

24th February 2023



Bassingbourn Community Primary School Newsletter

www.bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk

Follow us on Twitter @BassingbournPS

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Dear Parents/Carers

We were certainly pleased to welcome our children back on Monday, after the half-term break. We started Spring 2 by launching our series of assemblies focussed on the four "characters" in our brains, the work of Dr Jill Bolte Taylor [Meet The Four Characters of Your Brain - Dr. Jill Bolte Taylor \(drjilltaylor.com\)](http://drjilltaylor.com). We have created child-friendly versions of this work and over the next 5 weeks, we hope that all pupils will become experts in applying self-regulation strategies to help them manage uncomfortable and overwhelming emotions. We hope that your children enjoy applying the language of the four characters at home.



History Day, led by Mrs Munro-Wilkinson, was a huge success across the whole school. Thank you to the children, staff and parents/carers who put so much effort into creating fantastic costumes.

Lots of work also went on across the whole school to celebrate Children's Mental Health week including hugging trees, yoga and mudwalks!



The highlight for many of our pupils in Spring term 1 was our first ever Bassingbourn Banquet! Congratulations to the first set of winners who were chosen to attend as a result of being wonderful role models to others. The next banquet takes place at the end of March.

We are looking forward to celebrating World Book Day next week, with the theme of illustrators. I wonder if any staff will be able to outdo Miss Pena's Henry VIII, history day costume!

Mrs Coles

DATES

Thurs 2nd March: World Book Day

Mon 13th March: Parents' Evening via Zoom for Years R, 1,3,4,5,6

Tues 14th March: Parents' Evening via Zoom for Years R, 1,3,4,5,6

Fri 17th March: Red Nose Day

Tues 21st March: Parents' Evening via Zoom for Year 2

Weds 22nd March: Parents' Evening via Zoom for Year 2

W/C 24th April: Yr 4 Bikeability

N.B Please note the change of dates for Parents' Evening due to teacher strikes. More information to follow.



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Headteacher's Awards
Jack L, Stefany M, Caris R, Remy C, Edward D, Layla R, Max B, Iyla C-M, Andre B, Stanley T, Toby D, Ayesha M, Hugo S, Emmie H, Kayla J, Riley D and Charlotte M.

Well done to you all!



School Development

As you will know, in 2021 phonics and early reading was identified as a significant area for improvement.

We are all delighted to report that a recent audit completed by The English Hub Team (based in London) reported that the positive work that has gone on across the school is very clear and they were pleased with the rapid improvements being made.

“Overall consistency in teaching practices are aligned to the chosen ELS SSP, including routines and ELS strategies within lessons.”

“Reading, Phonics and senior leads are committed to ensuring professional development for staff members, to ensure that children are taught well in phonics and early reading.”

Staff Updates

Congratulations to Mrs Norris, a qualified teacher, who thoroughly enjoyed her role as a teaching assistant, but was eager to get back to teaching full classes.

Miss Byrne has recently had a role change after leaving her position of PE cover teacher to focus on the clubs and enrichment activities she provides for our children after school. She also plans to spend more time in her other role, supporting a large stud farm.

At the end of this month, we say goodbye to Mrs Derrett who has taken great pride in serving our school during her time with us. We wish Mrs Derrett all the very best.

We warmly welcome both Mrs Burgess (PA to Mrs Coles) and Mrs Risdale (Finance Secretary) as permanent members of our team.

Finally we are delighted to have appointed Mr Jeray, to the temporary position of Pastoral Assistant, supporting the work of the Front Room team.

Pupil Voice

Miss Robert-Tiara spoke to some of our Key Stage one children to learn more about their views of our new phonics programme, Early Letters and Sounds.

"I enjoy using the new grapheme that we learn in our phonics books" - Casey

"I like doing the drumroll before we learn the new grapheme of the day" - Skyla

"The pictures help you understand the sounds and learning phonics is important so I can read my own books at home" - James

"I enjoy learning the new graphemes" - Sophia

"Our phonics lessons are really good because they're not too hard and not too easy but still challenging"
- Henry

"I enjoy the drumroll best when we learn a new grapheme. It's really fun" - Scarlet

Tapestry

We are very pleased to see the number of families who have already activated their child's Tapestry account. If you have not done so yet, please check your emails and click the Tapestry link.

We invite you to share your own updates of the things your children take part in at home with us, using this platform.



TAPESTRY
ONLINE LEARNING
JOURNAL

Attendance

Highest attendance awards since the last newsletter go to:
Penguins 99.23%, Turtles 99.02%, Turtles 99.20%

School Contacts

School Office: office@bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk
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