

Friday 14th February 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Not only do we find ourselves at the end of another very busy half term, but we are now halfway through the school year! As you would expect, lots has been happening.

Children's Mental Health Week



Children's Mental Health Week took place last week with this year's theme being 'Know yourself Grow Yourself'. Place2Be's Children's Mental Health Week 2025 joined forces with Here4You to explore the importance of self-awareness and expressing emotions.

Here4You is supported by The Walt Disney Company, and through the characters of Pixar's *Inside Out* and *Inside Out 2*, the resources encourage children and young people across the UK to discover how getting to know who they are can help them build resilience, grow and develop.

On the Friday afternoon, all classes chose different activities to support them with their well-being. This included board games, dancing, craft activities etc.

Please follow the attached link to find out further details.

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/>

Safer Internet Day



Safer Internet Day took place in school on Tuesday of this week. The theme was, '**Too good to be true**'. In school, pupils in KS2 will be joining a live lesson through 'BBC Teach' where they stepped into the virtual world of Scam Smashers!

It was an exciting game where the players must outsmart digital tricksters to protect their personal information. The classes worked together, using their detective skills, and made it to the end of the Live Lesson beating the scammers!

This curriculum-linked lesson for 7–11 year-olds, created in partnership with Childnet, encouraged the children to discuss and respond to online safety issues, helping them navigate the digital world with confidence.

Safer Internet Day is also a good opportunity to remind parents of the [age restrictions](#) for a child to subscribe to any Social Media platform. This includes WhatsApp which has an age restriction of 16:

Age Restrictions for Social Media Platforms

Woolwich Polytechnic School for Boys

Age Group	Platforms
UNDER 13	Roblox, Sendit, Minecraft
13	Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, Pinterest, Google+, Tumblr, Reddit, Snapchat, LinkedIn, TikTok, Wink, BeReal
16	WhatsApp
18	YouTube, Foursquare, WeChat, Keek, Flickr, Kik (13 with parental permission)

Science Ninja day



On Wednesday 15th January, we had 3 scientists visit Old Bexley to see the fantastic learning that is happening in our weekly science lessons. The visitors observed lessons, looked at the children’s science books and spoke to some of the pupils. They were very impressed by the quality of learning that they experienced and how much the children enjoyed their science lessons! Well done to everyone for such a positive day!

Starfish Malwai



On Monday we were excited to welcome back Chris Knott, the founder of the charity Starfish Malawi. He came in to talk to the children about the fantastic work his charity does to support children in

Malawi. The school has had a long relationship with the charity and the Napache school and we are in constant communication with them. Chris is travelling back to Malawi in the summer and will be taking donations of books from Old Bexley.

Visit from the Bishop of Tonbridge



We were lucky to have Rev Simon Burton-Jones visit Old Bexley on Tuesday 21st January. He led Collective Worship in Key Stage 2. Rev Simon also met with some pupils where they had the opportunity to ask him questions. He was very impressed with the school and how eloquent and inquisitive the children were.

What have each year been up to?

EYFS



Early Years have had some interesting visitors this half term. We met some community police officers and learnt all about their job, tried on some of their uniform and even got to sit inside a police van. We have also talked to a dental nurse about looking after our teeth and she gave us a new toothbrush and toothpaste to take home.

Year 1



Year 1 have been busy in their DT lessons making windmills using paper cups and straws. We had to follow a design criteria to meet the needs of a user, making a stable structure with functioning sails/blades. We then used this process to write a set of instructions in our English lessons. We have had great fun even though it was challenging at times!

Year 2



Year 2 have been investigating local weather conditions in Geography. Children braved the weather to conduct fieldwork in school. We made and set up a rain gauge so we could record the amount of rainfall.

Year 3 and 4

Year 3 have enjoyed Art week this half term. We focused on drawing and learned about shapes, shading, adding texture and botanical drawings. We then used these skills to draw our own abstract drawing based on flowers.



Year 5



To conclude our learning on why oceans matter in Geography, Year 5 brought in recyclable items and upcycled them in order to prevent them from ending up in our oceans.

Year 6



Children have been studying the Old Testament commandments, learning how they bring justice to the world.

PTA News



The PTA would like to thank you for your support this half term. All the children enjoyed 'Break the rules' day on Friday 24th January. This fun event raised £740.36 which was amazing!

There are many PTA events coming up next half term. Please see dates for your diary at the end of this newsletter and the Wonderlicious flyer below.

7th March

Wonderlicious

WIN A GOLDEN TICKET

20 GOLDEN TICKETS must be found!

£2.50 per chocolate bar
100g, allergy-free alternative available
 Max. 2 bars per child

Golden Ticket Prizes Include:

- Family theme park ticket
- Family ticket to Summer Fair
- Smyths vouchers
- Smiggle vouchers
- Chocolate hamper
- Extra Golden Time
- Extra play time

and many more!

ORDER VIA THE OLD BEXLEY PTA WEBSITE
 live to buy; 24th Feb Wonderlicious day; 7th March

Road Safety



Thank you to those drivers who continue to park with care and consideration for both pedestrians and our neighbours. Please ensure you allow enough time to park safely and do not let your children get out of the car whilst you sit in traffic.

Can I also remind you that it is not acceptable to be abusive to the local residents. We always encourage our children to be kind and I need to ask this of all the adults too. I would appreciate your cooperation and support in this matter.

Dates for your diary

Monday 24 February	Return to school
Friday 28 February	St David's Day – wear yellow
Friday 7 March	Dress up day for World Book Day PTA Wonderlicious bars event (see above)
Monday 17 March	St Patrick's Day – wear green
Friday 21 March	Red Nose Day – wear red PTA KS2 Disco
Thursday 27 March	Parents Evening
Friday 28 March	Mother's Day sale PTA KS1 Disco
Monday 31 March	Year 4 Grandparents event @ 2.00pm
Tuesday 1 April	Year 4 Grandparents event @ 10.00am Parent's Evening
Wednesday 2 April	KS2 Easter Church services @ St Mary's Years 3 to 6
Thursday 3 April	Spring Music concert @ 6.00pm
Friday 4 April	Easter Hat Parade 1.30pm Finish

We wish you all a happy and relaxing half term and look forward to welcoming the children back on **Monday 24 February**.



Mrs J Ivil
Head Teacher

