



21st December 2023



Bassingbourn
Community Primary School

Bassingbourn Community Primary School Newsletter

www.bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk

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Dear Parents / Carers

We have reached the end of the term and so many wonderful things have taken place across school.

One of our highlights this term was taking over 300 pupils to see Mother Goose, at the Cambridge Arts Theatre. As you can imagine, this was a significant undertaking with 5 double decker buses booked for the event. We received glowing feedback from theatre staff and the general public regarding the behaviour of our children. Comments included, 'your children are a credit to you all. What a delight they have been!' and, 'You should be very proud of your school. The behaviour of your pupils today has been superb.' The children in school did us all proud too with their exemplary behaviour. Well done to all of them!

A huge thank you goes to staff for enabling this special trip to happen.

We have noticed a vast improvement in the safety in our drop-off zone during the mornings. **Thank you** to all parents and carers for working together with us on this and supporting us in making this a safe and easily accessible area for our school buses, cars and families on foot.

The school has been a hive of activity over the last several weeks. EYFS performed brilliantly in their Nativity. Year 1 have enjoyed baking Christmas biscuits and making their own tree decorations while Years 1-3 performed a series of carols at the Church this week.

Year 4 have had fun this half term developing their coding skills. They enjoyed programming lights and motors on their Crumble units. They used these in their Christmas winter wonderland to move and light the models they designed and created in DT. Year 5 children have been working on non-fiction writing in English over the last two weeks which began with Miss Simmons and Mrs Emery dressing in their grinch beards!

Our Year 6s have been just as busy designing a 'make do and mend' project, ranging from dresses to pillows and all made using repurposed materials. They have learnt new techniques along the way such as sewing a running and whip stitch.

Finally, on behalf of our whole staff team, I would like to thank you for your support during this term, particularly with the work you are doing at home to help your child develop their reading passion and skills. I wish you all a wonderful holiday and we look forward to welcoming you all back on Monday 8th January.

Mrs Coles

DATES

[Calendar - Bassingbourn Community Primary School](#)

8th January
Start of Spring 1

11th January
EYFS Phonics
information meeting
via Zoom

26th January
EYFS Breakfast & Read

01st February
Coffee Morning - School
Development Progress
Update

19th to 23rd February
Half Term

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Headteacher's Awards

Olive, James, Max, Sarah, Orla, Annabel, Sophie, Priya, Zack



School Development

Some parents requested more suggestions for home learning / homework. We listened! We are pleased to announce that we have purchased Timestable Rockstars accounts for all children in KS2. Access is currently being rolled out across all of these classes, with many already taking part in the challenges both in school and at home. We would very much appreciate your on-going support with this. Our team leaders and teachers will communicate further details once your child's year group has been set up with full access.

On 27th November 2023, we held a meeting for all parents/carers to ask questions regarding the letter you received from the Local Authority on 08th November 2023. Thank you for all questions submitted. A copy of these questions, the presentation and notes of responses given in the meeting can be found on [Parent Forum - Bassingbourn Community Primary School](#)

After working with teachers, Tas and our School Council, we have developed 5 Behaviour Expectations which will apply across the whole school. During Monday assemblies, the children select which 'Expectation' they would like the Headteachers Award to focus on next.

Here are all 5 of them:

*Manners matter. *Calm walking, should you be talking? *Take pride in ourselves. *Talking powers. *Stop. Listen. Respond.

We are currently focussing on Manners Matter. Our children have been supporting one another to say please, thank you, to hold doors open for others and to talk politely to one another. If your child already excels in this area or has been working hard to develop this, we would love to hear about this via Tapestry.

Staff Update

We say goodbye to Mrs Murphy, who was here supporting us on an interim basis only until we had recruited our new fully time deputy headteacher. Thank you Mrs Murphy for all you did through the autumn term with us.

We are very pleased to be welcoming Mr Fraser, our new Deputy, who joins us in January.

We also say goodbye to Mrs Hawkins, who leaves us after many years to work with slightly older children. Mrs Hawkins will be missed by all of us.

Harvest donations

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Harvest festival. The parish council sent this photo, along with a message to advise that this was only half the stock as they could not get any more on, needless to say it has filled the food bank two or three times over.



The parish council and Bassingbourn Community Primary School are so very grateful for all of the generous donations.

Pupil Voice: Our New School Expectation

When asked what they thought about the school expectation of '*Calm walking, should you be talking*':

Isla said, "I think it's a good reminder to have because sometimes people forget."

Joshua said, "I think it's a good idea that all adults remind us in the same way so we can remember."

Ana said, "It works well with our school expectations and we know to walk quietly with our hands by our sides."

When asked about what they thought about the school expectation of '**Manners matter**':

Holly said, "I think this is important because manners cost nothing."

Louis said, "I think its good because its important to always show kind and respect to ourselves, others and the planet."

Safeguarding

You may have heard the announcement that end-to-end encryption (E2EE) is being rolled out by default on Meta platforms. E2EE is a security tool used to make sending and receiving messages, images or videos more secure. It means that as data is sent from one person to another, it cannot be seen by anyone else other than the sender and receiver. It works by encrypting or 'scrambling' the data as it travels through a server to the other person: Whilst E2EE can help protect your child's privacy and security, it also means that platforms are unable to use tools to detect when people are targeting children online for illegal reasons and take action.

Find further information and advice for [parents and carers](#)

School Contacts

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Year 5: stingrays@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk
Year 6: octopus@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk

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