

BCS NEWS

10th February 2023

*Fulfilling our potential, achieving excellence together
We are a Good school with Outstanding Early Years Provision*

Head's News

It is hard to believe we are now half way through the school year. This term seems to have flown by, faster than any other I have known. The pace of learning has quickened across the school, children have made progress in leaps and bounds in all areas of the curriculum, the school environment has developed on the outside with the arrival of the trim trail and on the inside with further attention paid to interactive displays around the school.

As a staff team, we are constantly striving to make sure we are implementing the highest quality of teaching and learning for your children. This term has seen staff engage in a wide range of training opportunities which support our vision **to inspire everyone to fulfil their potential, as we achieve excellence together**. In the second week of term, all subject leaders across the school met with fellow leaders from across the Tenax schools to discuss how they lead their subjects and share good practice. This directly benefits our children as our staff came back with a bank full of ideas on how we can adapt our lessons for our children to maximise the learning they are getting from our curriculum. Our History and Geography curriculum now have the benefit of being supported by resources from the Opening Worlds program - this is a hugely impactful program developed by two experts in their field, which focusses on using high quality vocabulary across the subjects and deepening children's understanding of the topics they are learning. The program also enables children to make links between the knowledge they are acquiring across subjects.

This week we welcomed Mrs Vicki Edwards, Head of School at Sir Henry Fermor School. Mrs Edwards spent the day with me and the Senior Leadership Team looking at how we monitor learning across the school, in order to pick up new strategies and ideas to take back to her school. On Wednesday I spent the day at West Malling School looking at their Inclusion Provision, along with staff from Fordcombe Primary School, reviewing excellent practice and discussing what we do at Bishop Chavasse. This sharing of ideas and experiences is what enables us to stay ahead of the game and ensure we provide your children with the very best, high quality teaching throughout their time with us. Every single child benefits from the shared experiences the staff are getting through the opportunities we have.



Key Dates

Monday 13th February to Friday 17th February
Half term

Monday 20th February
Start of Term 4

Tuesday 21st March
3.30-6.30pm parent consultations

Thursday 23rd March
4.30pm-7.30pm parent consultations

Easter Holidays
Mon 3rd April – Fri 14th April

Monday 17th April
Start of Term 5

Monday 1st May
May Bank Holiday

Monday 8th May
Bank Holiday for the coronation of King Charles III

29th May – 2nd June
Half term

Monday 5th June
Start of Term 6

Friday 21st July
Last day of term

ALL [TERM DATES](#) FOR 2022-24 CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEBSITE

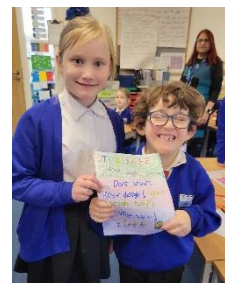


In other news

Internet safety day



This week, the children enjoyed a day full of safer internet and creating an open space to talk about how we can remain safe when using technology. KS2 had a visit from Joe Beard who worked his way along the classrooms delivering a talk about online safety and allowed the children to ask any questions. We created a whole school house group competition to create online safety posters! I



can't wait to look through them all and choose four winning posters to use around the school. Thank you to Joe Beard for all the help and information for the Parent Workshop. We wanted to run this to help parents understand how they can further support their children when using games or the internet. Thank you to



those that attended. Unfortunately, the zoom link didn't work. However, the presentation slides are available on the [curriculum/computing page](#), and we have recorded the workshop which will be uploaded onto the school website.



Kent Owl Academy Visit

On Wednesday, the children in Year 1 and Year 5 had the wonderful opportunity to get up close to owls and learn all about them when we welcomed the Kent Owl Academy into school. Watching a beautiful barn owl fly around our school and listening to just how quietly it flew was amazing, and having the chance to stroke one of the owls was a real highlight for many of the children. The children also enjoyed a workshop in their classrooms where they found out more about owl feathers, watched as an owl pellet was dissected and even had the opportunity to stroke one of the academy's friendly rats! This visit enabled the curriculum learning in both classes to really come to life.



Road safety

We were very fortunate to have Kent Road Safety visit our Early Years and Key Stage 1 children last week – they will be returning in April to visit our Year 5 children, some of whom are now permitted by their parents to walk home from school on their own. We have, however, seen worrying examples of children walking outside of the school talking on mobile phones, crossing the road without looking, and walking on the road and not the pavement. We would urge parents of children walking home alone to ensure they are aware of good road safety – there are resources available at: <https://www.think.gov.uk/education-resources/>.



Trim trail wellies

Half term is the perfect opportunity to ensure your children have wellies to bring to school to wear on the trim trail. After half term, if your child does not have wellies to change into, they will not be able to use the trim trail on their designated day.

Uniform

Over the past weeks, uniform standards have been slipping, shirts are not being worn, ties are not being brought in to school. Please may we remind you that a uniform creates a sense of belonging for the children. Please look at the uniform policy to remind yourselves what your children should be wearing to school so that they all arrive back at school in the correct clothing with the correct accessories.

The arrival of a half term break seems like the perfect time for children to devote some time to indulging in the journey a good book can take them on. You all have an exciting **Maths Scavenger Hunt** to complete too. I am sure, for many children, there will be some time spent on screens - hopefully the carefully planned work on Safer Internet Day and the workshop run by our highly knowledgeable parent, Mr Beard, will have equipped your children with the knowledge they need to ensure their screen time is fun, engaging and most importantly, safe. For others, some outdoor adventures may lie ahead, and some much-needed time to catch up with family and friends. Whatever you find yourselves doing over the break, the whole Bishop Chavasse Team wish you all a wonderful break.



Attendance this Week



This week's winners 2H with a fantastic 99.1%. In second place are Badgers with another impressive score of 96.6%, and in 3rd place 1C with 96.2%. 2H will receive their trophy after half term – well done 2H!

Watercolour painting club on a Tuesday

On a Tuesday after school there is a watercolour painting club which around 20 children attend. This term we have been looking at different artists and how they painted: artists such as Monet, Van Gough, and even a modern day artist Christine Hyland who is from Tonbridge.

“Watercolour club is a great way to relax, I especially like the club as I like how I can recreate the artist's work in my own way” - a child in year 5

“I really enjoy coming to watercolour and want to do it again” - a year 1 child.



Year 1 child interpretation of Georgia O'Keefe



Year 4 child and Year 1 child's interpretation of Kandinsky



Year 3

KS2 news



In English this week, children in Year 3 have been planning and writing their own retellings of fairy tales, using our experiences from retelling the Egyptian Cinderella. Pupils planned out the main points of the story, decided what they wanted to change and how it would affect what came after, before writing and editing in their books.



In Maths, we have been finishing off our learning on lengths and have moved on to looking at perimeter, learning what it means and how we can measure the perimeter of different shapes.

In Art, we have turned our cartouche designs into the real thing, making them out of clay and engraving our names in hieroglyphics. We will be adding our borders and painting them this week. In Science we have been conducting our own fair tests to find out why some people have stronger leg muscles than others, and whether people who exercise a lot get their breathe back more quickly after strenuous exercise. It has involved us doing a lot of exercise of our own!

On Friday 3rd February, we had an author talk by Abi Elphinstone, the author of *Finding Neverland*, a book which we have read extracts of in our reading lessons. She told us all about her life and how she became an author. She explained where she got the inspiration for her magical characters and settings, which was mainly through spending time outdoors in the wild and seeing animals such as wild cats in Scotland! However, she explained that you can also find inspiration in the everyday if you are curious, she even called one of the characters after a shower gel from TK Maxx! One tip she gave us to starting a story, is to draw a map and create a journey, maybe you would like to have a go at home! She has written lots of exciting adventure books which you may want to have a look at.



Year 4

This week in year 4 we have been working on our understanding of perimeter with unusual shapes in Maths and writing our biographies in English. We have celebrated safer internet day with special a visit from someone who works in the computing industry and we worked in house groups to create informative posters about how to be safe on the internet. In Latin we have explored different foods and in History we have explored the reasons behind the Roman-Jewish war. We are creating clay sculptures in Art and investigating the density of gasses in science. We have had a very busy term 3 and look forward to the new challenges coming up in term 4.



Year 5

This week in Year 5, the children were able to compare the book of Skellig to the film. The children discussed what was different in the film and the book and why they thought so. The children were then able to create a book review to discuss which parts were their favourite and why. In Maths, the children have continued to focus on fractions and decimals and how they relate to one another. The children have discussed tenth, hundredths and thousandths. On Tuesday, the children had a wonderful day discussing internet safety. The children used laptop to create a table and graph of the favourite games in their class. As part of their fabulous finish, the children had the owls in on Wednesday. The children were very lucky to see different types of owls as well as a falcon. The children all had the opportunity to stroke one of the owls and were all very surprised with how soft it was.

FOBCSA update

Thank you to everyone who made a donation for Own Clothes Day yesterday – we raised a fabulous £254, which will go towards our goal of more outdoor play equipment for KS1. We hope our forest learning equipment, mud kitchen and water run will be installed when we return next term.

An even bigger thank you for the amazing donations of vitally needed clothes and items for the Turkey earthquake appeal. The mum involved has asked us to pass on a huge thank you. Together we helped fill a van which will be heading to the hardest hit areas in Turkey.

And a third thank you for all the Krispy Kreme order forms. We will be busy sorting all the orders ready for you to pick up on Friday 24th February.

Finally, it may still be chilly, but an all important date for your diary!

