



Dear Parents and Carers,

The fourth image from the children, shown on this newsletter, was designed by them to represent the Gospel, 'the Good News'. That Jesus' example and teaching emphasise loving one's neighbour – particularly the weak and vulnerable – as part of loving God.

**Bonfire Night:** I know that many of you joined us for the PTA Discos and Firework display this week. I think all of us present agree that it was a fabulous occasion. Enormous thanks go to Sophie and William Bennison's father and Oscar Brown's father for showing such courage by being on the school's roof and letting the fireworks off. Together they created a thoroughly impressive show. Thanks go to all members of the PTA who were involved in organising and running the event and to the staff who also supported on the night. Even though it was nerve wracking for me (!) it was clear to me that the whole event was skilfully and safely managed.

Please note that these discos were held instead of the Christmas discos. Christmas is such a busy time with all of the productions and the Christmas Fayre and we wanted to distribute the enjoyable social events more across the year.

I have no doubt that a precedent has been set now, and despite my nerves, you will all want to repeat this next year! Something we can all look forward to...

**Homework:** I wanted to refer to the school's homework arrangements. Our policy has not changed because we have always had core, optional and project homework. The difference this year, and this was piloted last year in some year groups, is that the homework is being shared 'in one go' at the start of each half term, rather than being 'drip fed' weekly.

Please make sure that if your children are doing the homework, that they send what they have done into school, in their homework books, so that it can be acknowledged by the staff working with them. We value what the children do at home with you and it is important that the children know that.

Staff will also send the results of spelling tests done home to you, so you can see how the children are doing. That way, you will know how well those words are really being learnt, and any that need to be revisited.

Thank you to all of you who supported your children in creating such fabulous Autumn 1 projects. Ms. King led an assembly last week to celebrate these and the display of effort and work was impressive. This is a non compulsory aspect of the homework provision but one we enthusiastically encourage because we hope it leads to a conversation at home about the learning being undertaken in school which in turn will help to cement the learning in children's long term memory. Please continue to support this enjoyable aspect of the children's learning.

As with all aspects of the school's work, we keep it under review, and so your ongoing feedback is important to us.

**Lunch times:** Also, a quick line on the revised arrangements at lunch time. Having spent most lunch times before half term, outside with the children, it was clear to me that we needed to make changes to enhance children's safety and well being at this time. I also had feedback from our pupil survey on how many of the children were feeling at lunch times and needed to take this into account.

We cannot physically divide the playground up so instead we decided that having the children select different bibs, would instead create zones for the children to play in.

Please rest assured that within the zones, children can run and enjoy themselves. They can also change zones if they wish to, to avoid anyone being separated from their friends.

Observations since implementing the changes, are that the number of incidents between children have significantly reduced and so have the number of accidents, many of which resulted from children charging from one end of the playground to another.

This is a work in progress, which will be enhanced once we have the front playground completed, so please do continue to share feedback with us, so we can get this important aspect of the children's day, enjoyable for them.

**Safeguarding update on Childnet:** They have updated their parent and carer toolkit to help parents have conversations about online safety. Their booklet 'Let's talk about life online' includes ten key messages that should be shared with children. They are:

- You can always come to me if you need help.
- What would you do if this happened...?
- Remember that not everyone is who they say they are online.
- Keep your personal information safe, and other people's too.
- Be respectful to others online.
- Think before you post.
- Remember to ask if it's okay.
- Remember not everything is true online.
- The things other people post online might not always show what their life is really like.
- Recognise how going online makes you feel and take a break when you need to."

The Parent and Carer Toolkit can be found here: <https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/parent-and-carer-toolkit> if you are interested in how it could support you in enabling your child to be safe on line.

To wrap up, I have been asked to tell you about the **Active Together Programme** which is delivered by the Bromley by Bow Centre and is funded by Sports England. This programme works with families of children aged 5- 11 years old and their siblings, offering 10-12 weekly sessions of physical activity. As part of the programme, families have been provided with free physical activity taster sessions of badminton, yoga, table tennis, football and many more activities. In addition, they are offered fruit snacks each week and a family action folder which contains useful information about different aspects of the program and supporting information for topics covered in sessions.

As the nights draw in, this might be worth a look, to try and keep children active and healthy through the winter months.

**School Photos:** And lastly for this week, you will have received your child's photo proof earlier this week. If you would like to purchase your child's photo please return completed proof card and payment in the envelope provided by Thursday 14th November, to the school office.

With best wishes, Rebecca Abrahams

## Newsletter

8th November 2019

Volume 19, Issue 08

## Attendance

We have a stunning number of children from Nursery to Year 6 who continue to have 100% attendance this year. Look out for your letter coming soon to congratulate you!

|               | W/B<br>28/10 | W/B<br>04/11 |
|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| Mango (Nur)   | 94%          | 94%          |
| Peach (Rec B) | 96%          | 94%          |
| Apple (Rec N) | 94%          | 95%          |
| Beech (1L)    | 96%          | 97%          |
| Maple (1S)    | 95%          | 94%          |
| Birch (2B)    | 97%          | 97%          |
| Ash (2C)      | 96%          | 96%          |
| Oak (3B)      | 98%          | 98%          |
| Lemon (3C)    | 96%          | 96%          |
| Aspen (4D)    | 98%          | 97%          |
| Spruce (4L)   | 96%          | 96%          |
| Palm (5D)     | 92%          | 93%          |
| Cherry (5S)   | 95%          | 95%          |
| Willow (6G)   | 97%          | 97%          |
| Cypress (6S)  | 96%          | 96%          |



## Remembrance Mass

Monday 11 November

9.10am

All welcome

## Class catch-up

| <u>Nursery</u>   | <u>Reception</u>   | <u>Year 1</u>  | <u>Year 2</u>   |
|--|--|--|---|
| <p>This week in nursery we have learnt all about firework safety and made some lovely firework pictures on iPads using our IT skills. Next week we will be talking about all the fallen soldiers and why we wear a poppy. In maths we will be making pattern pictures and in literacy we will be listening to special stories. We have now started practicing our Christmas songs for our sing along on the 11th December, we are sure your children will be singing them at homes for weeks, Sorry!!!! Have a great weekend.</p>  | <p>Next week in Reception we will looking at birthdays. We will be reading the story: Kipper's birthday and writing lists. In maths we will be learning about capacity eg. full and empty. In RE we will continue to learn about the Christmas story. We will also begin to learn songs for our Christmas nativity! Wishing you all a lovely weekend.</p>  | <p>Next week in Year 1 we will be looking at subtraction. We will learn how to take away by crossing out images, using a number line and counting back in our heads. In English we will start our new narrative text 'When will it be spring?'. We will be making predictions, doing some drama and retelling the story. In RE we will focus on Angel Gabriel, and what the significance of the angels are to the Nativity story. In geography we will be using an atlas to locate the four countries of the United Kingdom. Now we have finished making our toy cars we will be moving onto making leaf collages in art and exploring the colour wheel. In science we will keep thinking about the changes that happen - when you walk around what do you notice that shows us we are in Autumn? We hope you have a lovely weekend.</p> | <p>We've had another great week in Year 2. We wrote innovated stories in Literacy and begun regrouping when adding and subtracting two 2-digit numbers. We learned all about the impact of greenhouse gases on the environment and painted the River Thames and Houses of Parliament. Next week in Literacy, we will write diary entries in character, focusing on our learning around the Anthony Browne book 'The Tunnel'. In maths, we will start our Money topic. We will be counting, sorting and exploring the value of coins and notes. In Science, we'll be exploring the importance of recycling and in Art we'll be introduced to the artist Monet. In RE we will make Christingles. We wish you all a super weekend.</p> |
| <u>Year 3</u>  | <u>Year 4</u>  | <u>Year 5</u>  | <u>Year 6</u>   |
| <p>In maths you can continue practising using the column method for addition and subtraction with 1, 2 and 3-digit numbers. Are you able to borrow and carry over accurately into the neighboring columns? Over the next few weeks, we will move on to multiplication and division. In art we have looked at Paul Klee and his use of colour, we completed some beautiful recreations of a piece of his artwork. For our geography topic, can you find out your family and friends favourite things to do in our local area? Could you write a review of this place? Year 3 are looking forward to their trip to the British Museum next Wednesday to consolidate our learning on prehistoric Britain!</p> | <p>We have had a brilliant week in year 4 this week. The children thoroughly enjoyed the disco and the fireworks, and have been talking about them for a while afterwards. Looking forward to next week, year 4 will be moving on from addition and subtraction in maths, and will be looking at measuring length and perimeter. In science, we will be looking at the human body and how the digestive system helps us to survive. In RE we will be looking at what the bible says about the peace that Jesus brings at Christmas time. We hope you have a fantastic weekend.</p> | <p>We've had a busy week in year 5! The class have transformed into scientists exploring forces and the impact of gravity. Ask your child, why we do not get sucked into the earth's core? Next week, we will continue to analyse Scrooge's character and plan and write our own character description of Scrooge. In Maths we have started looking at how to read and interpret line graphs accurately. Next week, the children will continue to look at effective ways to read graphs and interpret the data. In the wider curriculum the children are learning to code and create their own games using Scratch. In Geography we are looking at mapping the UK. The children have really enjoyed exploring maps, and world atlases.</p>   | <p>Next week in Year 6 we will be considering our big question, 'What can we learn from conflict?' by completing some work on Remembrance. Our maths focus will continue to be on fractions so please do practice simplifying fractions at home. In English we will complete our non chronological reports on hybrid animals. In topic and science we will be further exploring the Amazon Rainforest supplemented by our class book 'The Explorer'. Have a great weekend! Team Year 6.</p>   |

### Community House News

**Coffee Morning** on Mondays from 9.00am in the Community House, please come along and join us for a coffee and a chat.

**Keep Fit:** on Wednesdays 9.00am-10.00am in school. Crèche available on site.

**ESOL Life Skills Course:** on every Thursday, to develop your English Language Skills for work, further learning and everyday life. Assessments to take place on Thursday 10th and 17th October between 1.00pm-3.00pm in the Community House

**Employability Course:** Tuesdays 9:00am-11.30am. This course is in preparation to returning to work. Building skills and confidence. Assessments to take place on Tuesday 8th and 15th of October between 1.00pm- 3.00pm in the Community House.



**We're holding**  
**ODD SOCKS DAY**  
 for Anti-Bullying Week  
 again this year

 Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 

#### What is it?

Most importantly, Odd Socks Day is designed to be fun! It's an opportunity to encourage people to express themselves and celebrate their individuality and what makes us all unique! There is no pressure to wear the latest fashion or for parents to buy expensive costumes. All you have to do to take part is wear odd socks to your school or workplace, it couldn't be simpler! Odd Socks day will take place on Tuesday 12th November to help raise awareness of bullying.