

# BCS NEWS

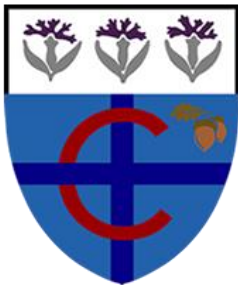
## 7<sup>TH</sup> October 2022

*Fulfilling our potential, achieving excellence together*

*We are a Good school with Outstanding Early Years Provision*

### Head's News

In a week where the weather has treated us to glorious sunshine and heavy rain, the children continue to flourish, thrive and blow us away with their impressive learning and behaviour at school. Following our hugely successful House trips last week, children have conscientiously settled back into regular learning patterns, working hard to impress their class teachers in the hope of earning house points for good work, a place in our magical Gold Book for exceptional work, or a Chavasse shield for the demonstration of excellent behaviour and social skills. It is a real privilege to be able to celebrate so much positivity within the school. Friday celebration worships are a chance for us to celebrate this exceptional learning and behaviour as each class teacher chooses a star of the week and someone from across the school is picked out of the Chavasse shield box to win a £5 book token. From listening to teachers deliberate and struggle to choose their star of the week, I know all our children are working to the best of their ability and rising to the challenges we set with excitement and enthusiasm. We cannot ask for more.



For those of you unfamiliar with our shields system, Chavasse shields are used to promote and reward good behaviour, manners and social skills across the school and are given out by every member of staff for actions such as holding a door open for an adult, thanking someone politely or supporting a peer- these are collected on a Friday and placed into a box where one lucky pupil's shield is pulled out as the winning one. What is also heart-warming to observe is how the rest of the school celebrate this child each week with claps and cheers, recommendations of authors and books to buy: compassion and kindness in abundance. Over the year, we hope to fill our Gold Book, make sure everyone is a Star of the Week and many children receive a book token to go shopping with.

### In other news

#### Office News

Many of you will have noticed the fourth desk in the office is now occupied and has a friendly face sitting behind it. We are delighted to introduce Wendy Grey as our new school receptionist. Wendy has many years' experience working as a school receptionist and is finding her feet quickly behind the office window. Please stop and introduce yourselves to Wendy when you are passing.

#### Website

Over the next few days, you should see some vibrant changes to the photos on our website. A huge thank you to one of our parents, Mr Richard Ingram, for giving up his time to come into school to take the photos and then ensure they were of the highest quality to showcase our wonderful school at its finest. We are extremely grateful for all his hard work.

### Key Dates

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October**  
– Harvest Festival at St Stephens Church

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October**  
– World Mental Health Day

**W/C 10<sup>th</sup> October** – Culture and Language week

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October**  
– Parent Consultation Evening

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October** – Parent Consultation Evening

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October** – Half Term

**Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October**  
– Inset day

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November** – Flu Vaccinations

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November** – Individual and sibling photographs

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas Fair

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December** – Whole school Christmas service at St. Stephens Church

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December**  
– Inset day

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December to Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2023** – Christmas holidays

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February** – Half term

**Year 1 Only** – Welly Wednesday's (every Wednesday)

## Tonbridge School boys

Each week we are fortunate to have boys from Tonbridge School who come in and support in lessons and at after school clubs. The children here are inspired and motivated by their conversations with the boys and eager to interact with older children. This week every class had a student with them for a whole day. The boys supported in lessons and on the playground with energy and enthusiasm, modelling engaging and respectful behaviours to our children throughout the day. Having visitors to the school not only introduces our children to the wider community but also supports our drive to develop relationships with local businesses and institutions.



## Reading around the world

At Bishop Chavasse, we believe the benefits of reading go beyond the opportunities offered in a school curriculum. Reading unlocks the door to all education. It opens children up to ideas, experiences, places and times that they may not have yet experienced. Involving families can play an important part in developing the reading culture of a school and research shows that children who are supported in their reading at home are more likely to enjoy reading and achieve more highly.

We would like to introduce 'Reading around the Universe', a whole school initiative to promote reading across the school. Each year group will have the following world themes:

EYFS – Planets

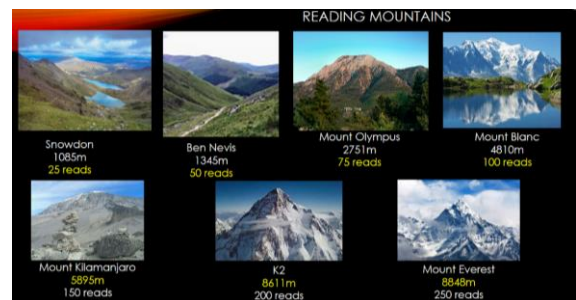
Year 1 - Continents

Year 2 - Mountains

Year 3 - Rivers

Year 4 - Skyscrapers

Year 5 - Seven Wonders



Within these themes, there will be seven different steps. At Bishop Chavasse, we encourage children to read every day at home and we will record how many reads they complete at home. The more reads at home, the quicker they will move up and across the different world landmarks. An example is shown below:

We believe 'Reading around the Universe' will excite the children and promote reading further at our school.



## Culture and Language Week World Expo

Teachers have been busy preparing a whole host of exciting and engaging activities for our culture and language week next week. Your children are in for an international treat and will have the chance to create artwork, feast on traditional foods as well as study high quality literature from the country and learn about the history and geography of their chosen destinations. This is another opportunity to widen the children's understanding of and develop their curiosity about the world beyond school. Don't forget that on Friday, children are invited to wear the colours of their flag in exchange for a donation of uniform for our second-hand uniform shop.

## Harvest reminder

A reminder that children in years 1-5 are meeting at St. Stephen's church on Monday morning at 8.45am to join together to celebrate Harvest. An email was sent out earlier in the week with arrangement details. To clarify arrangements for families with children in Early Years and further up the school, Early Years children who usually attend breakfast club at school will be met by Miss Decker and Miss Adams for breakfast club at their normal drop off time. All other early Years children with older siblings are welcome to be dropped off with their class teacher at 8.20am to allow parents to ensure their older children arrive at church on time. For children arriving at 8.20am, breakfast will not be provided. All other Early Years children to arrive at the normal school start time of 8.45am.

As a Christian school, establishing and maintaining strong links with our church is a very important part of our vision and so we are grateful to all families for supporting the different arrangements for Monday morning to enable children to take part in the service.



## Expectations meeting

We are looking forward to welcoming as many of you as possible to our parent information meeting about year group expectations, next week on **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October at 5pm**. Please arrive at school and make your way to the Hall for a prompt start.

## Parent Consultations

It seems hard to believe that is already time to hold parent consultations. For teachers, this is a great opportunity to share your child's progress with you and answer any questions you may have about your child's learning journey at school.

Appointment booking will go live on Arbor tomorrow, **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October, at 4pm**. Appointment slots will be available for **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 3.30-6.00pm** and **Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October 4.30-7.00pm**.

The booking lines will close at midday on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October for the Tuesday slots and at midday on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October for the Thursday slots.



## Somerhill Green Signs

It has been brought to our attention that children are climbing on the signs that indicate the entrance to Somerhill Green. Please note that these signs are private property and refrain from allowing your children to use them as climbing equipment.

## EYFS News

The children have had another brilliant week! They have been preparing for our Harvest Festival collective worship in school on Monday. The children have been learning the song 'Big Red Combine Harvester'. They have learnt the song beautifully and have created their own actions to accompany the song. We will take photos and upload these onto the EYFS page on the website next week for parents to see.



In maths this week the children have been learning the language 'more' and 'fewer'. The children have been able to compare amounts and explain which group has 'more' or 'fewer' objects. The children are challenging themselves by thinking about how they can make both sets the same. In exploring time, the children have been developing this learning using our grab mats and sorting bears.



This week, the children had PE on Tuesday. The children are trying really hard to get changed independently and had fun exploring different balances and different ways of travelling. If your child has not brought their PE kit into school yet, please can we have it in school ready for PE on Tuesday.

## FOBCSA update

Everyone should have received a form to pre-order your **Krispy Kreme doughnuts** - a treat for the last day of this term. £10 for 12 or £1 each. Please return your forms to the post box in the school reception by next Weds 12 October.

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to become a **class rep** - the communication channel we are reviving between parents in class whatsapp groups and teachers/FOBCSA. We will be announcing names shortly so look out for introductions soon.

Next Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October will be a 'bring in your old uniform' **own clothes day** for all pupils at the end of Culture and Language week. Please bring in a pre-loved piece of school uniform that you no longer need, if you are able, and children can come into school dressed in the colour of the flag from a country they are learning about in class. We are working to restock our second hand uniform supplies after last week's successful sale, which raised over £75. Even if you are not able to bring anything, it will be own clothes day for all.

## Did you know?

In the last of our current series about ways to raise money for the school: **Match Funding**. Match funding - sometimes also called match giving - is an informal, corporate arrangement between a company and an employee. Your company may agree to match a sum of money relating to the amount you (or FOBCSA) has raised or donated. So, for example, one of our parents asked their company to match fund last summer's fair to the tune of £3,000. It can be a brilliant way of raising money for the school! A quick google will let you know if your company offers match funding, or you can approach your employer directly. Any questions, please email us [friendsofbsca@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofbsca@gmail.com).

