

30th September 2022



# Bassingbourn Community Primary School Newsletter

[www.bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk](http://www.bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk)

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Dear Parents/Carers,

The mornings seem to be getting darker, the evenings shorter and the temperature has most certainly dropped. Despite all of this, we have been impressed with how the children have settled in to their new year groups and new routines, showing a willingness to learn and achieve. It has been really positive seeing the children's enthusiasm for learning whilst spending time in classrooms and I've really enjoyed hearing many of them talk about how they are challenging themselves and wanting to progress. We are also very proud of the wonderful manners and polite nature the children are showing both in the mornings when arriving at school and also around the school building.

This week, EYFS have been using the book 'The Colour Monster' to name feelings and learn friendship skills. Children have been helping each other across their self-made obstacle course outside and cheering each other on when they have completed this by themselves. We have been making cards and messages for each other at the message centre as well as sharing and collaborating our ideas in the small world area. It is humbling to see all children making an effort to be kind and be friends with everyone around them. It just shows that kindness and friendship have no limit.



In Year 2, we have been enjoying exploring the portrait styles of different artists including Andy Warhol, Picasso and Klimt during our art lessons. We have drawn our own self portraits, created pop art and have made our own abstract portraits using collage.



In Science, Year 5 have been learning about life cycles of animals and plants. This week, we have examined the plants in great detail to find all of their reproductive parts; we are using this information to create artistic records of each part of the flower.

In Year 6, we have been learning about what components are in our blood as part of our animals including humans science topic. We made models of blood using yellow liquid to represent plasma, salt to represent salt and other nutrients. We've also used red cheerios to represent red blood cells, mini marshmallows to represent white blood cells and sprinkles to represent Platelets.



Mr Sweeney

## DATES

*PLEASE NOTE DATES MAY  
BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE  
DEPENDING ON  
GOVERNMENTAL  
GUIDANCE*

- 3rd - 7th - Literacy Festival**
- 6th - Autumn Census/ Menu Change**
- 6th - Black History Month - Dance Workshop**
- 10th - EYFS Open Morning for prospective parents 9.30 - 10.15am**
- 11th - Black History Month - Storytelling workshop**
- 11th - FOBS Annual General Meeting at 7.00pm**
- 12th - Year 6 Duxford Trip**
- 13th - EYFS Open Afternoon for prospective parents 13.45 - 15.15pm**
- 17th - Friendship run**
- 18th - EYFS Open Morning for prospective parents 9.30 - 10.15**
- 18th - Black History Month - Drumming workshop**
- 18th - Y5 & Y6 girls football at Impington Village College 9-3pm**
- 19th - Harvest Festival for KS1**
- 20th - Diwali - Stories and traditions session**
- 20th - EYFS Open Twilight for prospective parents -**

## Headteacher's Awards



Mason W, Franklin S, Sophie R, Joey K, Zoya D, Tansy C, Indiana L, Henry M, Bailey R, Elliot W, Demi-Rose R, George I, Frankie R, Reggie L, Nicholas B, Grace F, Hattie B, Oscar W, Amber C, Lily-Rose N, Ella K



### **School Development**

All the teaching staff at Bassingbourn have been working hard to promote a passion for reading among the children. We have refreshed our school library. Each class has a weekly visit to spend time discovering new books. They also listen to an adult or friend read, and discuss their book choices. As you will see from the pupil voice, the children are really enjoying this time!

We have also made changes to the focus of reading within class, a greater importance is being placed on children learning to read fluently during our reading sessions in class. This means that they are reading with a conversational pace, using the punctuation to know when to pause and how to use expression to enhance their reading. Adults are modelling this to children and explaining the importance of fluency.

At home, you can help with this too. When your child is reading to you, if they get to the end of a sentence and they have sounded out any of the words or lacked expression, encourage them to read it again. They may need to read the same sentence a few times before they can read it through without hesitating. You may only end up reading one page or one paragraph with them. This will have a huge impact though.

Next week, we are taking part in the Henley Literary Festival where each class will have a virtual session with an author. We are all very excited. Please talk to your children about this and ask them about the author they have met and which of their books they have learnt about.

#### **Pupil Voice:**

We have spoken to a number of children about reading for pleasure within school. There was a lot of enthusiasm and excitement from the children:

- 'I love reading, especially with my younger brother!'
- 'The library is amazing. There are lots of new books to read and loads of comfy cushions and seats, it's a great place to read'
- 'I love reading at school, I've already read about dinosaurs and superheroes! I like reading about lots of different things and there's lots in the library so I can do this.'

#### **A Parking Plea:**

In the mornings, please can you ensure that the drop off bays are not used for parking when taking children to their classes? It is becoming difficult for those who need to use them for their intended purpose.

### **Census day lunchtime menu:**



Next Thursday, 6th October, we have an exciting change to our menu and hope many of the children will join us for school dinners that day. The menu for Thursday is:



Burger & Wedges  
Mac 'n' Cheese  
Chocolate Pudding



plus

Cheese Roll  
Jacket Potato



### **Safeguarding**

We have been discussing with the children in assemblies the importance of our visitor lanyard system in school. If a visitor holds a valid DBS check and certificate, they will be wearing a blue lanyard and could be visiting for a range of purposes but would be able to work with the children. If a visitor does not hold a DBS certificate, they will be wearing a red lanyard and will be accompanied by a member of staff. We have reiterated to all children that if they see someone with a red lanyard without a member of staff with them, they should tell a trusted adult immediately.

#### **Volunteer update:**

We are currently in the process of recruiting volunteers to work with children in school, accompany on trips or to support the school in other ways.. Any volunteers or visitors who are willing to work with children in any of these unsupervised roles will require a DBS check. If you believe you could support or offer some time to volunteer, please let the office know and we can start the DBS process.

### **We need you!**

We are extremely grateful to FOBS who contribute to supporting school life here at BCPS. If you believe you would be able to support them in their vital work, please speak to a current member of the committee or join them at their AGM on the 11th October from 7pm.

### **Attendance**

Congratulations to the following classes for the highest attendance since the last newsletter:

Dolphins 100% & Orcas 100%

Dolphins 100%

Dolphins 97.92%

### **School Contacts**

School Office: [office@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:office@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk)  
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