The termly newspaper to connect the Old Bexley community.



Buzz voice of the children

Our ideas in your hands

Limitless Learning

Children's Digital Newspaper December 2021 First Edition



Wonderfully Wacky Facts



## Interaction With St. John's



We are a kind, loving school that have a special interaction with St. John's Church. At St. John's Church, we have a friendly connection with Reverend Edward who comes to our school to tell us about God. We learn how to always be kind; it is Mrs. Ivil's key thing about our school. Everybody is encouraged to be loving towards each other in our school. We enjoyed interviewing Reverend Edward in November. Find out more on page 6 By Fayo

#### This Christmas season we wish you

The blessings of peace, The beauty of hope, The Spirit of love, The comfort of faith

Happy Christmas from the Old Bexley Babble News Crew





## OLD BEXLEY BABBLE!

#### Meet the team!

#### Year 6:

**Alexa** 

This year's Meet the Team writer!

**Emily** 

This year's Sport writer!

**Jared** 

This year's Marvel writer!

Harrison

This year's Dogs and Cats writer!

**Emma** 

This year's Cats writer!

Year 5:

Rory

This year's Big Debate writer!

**Jamie** 

This year's *Introduction* writer!

Sophia

This year's *Personal* writer!

Adedeji

This year's *Dogs and Cats* writer!

Rosie

This year's Harvest writer!

**Nmesoma** 

This year's How To writer!

Dara

This year's *Old Bexley* writer!

Yashita

This year's *Old Bexley* writer!

**Amber** 

This year's Cats writer!

Heidi

This year's *Poem* writer!

Indira

This year's Introduction writer!

**Fayo** 

This year's St John's Church writer

Victoria

This year's *Interest* writer!

Carla

This year's *Harvest* writer!

William

This year's *Sport* writer!

Welcome to our first edition of the Old Bexley Babble! We are excited to be a part of the Old Bexley News Crew and are looking forward to creating a digital newspaper to share with our school community. We have lots of ideas and this is just the start! We hope you enjoy our first edition.

# Wonderfully Wacky Facts!

By Victoria

Do you know any wonderful, wacky, or weird facts? Then here's the place to show them! Tell one of the Old Bexley News Crew and they might end up being published! They can be about anything: animals, people, or family! We will also include our own little facts from the team.

Here are some to get us started!

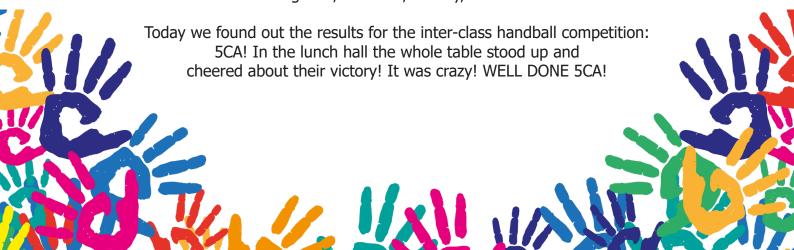
- 1. Wombat poo is cube shaped.
- 2. The Japanese giant hornet's venom is so strong that it can dissolve human flesh.
- 3. Some species of turtle breathe through their bottoms.
- 4. As part of their training guide dogs for the blind learn to poo on command.

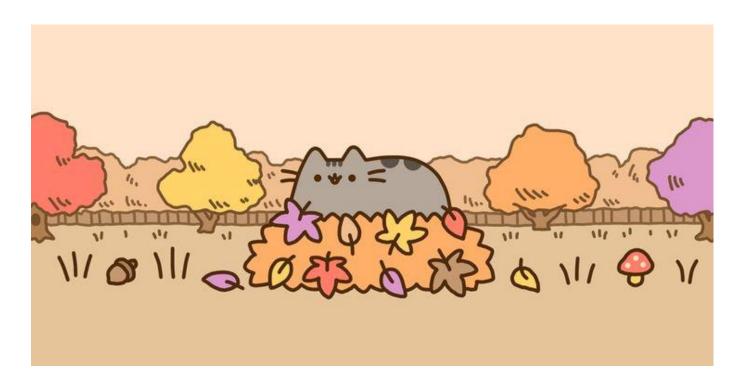
## **SPORTING NEWS**

by Rory

We recently started up the Year 6 girls' football team again with training/tryouts, so we will soon be up and playing matches against other school teams!

School Clubs: dodgeball, handball, hockey, netball and basketball!





## Old Bexley Harvest !!!

#### **HARVEST!!!**

It's Harvest Month!! The symbolic meaning of harvest in Scripture encompasses two main areas: **God's provision for us and God's blessing for others**. While we celebrate a harvest season just once a year, we experience the spirit of harvest all year round.

At our school, every harvest we bring in food to give to different food banks for those in need. So they can get food!

We celebrate harvest every year because the Christian Harvest Festival is mainly celebrated in Autumn. Harvested crops and grain adorn the church altar. ... This ritual is a way of thanking God for a bountiful harvest. According to religious doctrine, God alone controls the weather and enables the riches of the Earth to grow.

Harvest Festival is celebrated in Autumn every year!

#### Some questions & answers about Harvest:

#### When is Harvest?

Answer: This is the full moon that appears closest to the autumn equinox, which is usually at the end of September or the beginning of November. The Harvest Festival in 2021 is due to take place on the 3rd October.

#### Why is Harvest celebrated?

Answer: Harvest is celebrated to give thanks for the crops, which have been safely harvested. Christians thank God for the food during harvest. Christians believe God made the world and

everything in it. Christians also thank God for the variety of food and everything that helps the food to grow.







We all love drinks!

What one of these is your favourite one?

By Carla & Rosie

#### Editor's Message

I have loved working with Old Bexley and the News Crew this term. From our very first meeting the team have been dedicated and enthusiastic!

Back in September the team were introduced to the concept that this was their digital platform and they were representing the voice of the children. They have begun to explore digital journalism, what they can bring to the newspaper and how they can encourage others to get involved. They've considered design, content and embraced their new role. The whole News Crew are a vibrant bunch and have worked together so well as a team.

I am so glad I saved their work two weeks before Covid restrictions paused our time together. Our first edition isn't quite what we had planned, but nevertheless it is filled with fantastic content and I hope you enjoy it.

Well done everyone!

Wishing you all an enjoyable break and a happy new year.

Lorraine Smith

www.end2endtv.co.uk www.computingclubs.co.uk

## Let's meet

## **Reverend Edward**

#### How long have you been a Reverend?

I've been a reverend for five and a half years now: I was ordained under the dome of St Paul's Cathedral in July of 2016. At the first ordination you become something called a deacon, so I was ordained again a year later as a priest. It was when I moved to Bexley in 2019 that I first got to officially call myself a 'Vicar', as my role in my previous parishes was as the Assistant Curate.

#### What inspired you to become a Reverend?

It wasn't down to me, it was down to God: in fact I'd spent quite a few years actively resisting the idea that God might want to ordain me – You know the bit in the story of Jonah where God tells Jonah to go one way so he gets the first boat in the opposite direction? That was me! But eventually I hit a point where all the reasons I'd been giving not to go down that route seemed silly or not that major, so I went with it and haven't looked back since.

#### What is your favourite Carol?

Of the Father's Heart Begotten which might not be as well known as some. I like the slightly more obscure carols, and also the ones that get you thinking about the mysterious relationship between God and the Universe, especially if they leave you with more questions than you had before. Of course, if you ask me again another time I might name a different carol: one of the problems with being a vicar is that if you can pick which hymns and carols everyone's singing then you might pick your favourites too much, and then they don't feel as special because you've got used to them.



#### What are your top 5 tips for the festive season?

- 1: Be aware of your expectations: when we feel let down by a situation, especially over a celebration like a Birthday Party, or how we spend Christmas Day, it's often because they haven't lived up to our expectations. Sometimes the problem isn't the event at all, it's that we've set the wrong expectations to start with. Last year we had a Christmas that probably didn't live up to any of our expectations, but that didn't mean it was cancelled, it still happened, on the 25th December and many of us made the most of it. Keep in mind that the first Christmas surrounded a woman giving birth in a stable: I've never met a mother who's had that in her birth-plan! So maybe that's an indication that Christmas isn't about having a day that lives up to our own ideals.
- 2: Keep a Holy Advent: it's very easy to make December all about Christmas prep, and that can quickly become stressful and tiring so by the time we reach the 25th we're too exhausted to make the most of the day. Like Lent before Easter, or Ramadan before Eid, Advent was traditionally a season when people would fast and confess their sins in the run up to a time of celebration. There are all sorts of themes and traditions in Advent that we can think and pray about (not least the lovely purple decorations you'll see around the Church) that may seem to have little to do with Christmas, but which help us to mark Advent as a season in its own right and make us better prepared spiritually for the time Christmas comes around.
- 3: It's not all about us: while we go to every effort to make Christmas Day the best it can be for us, we have to keep in mind that for many people it's a lot more difficult. Homeless charities, foodbanks, hospitals and other organisations that work with people in their suffering are working flat-out at this time of year to help those they serve find some sense of dignity as the rest of the community seem to be overindulging on Quality Street. Christmas is about Jesus being born for the whole world, not just you or me. I know many people who give up part of their Christmas Day to volunteer with charities such as Shelter, but there are little things we can do as well donate some Christmas Treats to the local Foodbank, or spend an hour on the phone to a friend or relative that you know may be having a hard time.
- 4: Celebrate together: there are so many festivals that take place across the world's religions. Some may fall at the same time, some may be spaced apart. One year I counted seven different religions all having something to celebrate on the same Easter weekend. The traditions may be different, and the beliefs behind the festivals may be different, but the sense of joyful celebration and our awareness that we're all human beings on this shared Earth is something we have in common. I love learning more about the festivals my non-Christian friends are celebrating, and finding ways to celebrate together whatever the occasion.
- 5: Don't let the TV schedule rule the day: when I was younger, my sister and I would go through the Christmas Radio Times with coloured highlighters so we could argue about what we were watching when. These days you can catch up with everything on the internet if you miss it, and since the Doctor Who special was moved from Christmas Day to New Year's Day, there's no need to plan the day around it.



## PETS CORNER

### OLD BEXLEY BABBLE

Are cats as cute as dogs? You decide ...



#### **Pick here**

Circle below:
Dogs
Cats
Other

by Harrison

## Reverend Edward - finally can we ask ... cats or dogs?

Cats. I like their independence: particularly as a pet-owner it means you don't have to follow them round with a plastic bag. We have a black and white cat at the Vicarage called Zara. You may well see her in the grounds around St John's: She's very friendly so feel free to stop and say hello to her.











This is Chief! He belongs to an uncle of one of the reporters. He is 6 years old and loves food! This furry friend is lovable and fun.

Now enough about the owner and him let's start the story!

Once when he was a puppy he crawled under the decking and our reporter had to get him out!

Thank you for reading about our furry friend Chief. See you next time for another Pet's Corner.

By Sophia

## Sporting Success!

On Saturday 20th November Leo & Dylan in Year 6 competed in the London Youth Games cross country at Parliament Hill.

They were the only two representing Bexley in their age group and they had to run a whopping 1500m. They did very well & had a great time.

Well done boys!





Do you have any funny stories about your pets?

Send them in to the News Team and they might appear in future OB Babbles!

















# Artist's Challenge

Isn't this fantastic? If you are feeling inspired, why don't you get your pencils out and start sketching:D

Our 'how to' section will begin in our next edition





#### OLD BEXLEY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Love God + Love Each Other + Love Learning

## NEW UPCOMING MOVIE by Jared

Marvel's new movie is rolling in this December! Tom Holland (acting as Spider-Man) has made his third solo Marvel movie! This actor has worked with Marvel before, appearing in: Captain America Civil War, Avengers Infinity War and Avengers Endgame. But in this movie, they're introducing a new villain... Doc Ock! One of Spider-Man's greatest enemies is starring in this new movie. Played by Alfred Molina, Doctor Otto Octavius has come crashing into Peter Parker's life again, causing twice the trouble. Revealed in Spiderman's last movie by Mysterio, (but publicised by J. Jonah Jameson) the whole world now knows this webslinger's secretive identity. To help hide this secret, Dr Stephen Strange has offered to set a spell erasing everyone's memory of Peter Parker being Spider-Man. Realising this would break his relationship with Aunt May, Ned, and more importantly MJ, Peter Parker himself tries to break this memory wipe spell. To find out more, look at Sony's trailer released on the 24th Aug 2021. But in this new movie, Spider-Man is gifted with a brand-new suit never seen before. Proving that this superhero has one of the deepest wardrobes in MCU, Peter Parker has now been presented with the new Black and Gold suit. Whilst the name describes what this super-suit looks like, it really has a deeper meaning behind it. Based on he comics' bulletproof suit, this suit is supposed to protect Peter whilst his Spidey-Sense wasn't working too well (and of course protecting bullets). If you've watched Tom Holland's last Spider-Man movie (Far From himself from, well, Home) you'll notice that our hero's super instincts weren't doing too well for him. You'll probably notice this when you see Aunt

Home) you'll notice that our hero's super instincts weren't doing too well for him. You'll probably notice this when you see Aunt May throwing a banana at him and not instantly catching it like Spider-Man does. In fact, the banana hits him right in the face, and even Aunt May questions this (but calling it Spidey tingle instead of Spidey-Sense). Written in the comics, Spider-Man loses this unique power by fighting off Electro.

Tell us what you think of a film you watch over Christmas - send in reviews to the team!

#### Coming up in our next edition ...

- Our new section in the spotlight kicks off with our amazing interview with Mrs Ivil
- We are going to run a competition to find a logo to be published regularly in the Old Bexley Babble. Get your thinking caps on, we'll explain more soon
- Have you ever thought about being published? We want to hear from the storytellers amongst you and we're pretty sure that's lots of you! We are going to start a 'Short Story Section' and to kick this off we are running a competition that will be launched next year

#### Thanks for reading!

#### The Old Bexley News Crew

"We are the Old Bexley News Team publishing our first newspaper. We are very excited to start writing." William