

Bawdeswell Primary School Newsletter



February 2024

Spring has Sprung!

As we head towards spring the days are getting longer; the weather is getting warmer and the buds are starting to come out. It is really beginning to feel like winter is coming to an end.

As we all know though, the weather can turn very quickly. Please make sure your child still brings a warm coat so we are able to continue our outdoor activities whatever the weather!

This month has been so busy, we have welcomed guests, had our Japan week and learnt about the importance of looking after our own and others' mental health.

Year 4-6 Club Football Festival

What a day! The weather was less than ideal for our Football festival this month. However, the children didn't let the rain dampen their spirits or their sportsmanship.

They did the school proud developing their football skills as defending, attacking, shooting and saving the goals! They then put these into practice in the afternoon taking part in a mini round robin football tournament, using these skills in games against the other schools.

We are so proud of all of them for showing resilience and positivity even though the weather had other ideas!



Japan Week

We have had a fantastic week learning all about Japan. Across the school we have learnt about the geography of the country, the culture, learnt some of the spoken and written language. There has been lots of Japanese food tasting and cooking going on as well.

Beech class have learnt to say Hallo and Goodbye; have tasted sushi; have made finger painting cherry blossom trees and compared London to Tokyo; finding out about similarities and differences; on top of this they have learnt a traditional Japanese folk dance.

Maple class have learnt the Japanese dance of Tanko Boshi Bon Odori; have learnt how to multiply like Japanese children; have used printing to create cherry blossom trees and made Japanese lanterns; as well as learning about Mount Fuji and building erupting volcanoes!

Elder class have learnt about the physical geography of Japan; designed and drawn their own Pokemon ball designs; practiced Kanji writing to create Easter cards for our friends in Japan and made Botamochi a traditional Japanese dish eaten during the spring Equinox.

Why not ask your child about their learning and get them to teach you some Japanese words perhaps!



Parking

A polite reminder to be considerate when parking and driving near the school. Whilst the road is wide and it feels like visibility is good, children are small; it can get very busy and it is a road junction.

We all need to work together to make sure our children are safe arriving and leaving school so please think carefully about how you drive near the front of the school and where you choose to park.

Beech Class

As always, Beech class were very busy in February. We have been learning all about London, finding out about lots of different landmarks in the capital and their history. In art we used our learning of weather symbols and collagraphs to create weather collagraphs through printing.

The children have really enjoyed learning about our inspirational person each week. They listen really well to their lives and the impacts they have made to so many people. Some children have begun to carry out independent research over the weekends ready to share their new learning with their friends which is amazing.

In English, we have been reading the book 'Billy and the Beast'. We went on a Beast hunt to make sure there were no beasts in Bawdeswell! After we had read the story Year 1 planned and wrote their own versions creating their own character and creature.

Children's Mental Health Week

February 5th to 9th was Children's Mental Health Week. This year the theme was My Voice Matters. We learnt all about how to important talking about our mental health is and discussed ways we can look after it.

We also learnt about Internet safety and what to do if we experience things on line that make us feel sad or uncomfortable.

For more information please look at the links on the school website or go to the Children's Mental Health Week website.



Maple Class

What another 'busy month we have had, the children always amaze me with their enthusiasm and joy of learning. We have debated topics such as 'Would we want to live forever?' and have had some really insightful ideas!

We have completed our art project on ammonites and produced some beautiful clay pieces. We have used our understanding of block printing to make cherry blossom prints to send to Japan.

This week has been Japan week and saw another fun filled and packed timetable of events!

We have practised our DT skills in using a hot glue gun and making an Obon Lantern, which helped us learn about the festival of Obon. We have practised a Japanese dance and had the opportunity to share this with other classes!

Elder Class

During February in Geography we have learnt about human geography and capital cities worldwide before looking at the UK motorway network and settlements. We then applied our knowledge and carried out an enquiry to identify our local settlement. We went for a walk around Bawdeswell and catalogued human features that we noticed. We could then use this evidence to explain why Bawdeswell is classified as a village and not a town or a hamlet.

In English we have studied Neil Gaiman's 'Sleeper and the Spindle'. We really enjoyed this book and we used it as a basis to write character and setting descriptions before writing our own stories.

In Art we have been photographers. We went into the woods and looked for interesting, natural patterns to photograph. We then edited our photos so they were black and white.



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Term Dates

March

5th	Mars Day and World Book Day
11th—15th	Big Plastic Count Week
12th & 14th	Parents Evenings
15th	Dance Show at The Space
18th—21st	Year 6 SATS Practice Week
21st	FOBS Easter Disco
21st	Adapted Sport for All Festival
27th	Last Day of Spring Term
28th—12th	Easter Break

April

15th	First Day of Summer Term
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May

2nd	Years 2-4 Tri Golf Tournament
6th	Bank Holiday
8th	Year 3 and 4 Visit to Foxley Wood
13th-16th	KS2 SATs week
20th-24th	KS1 Testing Week
21st	Class Photos
27th-31st	Half Term

June

3rd-7th	Malawi Week
5th	Year 4 Multiplication Check Week
8th	Summer Fete
10th—14th	Phonics Screening Week
17th-19th	Year 5 and 6 Residential
24th-28th	Sports Week
26th	Sports Day
27th	INSET

July

10th-11th	Year 6 RHS Transition Days
12th	Year 6 Day in the Woods
12th	End of Year reports to parents
17th	End of Year Concert

FOBS News

FOBS has been busy working behind the scenes this term. Coming up:

School discos are back! Thursday 21st March - letters will be coming home soon with more details. We need volunteers to help run the tuck shop, nail painting and tattoos or supervise (lead by example?!) dancing... Note that volunteers need to have an up to date DBS certificate for the school, but if you don't, let us know asap, as this can be arranged.

A **pre-loved uniform sale** will take place during the week beginning 11th March, after school in the cycle shed. Donations of items as listed on the school's uniform requirements are very welcomed (wellies and football shoes also). Please hand donations into the school office by Friday 8th March.

Our **School Fete will take place on Saturday 8th June 12-4pm - Save the Date!** There will be lots of games and activities, stalls, bouncy castle, archery, raffle, a fun dog show, bar, refreshments and more! We really need volunteers to organise and help out on the day itself. Tasks include helping to set up/ pack up tables, marquees etc., serving cakes/refreshments and supervising activities such as the bouncy castle, tombola and games. **In particular** we would love to hear from anyone who could source, cook and serve our own BBQ as this is something we would really like to do this year.

Last year's fete raised over £2000 which is contributing to valuable school resources and field trips in this academic year. Let's see if we can raise even more in 2024 - we can do it with your help!

Please get in touch if you can help in any way, big or small. Contact the FOBS team either on Facebook Messenger @FOBS or email bawdeswellfriends@gmail.com.

Alternatively you can contact us via the school office or grab Becca, Kerry or Kate in the playground!



Stars of the Month



Year R: Sebastian

Year 3: Violet

Year 1: Wilbur

Year 4: Ella

Year 2: Lily

Year 5: Lucy

Year 6: Bethany

Well done to all of you. We are so proud of how hard you have worked this month.