



01st December 2023



Bassingbourn
Community Primary School

Bassingbourn Community Primary School Newsletter

www.bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk

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Tel: 01763 242460

Dear Parents / Carers

Our countdown to Christmas in school has begun! This month promises to be full of engaging festive-themed learning and enrichment opportunities. One of the events we are most looking forward to is our whole-school trip to the panto this year! With support from Cambridgeshire Theatre, FOBs and our own school funds put aside we have been able to bring down the cost to parents significantly compared to what we know other schools are paying! We look forward to sharing photos with you on X and Tapestry.

The Reception children had a wonderful trip to Audley End on Tuesday 21st November. They had such an exciting day taking the Christmas train to visit Father Christmas and his elves! This linked to their topic transport in which they have been creating train pictures using 2D shapes and exploring all of the different types of transport in our world.

Year 1 have been really enjoying their 'Celebrations' topic! They have learned about celebrations from all over the world, including Bonfire Night, Diwali, Eid and Thanksgiving. They have created some fantastic rangoli patterns and some interesting mendhi decorations. They very much enjoyed taking part in the colour run! They are also looking forward to starting their work about Christmas soon!

Year 2 have travelled back in time to 1066 and the Great Fire of London. They have been using their senses and imagination to describe how it would have felt to be surrounded by the fire. This has formed part of both English and History learning.

Year 3 have drawn Julian the mouse this week by watching a step-by-step video from the author Joe Todd-Stanton. They then used this as inspiration for their writing.

Year 4 have been continuing our writing by exploring recounts. Using both diaries and letters, we have learnt how to write in the past tense. In DT, we have used Crumble units to code and control sparkles (lights) and motors. We aim to build Christmas decorations to go on the motors, which we will control using the Crumble unit.

Year 5 have been exploring language features used in information texts. They have read a piece of writing about a 'Rhi-swano-zeb-tah'. In maths, they have drawn place value grids on the desks and used these to support their learning of multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000. In history, as part of Remembrance Day, they explored the profiles of local soldiers who fought in WW1. The children enjoyed finding out about these men and have shared stories and books about their own family's history.

Year 6 have built an Anderson shelter, the children were all excited to see how it would have been put together, they then wrote their own set of instructions, carefully detailing the steps to build their own.

I would like to politely remind all parents that the bay at the front of school is a drop off zone only and drivers should not leave their cars unattended. This ensures our buses can arrive safely, without blocking other entrance or causing traffic to back up.

I wish you all a wonderful start to the festive period.

Mrs Coles

DATES

6th December
EYFS Nativity

7th December
Coffee morning—SEND
EYFS Nativity

8th December
Christmas Jumper Day
Y2 parents shared learning with
children

12th December
Bassingbourn Banquet

14th December
Whole school panto trip

15th December
Early Years, Y1 & Y2 Christmas
party

18th December
Y3 & Y4 Christmas party

19th December
Y5 & Y6 Christmas party
Carols at the church—Y1, 2 & 3

20th December
Christmas Lunch

21st December
Last day of term

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Headteacher's Awards



Yuvani, Lulu, Mason, George, Harry, Henry, Leo, Tansy, Max, Lily, Dotty, Daisy, Taysia, Jack, Francesca, Grace, Sophie, Florence, Rory, Bruno, Sayok, Marshall.





A message from FOBS

AGM and General meeting

In October, we held our Annual General Meeting, followed by our general meeting. We had a fantastic turn out, thank you to everyone that attend either in person or via zoom. The following members were elected.

Chair – Katy Cooper
Treasurer - Hazel Davies
Secretary – Faye Jerrey and Vice Secretary Hayley Chell.

This will be my final year as Chair, having held the position for a few years now. Without a chair role, it is difficult for a committee like FOBS to continue. The role has been very rewarding and has many transferable skills that can be used in the workplace. I have personally been able to develop my skills and role within the NHS thanks to being involved with FOBS.

The minutes and reports from October's meeting are available on our PTA Events website.

Date of next meeting 15th January 2024 – 7.30pm-9pm. Hybrid (In person in the activity hall or via Zoom)

WhatsApp group – Did you know that we have a chat group for our volunteers and those that can help in many other ways? If you would like to be added to this group (as we are always looking for active volunteers), please do get in touch by either email friendsbcps@gmail.com or by sending a message on our Facebook page – Friends BCPS

Whole school panto

FOBS are delighted that we could offer to pay for all the coaches to take pupils and staff to see the panto on the 14th December. This is all down to your continued support with our events. We hope that the children enjoy the panto and look forward to hearing all about it.

From Katy

Christmas Jumper Day

Each year we support Save the Children by encouraging staff and children to pay £1 in return for being able to wear a Christmas jumper. We would love to have as many people join us this year on 08th December.



Save the Children

£1 donations to be handed to the class teacher on the day.

Attendance

As a school, we have been working hard to improve attendance. We have a weekly attendance focus in our Monday assemblies and use a monopoly style game to enthuse the children. A big thank you from us for engaging so well with getting your children into school! The data (95.14%) shows we are heading in the right direction, as this term we are in line with National (95.30%).

Please be reminded that attendance expectations are 96%+. Attendance less than this will result in families receiving a letter or phone call to see if school can do anything to support with improving attendance. Lates can also result in an absent mark, so it is essential for children to arrive at school between 8.30-8.45 as registers close at 9.00am.

Let's keep up the great work together!

Pupil Voice

What helps you learn most in the classroom?

"The working walls in my classroom remind me about the tools I need," Eleanor.

"In English, the phonics reminders on the walls helps me sound out words that are tricky," James.

"Doing experiments in Science helps me understand my learning," Holly.

"Being shown different methods to help me with my maths helps me because I can choose the one I'm most confident in," Aaron.

"Having reading books to do with our topics helps me because they give me even more facts about our learning," Jasmine.

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In a recent pupil voice interview, School Council asked if KS2 children could be given larger school dinner portions.

#### **We listened!**

From 08th January 2024, all KS2 children having a school meal will be given a larger portion of food. Seconds will also be offered on a rotational basis.

### **School Development**

Over the coming days, please look out for a letter from the LA detailing some recent changes to our Full Governing Body. These changes relate to new governors voted in and details of governors who will be leaving us.

A school governing body are integral to the leadership and improvement of a school and we are currently seeking two co-opted governors. Co-opted governors, in the opinion of the governing board, have the skills and experience required to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school. If you feel you would be suitable for the role, please email [chair@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:chair@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk).

For further SEND related school updates, please attend our SEND coffee morning on Thursday 07th December at 9am.

### **Safeguarding**

Question: What platform do you imagine leaves our children open to one of the biggest risks of radicalisation and grooming?

Answer: ROBLOX!

There is no official age that kids can play Roblox, but [Common Sense Media](#) rates the platform safe for users 13+ "based on continuing challenges with problematic content. But Roblox is also potentially safe for kids younger than that if account restrictions are turned on, and parents pay close attention to their kids' activities on the platform."

[www.parents.com/kids/safety/internet/is-roblox-safe-for-kids/](https://www.parents.com/kids/safety/internet/is-roblox-safe-for-kids/)

You can access the security and privacy menus from the gear icon in the upper right hand corner and select settings. For further information, Roblox has created a parents guide, which can be accessed at <https://corp.roblox.com/parents>

### **School Contacts**

**School Office:** [office@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:office@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk)  
**Reception:** [rainbowfish@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:rainbowfish@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk)  
**Year 1:** [starfish@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:starfish@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk)  
**Year 2:** [swordfish@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:swordfish@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk)  
**Year 3:** [dolphins@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:dolphins@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk)  
**Year 4:** [seaotters@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:seaotters@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk)  
**Year 5:** [stingrays@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:stingrays@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk)  
**Year 6:** [octopus@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:octopus@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk)

**School Finance:** [finance@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:finance@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk)  
**Reception:** [sharks@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:sharks@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk)  
**Year 1:** [turtles@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:turtles@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk)  
**Year 2:** [seahorses@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:seahorses@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk)  
**Year 3:** [orcas@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:orcas@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk)  
**Year 4:** [penguins@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:penguins@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk)  
**Year 5:** [manatees@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:manatees@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk)  
**Year 6:** [narwhals@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:narwhals@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk)