



**OLD BEXLEY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Love God • Love Each Other • Love Learning

## Autumn half term 2024 Newsletter

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 groups with their new teacher. Our new reception children are enjoying being part of Old Bexley and we have a new Head Boy and Girl for both KS2 and KS1. Year 6 have had a brilliant week at Bowles and lots of other trips and visits have taken place 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 we been up to?

Each year group have got stuck into their new topics and have been up to all sorts of exciting learning activities.

#### Reception

The children in reception have settled into their new classes and have made lots of new friends.

The topic this half term has been all about ourselves. The children have learnt about their skeleton, explored the 5 senses and looked for similarities and differences between themselves and others. The photograph shows some of the children on their listening walk around the school grounds.



#### Year 1

Year 1 have been using their senses to explore the world around them. Children have been using their observational skills to look for signs of Autumn. This includes looking carefully at leaves, drawing them and describing their appearance.



**Year 2**

Year 2 have been learning about the uses of everyday materials in science. We made salt dough so we could find out how the shapes of solid objects made from some materials can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching.

**Years 3 and 4**

As part of Art week, Year 3 and 4 have been enjoying learning about Ancient Egyptian Art and have used their patterns, colours and shapes to create a scroll which is all about them. They stained paper using tea bags and used different materials to design their scroll.



**Year 5**

Year 5 went on a walk to Bexley Village to answer the question: "What is there to do in our local area?" as part of this half term's geography topic.



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### Year 6

Year 6 had a very busy and enjoyable week at Bowles. They took part in lots of different activities including canoeing, skiing, orienteering, low/high ropes and the 'leap of Faith'. The staff at Bowles complimented the children on their wonderful behaviour and attitude!



Thank You  
♥  
PTA!

### Thank you to our PTA

The PTA had their AGM on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October and it was nice to see some new members join.

They have lots of exciting events planned throughout the year with some ones added. For example the wreath making for adults on the 3<sup>rd</sup> December.

The school was very lucky last year with all the money that the PTA raised for the children. They will once again this year be supporting the school with various projects. Their continued support is very much valued. If you would like to join please contact the PTA at [oldbexleypta1@gmail.com](mailto:oldbexleypta1@gmail.com)

### Christmas Fair



**DATE FOR YOUR DIARY:**  
**SATURDAY 30<sup>th</sup> November**  
**PTA CHRISTMAS FAIR**  
**12 - 3PM**  
**Hope to see you there!**



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## Harvest



Our Harvest services took place last Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> October. Thank you to the Rev Mel, Rev Rachel and our Mountain Climbers who led both services. The Junior Choir sang beautifully in the KS2 service and in the KS1 service the children danced along to the 'Harvest Samba' song. The school's library was filled with your kind donations to Bexley Foodbank who were touched by your generosity.

## New school caterers



Our new school caterers will be starting after the half term. The school office have sent out lots of information for you to read and act upon in order for you to be able to order your child's meals every day. The system is changing so please make sure you have read all of this information (sent out 15<sup>th</sup> October). We are very hopeful that The Pantry will provide good meals for the children. As with any new system we expect there to be teething issues so please be patient with us.



## Postcard Home Competition Winners



At the start of each new academic year, all children have the chance to design the postcards that are awarded every day for children's good behaviour. As always, there were many entries and choosing the winners was very difficult. However, after a lot of deliberation, I am pleased to announce that the winners are:

Toni 6NC	Louis 6HA
Molly 3OC	Cruz 5JC
Ella 5CM	Evelyn 6NC
Ethan 6NC	Amelia 3/4EA
Clara 3/4EA	Lavinia 2HN

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

## Attendance



New attendance guidance was sent out to all parents at the beginning of September. I am really pleased to announce that the whole school attendance for this half term is over **97%** which is above the national average. We have carried on with the class weekly attendance awards and many classes have had a non-uniform day due to the class achieving 100% attendance. Thank you for your support as every day matters!



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## Fundraising this Half Term

### Jeans for Genes Day

On 20<sup>th</sup> September, we supported Jeans for Genes Day. The school raised just over £450 which will be used to help those who live with a genetic condition. Thank you for your support.



### Starfish Malawi Day



Today we had a fundraising event throughout the school to raise money for the Starfish Malawi charity. The school has very close links with this charity and have supported the Napache School in Malawi for many years. Thank you for your support and donations.

### Remembrance Poppies



It is coming to that special time of remembrance. When we return to school after half term (4<sup>th</sup> November), we will be selling poppies in school in order to raise funds for the Royal British Legion. The suggested donation is 50p. The clergy team will be leading a special worship of remembrance on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November.

### Parent Evenings

On Thursday last week and Wednesday this week we invited all our parents in to meet with their child's class teacher. It was an opportunity to see how they have settled in and to see what work they had produced since returning in September. Thank you for your support and it was lovely to see you all.

### Reminders!

#### 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. This also applies when dropping or picking up children at Cherry Tree.



**Uniform**

Please remember to name all of your child’s clothing. The lost property has already built up with many items left unclaimed. Children are not allowed to wear any other footwear apart from black shoes on days where they do not have PE. The only bags allowed are book bags or back packs. Tote bags are not allowed.



**Dates for your Diary**

<b>Tuesday 5 November</b>	School photos <b>(individual)</b> If your child has PE on either of these days, then they need to wear their school uniform to school and not their PE kit.
<b>Wednesday 6 November</b>	School photos <b>(family)</b> If your child has PE on either of these days, then they need to wear their school uniform to school and not their PE kit.
<b>Friday 15 November</b>	Children in Need – PJ day
<b>Thursday 28 November</b>	St Andrew’s Day – wear blue and white
<b>Friday 29 November</b>	Bring a bottle/own clothes day for PTA Christmas Fair
<b>Saturday 30 November</b>	PTA Christmas Fair
<b>Week beg 9 December</b>	Nativity week EYFS/KS1
<b>Friday 13 December</b>	Christmas Jumper day
<b>Friday 20 December @ 1.30pm</b>	End of term
<b>Monday 6 January</b>	New term starts



***All dates for the Christmas events and performances will be given out next half term.***

I wish you all a safe and relaxing half term and we look forward to welcoming the children back on **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November @ 8.30am**

Take care

Mrs J Ivil  
Head Teacher



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