



**Bassingbourn**  
Community Primary School

# Bassingbourn Community Primary School Weekly Newsletter

[www.bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk](http://www.bassingbourn.cambs.sch.uk)

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Tel: 01763 242460

8<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Dear Parents / Carers

*Welcome back to the second half of Autumn term. I hope that you have had a good half-term break.*

*It was great to see parents and carers this week, either in person or virtually. It was an opportunity for you to discuss your child's learning with their class teachers and to look through their workbooks to date. For parents in Miss Simmon's and Miss Brady's classes, we will arrange meetings for you as soon as our staff return to school. Thank you for your patience.*

*In this newsletter, we have provided you with a set of dates for parent workshops from this half term until the end of the academic year. We have tried to arrange them to accommodate the morning and the afternoon availability for parents. We will also be uploading the workshop presentations on the school website.*

*In celebration of Remembrance Day, Year 6 pupils did an assembly for the whole school earlier. The children have also made wreaths which will be laid by the War Memorial on Monday. We will also be having our whole school Remembrance Assembly on Monday with a two-minute silence.*

Ms Luu  
Headteacher

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## This Weeks Celebration Awards

Ben, Joseph, Declan, Eleanor, Dexter,  
Evelyn, Toby, Abishka, Lizzie, Tallulah



## Presentation Award



Noah, Lucy, Zoe, Jasmine, Maddison, Curtis  
Daisy, Lillia-Grace, Tansy, Isabelle

## ATTENDANCE

Congratulations to the following classes who achieved greater than 96% target for attendance:  
Week Commencing: 21<sup>st</sup> October 2024

Hockney 97.41%  
Van Gogh 97.39%  
Lichtenstein 97.20%

## Dates For Your Diary

12<sup>th</sup> Nov: EYFS Vision Screening  
12<sup>th</sup> Nov: Odd Socks Day!  
14<sup>th</sup> Nov: EYFS Reading Information Session 2:15-2:45pm  
21<sup>st</sup> Nov: EYFS Trip to Audley End  
29<sup>th</sup> Nov: Christmas Fayre 4:30-7pm



## Parent Workshops

3<sup>rd</sup> Dec. 9-10am – Emotionally Based School Avoidance  
12<sup>th</sup> Dec. 9-10am – Behaviour  
30<sup>th</sup> Jan. 2:15-3:15 – Reading  
20<sup>th</sup> Mar. 9-10am – Maths  
22<sup>nd</sup> May 2:15-3:15 – SEND  
17<sup>th</sup> Jul. 9-10am – School Development Update



## PE ROUNDUP

Well done to Niall in year 5 for being awarded with Man Of The Match last weekend. We are all very proud of you.



Mr. Mikelson

## EYFS News

This week in Reception we have been looking at a variety of celebrations that have occurred over the last 2 weeks.

We have been focusing on finding out about the Hindu festival Diwali. The children have learned how Diwali is the festival of light. They have made their own Diya lights using clay, which we will decorate once the clay has dried out. The children have enjoyed making their own Rangoli patterns out of loose parts as well as create them from chalk and powder paint in the playground. We finished off our learning about the festival Diwali with our colour run this afternoon, which was great fun and enjoyed by all!



We have been continuing to revise our single sounds in our phonics session and practice our blending to read and make simple CVC words such as hat, pen, dog.

In our maths lessons we have been consolidating our learning of numbers to 5 with a focus on counting backwards from 5 to 0.

Monet and Hokusai Class

## Anti-Bullying Week

Next week is 'Anti-Bullying Week'. In school, we will be discussing this with the children through assembly and class-based activities. This year's Anti-Bullying Week focus is 'Respect', which is one of our school's core behaviour values!

On Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November, we will be joining in with 'Odd Socks Day' and hope you will encourage the children to take part! Odd Socks Day provides an opportunity in school to have fun, for the children to be themselves, and spread awareness of the core values Anti-Bullying Week promotes. More information can be found here - [What is Odd Socks Day?](#) If you wish to donate towards the event, please do so via the webpage as detailed. We look forward to seeing the children's socks – worn proudly with their uniform on Tuesday!



# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators ENCOURAGING CHILDREN TO CHOOSE RESPECT

Sometimes, differences between children can escalate into bullying, potentially impacting their mental health in a way that can persist into adulthood. While it's natural to disagree sometimes, teaching children the importance of respect is essential – especially in difficult situations. This guide provides strategies for encouraging considerate behaviour, even during a dispute, to foster a kinder, more inclusive environment for everyone.

## 1 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

As adults, we play a crucial role in modelling respectful behaviour for children: they observe and learn from our actions every day. Be mindful of the way you interact with others in front of children. Keep in mind that you should always approach others with an attitude of mutual respect, even if you disagree with them. Demonstrating this behaviour can influence young people and help them to handle their own conflicts in a healthy way.

## 2 AGREE TO DISAGREE

Make sure children know that it's fine to have differing opinions – and that disagreeing with someone doesn't mean you can't get along or respect each other's point of view. Help them understand that sometimes we can 'agree to disagree'. Using active listening skills when doing this can also help to build empathy and understanding of others.

## 3 PROMOTE ACTIVE LISTENING

Teach children about the importance of active listening; that is, making a genuine effort to listen to the other person's perspective without interrupting, before responding in a way that shows you understand their viewpoint, even (or perhaps especially) if you disagree with it. This makes people feel respected and allows for a better comprehension of their point of view, which in turn can make it easier for you to communicate your own opinions to them.

## 4 ENCOURAGE THE USE OF "I" STATEMENTS

If a child finds themselves in a disagreement with someone, it can be useful to encourage them to use "I" statements during the discussion. Framing their thoughts and feelings using statements like "I feel ..." or "I think ..." can help them avoid an accusatory tone and encourages them to take responsibility for their own emotions.

## 5 FOCUS ON BEHAVIOUR, NOT CHARACTER

When disagreements happen, encourage children to focus on critiquing and addressing the specific actions or behaviours that caused this upset, rather than attacking the person's character. For example, "I didn't like how you interrupted me" is better than "You're so rude". This can help children avoid hurting someone's feelings, which is likely to inflame the situation.

## 6 STAY CALM AND TAKE BREAKS

It's perfectly normal to feel upset during a disagreement – especially if it's getting heated. Remind children that if they feel overwhelmed, they should try to take deep breaths or even go for a short break to help them stay composed. If a conversation becomes too intense, remind them it's OK to suggest continuing it later or in a different setting. This can prevent things getting out of hand, allowing cooler heads to prevail.

## 7 START CONVERSATIONS ABOUT RESPECT

Talk openly to children about what respect means – to you and to them. Discuss how they might show respect to each other, to friends, to strangers and even to people we might disagree with. You could use examples of considerate or inconsiderate behaviour in books, films or TV to open discussions about the importance of giving others due regard.

## 8 SEEK COMMON GROUND

When a disagreement has occurred between children, they may find it hard to move past it. You can support them in finding a more positive way forward by helping identify areas of agreement or common ground with the other party. This can help to build bridges between differing opinions and foster a more cooperative atmosphere, as well as preventing those involved from demonising each other.

## 9 AVOID MAKING THINGS PERSONAL

It's important that we make it clear to children they must avoid name-calling, swearing or derogatory remarks in a disagreement with others. Respectful language sets a positive tone and helps keep the conversation productive. Reminding children to stay calm and take breaks – as mentioned previously – can help them avoid getting too emotional and saying or doing something hurtful.

## 10 REFLECT AND LEARN

After a child has had a disagreement, encourage them to reflect on the experience and think about what they can learn from it. What did they handle well? How might they improve their communication skills to handle conflicts more effectively in the future? You could use role play, writing and drawing pictures, or hypothetical examples to further develop their skills in showing respect during a disagreement.

### Meet Our Expert

The Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA) co-ordinate Anti-Bullying Week each year. ABA is a unique coalition of organisations and individuals, working together to achieve their vision to stop bullying and create safer environments in which children and young people can live, grow, play and learn. They welcome membership from any organisation or individual that supports this vision and support a free network of thousands of schools and colleges.

ANTI-BULLYING ALLIANCE

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/choose-respect>

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## FOBS Update

We hope you all had a great half term!

We are blown away by the rainbow hampers, they look great! We have 14 hampers all set ready for our Christmas raffle. Thank you so much for all your generosity.



The donations for our raffle keep on coming in, we have received two £50 Amazon vouchers and two luxury dog grooming vouchers (£100 value) in addition to all listed on our poster. We are very grateful for all the raffle tickets being purchased. If you require any more tickets please get in touch via email - [friends\\_bcps@outlook.com](mailto:friends_bcps@outlook.com) or our face book page. Linzi, is also selling our raffle tickets, from 3-6pm at BOSC- press the bell on the gate. Alternatively catch one of our committee members on the school run.

We are still welcome to donations (sorry the list is very long) Christmas Jumpers, clean teddies, bottles (wine, shower gel, water etc). Our black amnesty bin, is out by the lost property.

One of our fabulous parents will be selling real Christmas trees on the night of our Fayre.

We also have Perfect aim Archery coming along, Carlie Maddren, will be in the DT room on the night, £3 a go, every player wins a prize.

We hope to see you all at our Christmas Fayre, on the 29<sup>th</sup> November 2024, 4:30 – 7pm. If anyone is able to help to set up the hall from 1:30pm or perhaps with a game stall from 4:30pm, 5:30, 6pm, please get in touch. It really helps to make the Christmas Fayre, such a great experience for all.

Thanks from all the team.

## Bassingbourn Care and Share Foodbank

Open every Thursday between 2-4pm. Users can pick 8 food items, 2 personal hygiene items and 2 cleaning products.

Foodbank forms are available to collect in reception at the school and should be taken when completed to the foodbank. The foodbank is now situated at the rear of the Old School Community Centre building and we would ask that you use the rear door to gain access.

