

Thursday 21st October 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

This half term has gone by so quickly with lots of amazing things happening at Old Bexley. All the children have been learning new topics, literacy texts and have all now settled into their new year group with their new teacher. Our nursery and reception children have settled really well and are enjoying being part of Old Bexley. Pupils have elected a Head Boy and Head Girl for both KS2 and KS1 and Year 6 have had a brilliant week at Bowles. Lots of other trips and workshops have taken place throughout the school in order to enhance the children's learning. I am very much looking forward to next half term with further topics and learning opportunities for all the children (and of course Christmas!).

Thank you for your continued support during what remains a difficult time with COVID. We appreciate your understanding and kind words of support.



Thank you to our PTA

The PTA were able to go ahead with the postponed Summer Fair on Saturday 25th September. It was very well attended and lots of money was raised for the children. Thank you to all of you who supported this event. A BIG THANK YOU to our amazing PTA.

What have each year been up to?

Nursery

Nursery have been learning about their bodies. They have explored their five senses through a range of activities including a listening walk, tasting fruits, investigating different messy play media and identifying hidden objects in a feely box. They have also enjoyed our role play hospital and can tell you all about their skeleton and why you might need an x-ray.



Reception

Reception have been learning about themselves this term and using their senses to explore their environment. They have explored the changes which occur during this season and the impact they have on plants, animals and humans. They also attended their first Harvest service.



Year 1

Year 1 have been exploring the local area with their trip to Bexley Woods this week. They also went on a treasure hunt around the school.



Year 2

We had a celebrity visit Old Bexley last week for Year 2's Pirate day. Pirate Gem came to see Year 2 and teach them all about being a pirate. Year 2 have also had some new members in the form of some chicks! They are being well cared for by all of the children.



Year 3

Pupils in Year 3 have been Palaeontologists and have searched the grounds for dinosaur fossils, bones and eggs.



Year 4

Year 4 went on an invertebrate hunt as part of their science topic, 'Living Things and their habitats.



Year 5

Year 5 had a brilliant day to launch their topic on the Romans where they worked together to make Roman buildings. They also did a health walk around the school to see which things keep us healthy. This was an activity that was shared with the Starfish Malawi Charity as the children in Malawi did the same activity at the Apache school.



Year 6

Year 6 spent a week away at Bowles Residential Centre and got up to lots of exciting activities such as rock climbing, biking, canoeing and skiing and made many happy memories.



Old Bexley News Crew



We have a brand new crew at Old Bexley who are working together to keep us all up to date with the fantastic things going on in school. They are working as news reporters with Mrs Smith (from the computing club) every Thursday lunchtime and we look forward to their first publication at the end of next half term.

Postcard Home Competition Winners



Every year the children all have the chance to design the postcards that are given every day for children's good behaviour. There were many entries and choosing the winners was very difficult as always. After a lot of deliberation the winners are:

- Year 2: Kani
- Year 3: Toni, Kurren, Anvika
- Year 4: Dawn, April, Lois
- Year 5: William, Harrison

The winners all received an Amazon voucher and have the pleasure and pride at seeing their designs being used as a postcard home for the school.



We are very lucky to have such a supportive governing body and they paid us a visit on Tuesday this week for some training and to meet our new Head Boy and Head Girl, Harry and Alexa. The Governors asked them questions about their role and how they were going to help the school. Both Harry and Alexa represented the school brilliantly and are settling into their roles nicely.

Harvest



Our Harvest services took place on 7th October. Thank you to our clergy team who led all of the services. A big thank you too for your kind donations which were gratefully received by Bexley Food Bank.

United Nations Day



Today we celebrated United Nations day throughout the school. Every year group focused on a different continent, with each class focused on a country from that continent. It was fantastic to see all the children dressed up and learning about the work of Unicef who support children all over the world. Thank you for your support in organising costumes for the day.

Parents Evening



Due to the rising number of COVID cases both in and outside of school, the decision has been made to hold all parent meetings virtually through schoolcloud. The system is set up especially for holding

parent meetings and is easy to access. The dates for the parents evenings are in the table below and further details will be sent to you after half term about how to book and access your meeting.

Remembrance Poppies



As we approach the start of November, it is coming to that special time of remembrance. Each year group will be selling poppies in school after half term in order to raise funds for the Royal British Legion. The clergy team will also be leading a special worship of remembrance on November 11th.

Driving Congestion



If you drive your child to school, please continue to give consideration to our neighbours and passing pedestrians. Do not block driveways, park illegally or stop on the “school keep clear” signs to drop your child off. Please also be mindful of pedestrians if you carry out a 3-point turn outside the school as we have received reports of a couple of near misses this term.

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 2 nd and Wednesday 3 rd November	School photos
Thursday 11 th November	Remembrance Day
Friday 12 th November	Children in Need – PJ day
Wednesday 17 th November	3.40pm – 6.30pm Parent Evenings via School cloud (more details to follow)
Thursday 18 th November	3.40pm – 5.30pm Parent Evenings via School cloud (more details to follow)
Tuesday 30 th November	St Andrew’s Day - blue and white day

Christmas performance dates will be given next half term.

I wish you all a safe and relaxing half term and we look forward to welcoming the children back on **Monday 1st November at 8.50am.**

Take care and stay safe.

Mrs Ivil