo reading somewhere unusual  
and send to Mrs Ellis  
[r.ellis@romeromac.com](mailto:r.ellis@romeromac.com)



Entries submitted by Monday 20th March. Winning entries  
will be announced in Achievement Awards

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SACRED HEART'S

*Spring 2  
P.E*

**RECEPTION**  
MONDAYS  
*Ball Skills*



**YEAR 1**  
THURSDAYS  
*Dance &  
Hickball*



**YEAR 2**  
FRIDAYS  
*Hickball &  
Athletics*



**YEAR 3**  
WEDNESDAYS  
*Athletics - Mag 7  
& Cricket*



**YEAR 4**  
TUESDAYS  
*Speed Stacking  
& Cricket*



**YEAR 5**  
TUESDAYS  
*Gymnastics  
& Cricket*



**YEAR 6**  
THURSDAYS  
*Dance  
& Tag Rugby*



SCAN ONE OF THE QR CODES ABOVE TO SEE YOUR CHILD'S P.E PADLET PAGE. HERE YOU CAN SEE PHOTOS/VIDEOS OF THEIR LEARNING, THEIR SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS & THEIR SKILLS/VALUES LEARNING JOURNEYS.

PLEASE SEND YOUR CHILD IN WEARING THEIR P.E KIT WITH NO EARRINGS IN ON THEIR P.E DAYS.



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*Issue 23:  
Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup>  
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**WIN AN  
IPHONE 14  
PRO 128GB**  
**WORTH OVER £1000**

+



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**Sleep Tight Workshop for parents/carers of children aged 1 year and over**

There are two sessions available:

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> April 9:30-11:30 a.m.

or

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June 12:30-2:30 p.m.

Sessions will be delivered virtually on Microsoft Teams



Sleep issues are common for children and young people and can have a huge impact on the quality of family life. This two-hour workshop looks at the importance of sleep, understanding sleep cycles, causes of sleep issues and what you can do to support your child to sleep better.

This session will be delivered by a parenting practitioner who has been trained by The National Sleep Charity.

To book your place on a workshop email:

[parenting@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:parenting@coventry.gov.uk)

Please include the following details in your email:

Your name, address, postcode, age of child and child's name, name of any professionals supporting you. e.g., health visitor, family worker, social worker, school nurse, parents email address and your preferred workshop date

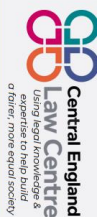






**ARE YOU STRUGGLING  
WITH THE COST OF LIVING?**

We are in a cost-of-living emergency. Energy prices are soaring, cost of food is rising, unemployment is high and lots of people are still struggling with the lasting effects of Covid on health and wellbeing. But help is available.



**Are you running out of money each month?**

- Are you receiving the National Minimum Wage? **Check the rates:** [gov.uk/government/publications/minimum-wage-rates-for-2022](http://gov.uk/government/publications/minimum-wage-rates-for-2022)
- For further help & support: [centralenglandlc.org.uk/coventry-employment](http://centralenglandlc.org.uk/coventry-employment)
- Did you know if you are on a low income you are probably entitled to Universal Credit to top up your wages? Depending on your circumstances Universal Credit can help pay for additional things like paying your rent or cost of raising children.
- Check if you can get Universal Credit:** [gov.uk/universal-credit](http://gov.uk/universal-credit)
- If you are already receiving Universal Credit but are still struggling you may be missing some elements you are entitled to. On top of the standard allowance, a person might get additional allowances including child element, childcare costs element, limited capability for work-related activity element (LCWRA), carer element, housing costs element. Seek specialist help from Coventry Independent Advice Services: 024 7652 1101
- Anyone experiencing ill health or disability or caring for a child or adult will be entitled to extra money on top of Universal Credit. **Have a look at** [gov.uk/browse/benefits](http://gov.uk/browse/benefits)

**Do you struggle to pay your rent?**

- In order to receive the housing element of Universal Credit you need to enter your housing costs and check the box. Sometimes this is missed. **Check to see if you receive this on your Universal Credit account**
- If you are subject to bedroom tax, benefits cap, sanctions or a shortfall in your rent then you should get specialist help to look over your claim and entitlements and you may be entitled to a Discretionary Housing Payment (DHP). **Contact the Local Authority: 024 7683 3773** [DCATeam@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:DCATeam@coventry.gov.uk)
- If you have been issued with court papers because of rent arrears then Central England Law Centres Housing solicitors can help. **Contact the Law Centre:** 02476 223 053 [housingenquiries@centralenglandlc.org.uk](mailto:housingenquiries@centralenglandlc.org.uk)

**Do you need help with your council tax?**

- Everybody can request to have their council tax spread over twelve months instead of ten, which reduces your monthly bill. **Contact your Local Authority: 024 7683 1111** [counciltax@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:counciltax@coventry.gov.uk)
- This year (2022), people that are in council tax bands A-D will be given £150 rebate. **The council will contact those that are eligible**
- People living on low income and/or benefits like Universal Credit or Job Seeker's Allowance, can get their council tax bill significantly reduced by applying for Council Tax Support. **Contact your Local Authority to see if you are eligible:** [benefits@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:benefits@coventry.gov.uk)

**Do you need help reducing your outgoings?**

- Social Supermarkets offer heavily discounted food parcels, typically about £20 worth of food for a cost of a £5 membership. **Find your nearest hub:** [letsalk.coventry.gov.uk/social-supermarkets](http://letsalk.coventry.gov.uk/social-supermarkets)
- If you have school-age children, you might be entitled to free school meals or Healthy Start vouchers. **Contact your Local Authority to find out if you are eligible:** 024 7683 3773/ [freeshoolmeals@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:freeshoolmeals@coventry.gov.uk)
- Additional help for toiletries, cleaning products, clothing and shoes is available locally. **Contact Clothing Coventry:** [clothingcoventry.org](http://clothingcoventry.org); **The Boot Fund:** [childrenshoofund.org.uk](http://childrenshoofund.org.uk); **Bare Necessities bare-necessities.org.uk**
- Lots of people are struggling to pay their energy bills. Let your supplier know you are struggling. **Contact the Warm and Safe Homes Advice line: 0800 304 7159.** **Contact the Local Authority and ask for support via the Household Support Fund: 08085 834 333**
- Check to see if you are eligible for any help with your water bill. **Call Severn Trent on 0545 7500 500**
- If you are in receipt of Universal Credit and struggling you may be able to cut your broadband costs by asking to be placed onto a social tariff. **Contact your provider**
- Coventry Foodbank offer free support to local people in crisis. **Contact Coventry Foodbank directly: 024 7699 3770**

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## Help with Budgeting and the Cost of Living



Coventry Independent  
Advice Service

- Check if you're entitled to benefits (even if you're working) and check they are correct
- **Council Tax**  
Have you claimed Council Tax Support?  
Are you entitled to a Discount/Exemption?  
No money to pay? Ask for a discretionary council tax reduction.
- Struggling to afford food, fuel, clothing – Contact/apply to the Council Household Support Fund Tel: 08085 834333 (or online)
- Disability in the family? Have you claimed PIP/DLA/AA?
- **Rent Arrears/Bedroom Tax?** – You may be eligible for a Discretionary Housing Payment (DHP)
- **Water Bill** – Ask about the Big Difference Scheme
- Deductions from Benefits or paying debts before essentials? Get Advice!
- **Gas/Electric Costs**  
Contact supplier /ask about Priority Services register.  
Get Energy Efficiency Advice for ways to reduce usage.  
Ensure meter readings are up to date.  
Get Advice about Grants and Trust Funds and Paying Fuel Debt.
- Do a budget of income/outgoings – this helps you see where you might be able to make changes – see over >>>
- Are there items on your budget that are not essential that you can reduce?

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Coventry Independent Advice Service is a registered charity (1015216) and is regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (628958) Updated 01.07.22



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## Budget Sheet

(if you have access to the internet we would strongly recommend using a trusted budget planner e.g. <https://tools.nationaldebtline.org/yourbudget/> or <https://www.moneyhelper.org.uk/en/everyday-money/budgeting/budget-planner>)

Income	pw/pm	Type of debt	Balance	Payments
Wages/salary	£	Rent/Mortgage	£	£
Wages/salary (partner)	£	Council Tax	£	£
Universal Credit	£	Electric	£	£
JSA/ESA/IS	£	Gas	£	£
Tax Credits	£	Fines	£	£
Child Benefit	£	Benefit Overpayment	£	£
Disability Benefits	£	Advance /Social Fund	£	£
Carers Allowance	£	Other-	£	£
Council Tax Support	£	Other -	£	£
Other Benefits -	£	Other -	£	£
Pensions	£	Other-	£	£
Pension Credit	£	Other -	£	£
Other Income	£	Other-	£	£
Other income	£	Other-	£	£
<b>Total income</b>	£	<b>Total Priority Debt</b>	£	£

Outgoings		Non-Priority Debt		
Rent /Mortgage	£	(e.g. credit cars, store card, loans)		
Council Tax	£	Creditor	Balance	Payments
TV licence/rental	£		£	£
Gas	£		£	£
Electricity	£		£	£
Water	£		£	£
Food/Groceries	£		£	£
Public Transport	£		£	£
HP Vehicle	£			
Car /Vehicle costs	£			
School Costs (uniform /clubs)	£			
Clothing	£			
Phone, Internet	£	<b>Total Priority Debt</b>		
Mobile Phone	£			
Personal Care /Toiletries	£			
Other	£			
Other	£			
<b>Total outgoings</b>	£			



Coventry Independent  
Advice Service

## Contacts

### Debt & Welfare Benefits

Coventry Independent Advice Service 024 7652 1101 Coventry Citizen's Advice 0800 144 8848  
National Debtline 0808 808 4000 Payplan 0800 280 2816 Step Change 0800 138 1111 Turn2Us 0808 802 2000

### Coventry City Council

Household Support Fund 08085 834333 Discretionary Housing Benefit 024 7683 3773  
Benefits 024 7683 1800 Council Tax 024 7683 1111 Homeless advice service 024 7683 4025

### Housing

Coventry Law Centre (court proceedings and representation) 02476 223 053  
P3 Housing Support 0808 196 2660. Homefinder 02476834024. Homeless advice service 024 7683 4025

### Fuel /Water

Severn Trent (Big Difference Scheme) 0345 7500 500  
Act on Energy 0800 988 2881 National Energy Action 0800 304 7159

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## **Cost of Living One Minute Guide Information: Fuel Support:**

### **1. Apply for a Household support grant**

<https://www.coventry.gov.uk/householdsupportfund>

This fund is designed to be used to support households in the most need particularly those including children and pensioners who would otherwise struggle with energy bills, food and water bills.

- support with food
- heating/lighting repairs
- essential items such as sanitary products
- to pay for energy bills such as gas, electricity, oil and water/sewerage bills
- to purchase essential household items like fridges, freezers and ovens
- provide wider household support not linked to energy and water
- In cases of genuine emergency where existing housing support schemes do not meet this exceptional need, the fund can be used to support housing costs. Eligibility for Discretionary Housing Payments (DHPs) must first be considered along with whether the claimant is at statutory risk of homelessness and therefore owed a duty of support through the Homelessness Prevention Grant (HPG) These avenues of support must be exhausted before emergency housing support from the Household Support fund will be considered.

**2. Talk to your landlord**, especially if you are in a social tenancy (e.g. Citizen, Midland Heart etc) and ask them what support they have available for fuel support and emergency fuel provision this winter.

**3. Contact your supplier** if you are struggling to pay your energy, water or gas bill as soon as you are able. Ask them about Priority Services register, Energy Company Obligation (ECO Scheme), Warm House Discount Scheme, emergency energy, changing tariffs or additional entitlements.

Priority Services Register scheme: This scheme provides extra help and additional support during a power cut or disruption to energy services.

Eligible if they:

- have children 5 years old or younger living in the home
- are of pension age
- are disabled or chronically sick
- have a long-term medical condition
- have a hearing or visual impairment or additional communication needs
- are pregnant
- are experiencing bereavement
- are a young homeowner
- are in a vulnerable situation



Severn Trent Water Priority Register: <https://www.stwater.co.uk/my-account/help-when-you-need-it/help-with-a-medical-condition-or-disability/>

Energy Company Obligation (ECO Scheme): This scheme is to improve the ability of low-income, fuel-poor and vulnerable households to heat their homes, this could include installing insulation or an improved heating system.

Eligibility:

- Receive energy from one of these suppliers: <https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/eco-supplier-contact-details>
- Be in receipt of an eligible benefit: <https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/environmental-and-social-schemes/energy-company-obligation-eco/homeowners-and-tenants>

Other things you could do:

- Ensure meter readings are up to date.
- Get Energy Efficiency Advice for ways to reduce usage.
- Get Advice about Grants and Trust Funds and Paying Fuel Debt.

Warm Home Discount Scheme: <https://www.gov.uk/the-warm-home-discount-scheme>

Cold Weather Payments: You are eligible if you are getting benefits or support for mortgage interest. You can get a payment of £25 if the average temperature in your area is recorded as, or forecast to be, zero degrees Celsius or below over 7 consecutive days. |

**One Cold Weather Payment is due in Coventry because of the temperatures in December.**

<https://www.gov.uk/cold-weather-payment>

Winter Fuel Payments: People born before 26 September 1956 you could get between £250 and £600 to help you pay your heating bills.

<https://www.gov.uk/winter-fuel-payment>

#### **4. Get Advice and Support:**

**Contact Citizens Advice Power Up project:**

<https://www.coventrycitizensadvice.org.uk/project/power-up/>

The Power Up project aims to help people living in the Western Power Distribution region out of fuel poverty by offering energy advice, help with managing fuel debt, energy saving and ways to reducing energy bills by switching suppliers or finding a better tariff. They can also provide free and independent consumer advice on a wide range of issues including energy use.

Website: <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/energy/energy-supply/>

Contact number: 02476 253 190 or 024 7622 3284 (advice line)

Email [WPD@coventrycanb.org.uk](mailto:WPD@coventrycanb.org.uk)



### **Coventry Independent Advice Service: also provide session in the Family Hubs**

Website: <https://covadvice.org.uk/cost-of-living-crisis/>

Contact number: 024 7652 1101

Advice enquiry form: <https://covadvice.org.uk/advice-enquiry-form/>

**Groundworks – Green Doctor:** Groundworks are now able to issue fuel vouchers to households who are struggling with the costs of gas and electric (£49 for a family, £24 for an individual).

- The Green Doctor project will:
  - Phone consultation with possible follow up visit if necessary (dependant on COVID-19 guidelines)
  - Energy Price comparison check
  - Energy efficiency check-up and advice
  - Supply FREE energy saving measure for people's homes including LED bulbs, Radiator reflector panels, Draught proofing, CO monitors, Room thermometers, Blankets, Hot water bottles, Emergency heaters

Contact number: 0121 530 5516

Contact email: [wmgreendoctor@groundwork.org.uk](mailto:wmgreendoctor@groundwork.org.uk)

### **National Energy Action:**

- The Coventry HEAT team provides FREE help, support and advice on keeping your home warm and healthy. They can give you bespoke, confidential advice over the phone or visit you in your home, working holistically to help deliver solutions to the often multiple problems faced by individuals.
- **Please phone and make an appointment:** Call 0800 304 7159 for Energy Advice, Monday to Friday 10.00 am-12.00 noon, 0800 138 8218 for benefits advice

**Scope - Disability Energy Support:** Charity offering free energy advice to disabled people

Website: <https://www.scope.org.uk/campaigns/cost-of-living-crisis/>

Contact number: 0808 800 3333

Contact email: [helpline@scope.org.uk](mailto:helpline@scope.org.uk)

**Energy Saving Trust:** Advice on saving money in your home through energy-saving tips and home improvements.

Website: <https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/>

### **Funding and Grants:**

**Act on Energy:** Keeping Coventry Warm provides funding for:

- External wall insulation



- Cavity wall insulation
- First time gas central heating
- Broken boiler replacement
- Inefficient gas boiler
- Loft insulation
- Upgrade or repair of electric storage heaters available to households who are owner-occupiers or private renters who meet the health, income, and savings criteria.

**Warm Home West Midlands:** Energy saving advice, Energy saving measures, Income maximisation advice. Contact number: 0808 196 8298

**The Energy Company Obligation (ECO)** is a government energy efficiency scheme in Great Britain to help reduce carbon emissions and tackle fuel poverty. It can provide funding for insulation and broken or inefficient heating systems. Available for people who claim some household benefits.

**The Big Difference Scheme:** Severn Trent Water can offer a reduction of water bills to any Severn Trent customer with a household income below £18,278.

<https://www.stwater.co.uk/my-account/help-when-you-need-it/help-with-paying-your-bill/big-difference-scheme/>

**WaterSure Bill Cap Scheme:** To get help through WaterSure you must be a Severn Trent customer, have a water meter and receive eligible benefits.

You must also have either:

- a) three or more children under 19 living with you, or
- b) a medical condition requiring the extra use of water

<https://www.stwater.co.uk/my-account/help-when-you-need-it/help-with-paying-your-bill/watersure-scheme/>

### **Warm Spaces:**

Many venues across Coventry are providing Warm Spaces open to everyone who may need it. The full list and a map of venues can be found here:

<https://www.coventry.gov.uk/directory/search?directoryID=115&showInMap=1&keywords=coventry&postcode=&search=Search>

Venues include:

- Family Hubs
- Churches
- Libraries

**If the children are at risk of harm, or parents are not able to heat their home and provide hot food and warmth today please use Section 17 funding to pay for food, top up fuel voucher etc.**