

Friday 21st October 2022

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!).

What have each year been up to?

EYFS

We are so proud of the Early Years children who have settled into their new classes and routines. They have made new friendships and are enjoying all the new learning opportunities provided this half term. We have been talking about how our body works, exploring our senses and sharing things about our families and homes. Nursery have especially enjoyed learning about their skeletons and reading the 'Funnybones' stories. Reception took part in a fabulous Harvest festival assembly, where each class performed a Harvest song.



Year 1

Year 1 have been exploring the local area surrounding Old Bexley Primary. As part of their geography learning, they visited Bexley village. They have also visited Bexley Woods for their science topic and learnt all about the bird boxes hidden in the Woods. Finally, for DT they made their own fruit salad.



Year 2

As part of their Treasure Island topic this term, a pirate day was held on Tuesday 13 September. Children dressed up as pirates. Pirate Gem came to visit and lead a Pirate Workshop with the children where Miss Alabaster was forced to 'walk the plank'.



The children in year 2 also got to witness the birth of 18 chicks and watch them grow over a period of 2 weeks. The children used their Ninja skill of observation, watching carefully as the chicks hatched from their eggs. In science, children discussed the life cycle of the chicks starting as an egg, hatching, chick and then how they grow into an adult and the female chicken will lay eggs.



Year 3

Year 3 made the trip to Dymchurch that had been postponed in Year 2 due to the heatwave. They enjoyed discussing human and geographical features before sketching the beach.



Year 3 also visited Lesnes Heath Abbey to support their history learning. They have been learning about timelines, chronology and historical buildings in the area of Bexley. They went to Lesnes Heath Abbey to learn about the history of the Abbey and observe the ruins. While there, children learnt the history behind the Abbey and then used drama to re-tell it. Later, they had to feel inside mystery boxes to identify artefacts and place them in the correct era on a timeline.

Year 4

This half term Year 4 have been reading Varjak Paw and they made sure they whispered the name Sally Bones! Pictured below are some children in a drama session, where they produced 'freeze frames' to show their ideas.



The year group have also been taking part in a Dragon's Den style presentation.

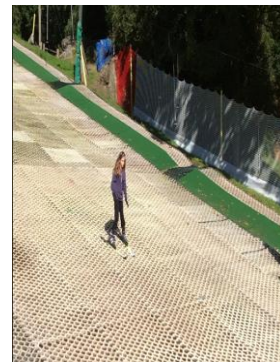
Year 5



Year 5 have been designing and making their own poppies for Remembrance Day.

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



Pupils in Years 5 and 6 had the opportunity to apply to be a member of this year's Old Bexley Babble News Crew. Congratulations go to Sophia, Lily, Megan, Sophia, Victoria, Neeve, Rosie, Lois, Chloe, Lexi, Ujuchukwu, Victoria, April, Noah, Rhys, Nathaniel, Adedeji, Elliott, Finn and Matthew who are our new members. They will be working with Mrs Smith and Mr Barrett every Tuesday lunchtime.

Postcard Home Competition Winners



At the start of each academic year, the children 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:

Ava S, Sophie F, Charlotte KT, Finley A, Olivia F, Brooke F, Poppy F, Ethan J, Milly W and Thomas P.

The winners all have the pleasure and pride of seeing their designs being used as a postcard home for the school.

Governor visit



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, Rhys and Victoria. The Governors asked them questions about their role and how they were going to help the school. Both Rhys and Victoria represented the school brilliantly and are settling into their roles nicely.

Harvest

Our Harvest services took place on 13 October. Thank you to our clergy team who led all of the services. A big thank you too for your kind donations. Bexley Food Bank were overwhelmed by your support.



Our Mountain climber Collective Worship group worked with Reverend Sue and Reverend Matt on our Harvest services. They led all the worship and did a brilliant job. We were also entertained by the choir in the KS2 service. Thank you very much for Reverends Sue and Matt's support.

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.

Remembrance Poppies



When we return to school after half term, we will be selling poppies in school to raise funds for the Royal British Legion. The suggested donation for a poppy is £1. Thank you in advance for your support.

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 1 and Wednesday 2 November	School photos (individual and siblings)
Friday 11 November	Remembrance Day
Friday 18 November	Children in Need – PJ day
Wednesday 30 November	St Andrew's Day – wear blue and white to school
Wednesday 30 November and Thursday 1 December	Parents Evening (further details to follow in due course)
Saturday 3 December	PTA Christmas Fair

Details regarding Christmas performance dates and activities 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 31 October.**

Mrs J Ivil
Head Teacher