

Thursday 10 February 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Thank you for your continued support during what has been another term filled with Covid-19 restrictions. Yet again, the children have amazed us with how quickly they adapt to any necessary changes and have taken everything in their stride. When we return after the half term break, all restrictions will be lifted and we remain ever hopeful that we will be able to reach Easter without re-introducing any Covid-19 measures.

Safer Internet Day took place in school on Tuesday 8 February. Classes took part in activities and lessons centred around this year's theme of "All Fun and Games? Exploring respect and relationships online".

We hugely enjoyed seeing the imaginative outfits worn by pupils to last week's NSPCC Number Day. Thank you to everyone who supported the event and helped us raise money for the NSPCC. Photos from the day can be found on the [school's website under Our School/Gallery](#).



What have each year been up to?

EYFS

Nursery and Reception children have been following the theme of Nursery Rhymes this half term. Each week there has been a different rhyme with associated activities for the children to complete. Children have also celebrated the Chinese New Year.



Year 1

Year 1 were lucky enough to have a visit from an animal workshop. Pupils had the opportunity to meet a wide variety of animals, ranging from a cute fluffy bunny to a tarantula!



For Design and Technology, Year 1 made their own fruit salad. This helped the children to learn not only about basic food hygiene, but also how to design and make a fruit salad by selecting from a range of tools and equipment.

Year 2

The Fire Brigade came to visit Year 2. As part of their “Time Detective” theme, Year 2 have been learning about the Great Fire of London. Pupils were asked to make a Tudor house from a shoe box, and with the help of the local Fire Brigade, they were then able to witness how quickly a fire spreads.



Year 3

Pupils in Year 3 have been learning about “Scavengers and Settlers”. They visited Bexley Woods to learn how to build shelters and collect firewood.



For Money Week, Year 3 also went on a trip to Bexley village where they learnt how money is used in real life.

Year 4

This half term, Year 4 have been learning how to “Save the World”. Activities have included a sustainable fashion lesson and making a rainforest.



Year 5

Year 5's topic this term has been the “Active Planet”. Pupils have participated in a virtual Natural History volcano workshop.



In preparation for their topic next term of “Earth as an Island”, the Year 5 classes have been planting trees in the school grounds.

Year 6

The topic in Year 6 this term has been the “Wonderful World” we live in. Pupils have learnt about biomes, how to interpret maps and the effects of global warming.



PTA News

The next PTA event is Family Bingo on Friday 25 February at 5.30pm. Tickets are available to be purchased now via the [PTA website](#) and cost £1 per game or £5 for 6 games.

The PTA trialed a new event earlier this term. “Break the Rules” day was a huge success and raised over £1100. If you haven’t yet had a chance to see the images taken from the day, they can be found on the website under [Our School/Gallery/Break the Rules day](#).

Our thanks go to the PTA for all the hard work and creativity they put in to raising money for the school.



Mental Health Award



Earlier this term, the school was awarded the WAS Wellbeing Award. The award reflects the hard work we have been doing over the last year to ensure that mental health and wellbeing, within the school community, sit at the heart of school life.

We are supported in school by:

- Rachel the Play Therapist
- Pets as Therapy who visit us twice a week with Suzi dog
- BFree Sports Empowerment programme
- Bill who is our Family Support and Pastoral Care Officer
- Penny who is the school's Learning Mentor
- the Bexley Team Ministry who provide spiritual, pastoral and wellbeing support

If you have any wellbeing ideas you would like to put forward to be considered at school, please do get in touch with us by email: admin@oldbexley.bexley.sch.uk.

New Governor

Thank you to all the parents who voted for a new Parent Governor. We are delighted to announce the appointment of Mr Boakye. We are sure he will be a valuable addition to our Governing Body.

Old Bexley Babble Logo

Congratulations to Molly in Year 3 who came up with the winning entry in the Old Bexley Babble logo competition. Molly's logo was chosen as the winner by the News Crew and will now appear in every edition. Well done to Heidi in Year 5 and Sophia in Year 3 who came 2nd and 3rd respectively.



Lateness

Unfortunately once again as the term has progressed, there has been a marked increase in the number of children arriving late for school in the morning. Please make sure your child has arrived at school before 8.50am. If they arrive after this time, they will receive a late mark and the names of persistent late comers are discussed at the school's monthly meetings with the Education Welfare Officer.

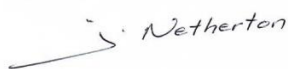
The number of children leaving school early for appointments has also steadily increased. Please try wherever possible to make routine appointments for the dentist and opticians either during a school holiday or after 4pm.

Dates for your diary

Friday 11 February	School closed – staff training day
Monday 21 February	Return to school
Friday 25 February @ 5.30pm	PTA Family Bingo event
Tuesday 1 March	St David's Day – wear yellow
2-3 March	PTA Book Fair
Thursday 3 March	World Book Day
Thursday 17 March	St Patrick's Day – wear green
Friday 18 March	Red Nose Day
Friday 25 March	PTA Plant Sale
30-31 March	Parents Evening
Friday 1 April	KS1 Easter Hat Parade

Please remember that school will be closed on Friday 11 February for staff training. We wish you all a happy and relaxing half term and look forward to welcoming the children back on **Monday 21st February**.

Warm regards



Mrs J Netherton and Mrs G England
Deputy Head Teachers