

Bidford on Avon Church of England Primary School



NEWSLETTER 17– 21st January 2022

Dear Parents, Pupils & Governors,

Reception Space Topic – Reception pupils have begun their new topic about Space. They have found out that our planet is third from the sun and that all the planets move around the sun in their own orbits. They have seen videos of astronauts working in the International Space Station and saw how hard it is to do normal tasks without gravity.

Tudor Topic – Children in Mrs Satchwell's and Mrs Powell's class have been finding out about all of Henry VIII's wives. They have been learning the rhyme 'Divorced, beheaded, died, divorced, beheaded, survived' to help them remember what happened to them!

Science – Pupils in Mrs Mills' class have been learning about the human lifecycle and looking at the relationship between the gestation period and the lifespans of different animals. They have used their maths skills to draw graphs to compare them.

Online Safety

As a school we continue to teach the children about online safety but are aware there is a constant flow of new and different games and platforms that young children are being exposed to. One of the more recent games, which is accessible through Minecraft, Roblox and social media, as well being able to independently purchasing it, is a game called Poppy's Playground. It has come to light that a few of our younger pupils have accessed this and are talking about it at school, leaving some children quite scared and unsettled. For more information about the new horror game 'Poppy's Playground', please access the links below:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=7&v=z1-RgyuX_18&feature=emb_title

<https://ineqe.com/2021/12/03/poppy-playtime-online-safety-review/>

Please continue to monitor your child's use of technology ensuring that they are accessing age related content and using social media and devices responsibly and safely. For more guidance about online safety please see the information provided by Warwickshire County Council.

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/keeping-child-safe/cyber-safety/1>

Importance of Breakfast – Research has shown that children who skip breakfast perform less well academically, socially and emotionally. Providing children with breakfasts that are rich in fibre, whole grains, and protein can help to boost their attention span, concentration, and memory. If you would like your child to have milk during the school day, please sign up via www.coolmilk.com. Milk is free if you are entitled to welfare free school meals – please ask at the office.

Curriculum Overviews – Children will shortly be bringing home their curriculum overviews giving details of the subject areas that they will be covering this term. This information is also available on the school website.

Clubs Update – The following after school clubs will *not be on next week*:

Year 3 & 4 Boys Football (Mon), Girls Football (Tues), Year 5 & 6 Boys Football (Weds).

Reminders:

- Reception pupils will be having eye tests on Mon 24th Jan.
- Telephone Parents evenings are being held on Tues 1st and Thurs 3rd Feb. Please book your appointments via Pay360. If you wish to have Teams appointment please book via Pay360 and then complete the form from the link in the email.
- Children **should not** bring smart watches or mobile phones to school.

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Parent Volunteers – If you are able to spare any time to come into school and listen to children read, please come into the school office to give your details.

Covid Arrangements

- *As Covid infections in our school have been increasing in recent days, our covid arrangements will remain in place. Staff will continue to wear face coverings in communal areas. Parents should wear a face covering while on the school site and maintain social distancing wherever possible.*
- **ALL visitors that come into the school building *must wear a face covering.***
- Increased ventilation in the classrooms during this cold weather may mean your child wishes to wear an additional clothing layer or bring a small blanket to have on their lap.
- If your child is unwell, they should remain at home until they are better. A PCR test should be taken if they are displaying Covid symptoms.
- If your child receives a positive Covid-19 test result outside of school hours, please leave a message on the school answerphone and send a text to 07591 541444 immediately. We will contact you to confirm the next steps. Please do not use this number for any other messages. If your child receives a negative Covid-19 test result, please contact the office on 01789 773201 before sending your child back to school.
- Although there has not been any update to the national definition of Covid-19 symptoms (cough, high temperature, loss/change in taste/smell), please also be mindful of the wider symptoms of Covid-19 – sore throat, headache, fatigue, muscle aches, blocked/runny nose, shortness of breath, diarrhoea and vomiting, and cold-like symptoms. Anyone with COVID-19 symptoms should isolate and book a PCR test.
- If your child displays symptoms of Covid in school, we will take their temperature and test their sense of smell before phoning you to come and collect them if we feel it is necessary.

Book of the Week – Miss Drissell's class have been reading 'My Friend Walter' by Michael Morpurgo. Living with a ghost can have its difficulties, even if he is your friend. Bess meets the ghost of Sir Walter Raleigh and finds out she is his ancestor! How will Bess explain Sir Walter to her family? Especially when he breaks her brother's fishing rod, steals a horse and smokes cigars in her room!

Mr A Simms