



Bitterne Park Primary School

April 2023 Newsletter

Inspire, Thrive, Achieve



Dear Families,

What a sunny start to our summer term! We hope the children had a lovely Easter break and we welcome them back, ready to learn.

Sun hats and sunscreen are essentials for safe outdoor play. Please may I remind you to send the children into school ready for the sunny weather with hats and sun-cream already applied. We provide plenty of fresh water in our classrooms and the lunch hall. It is always available and therefore water bottles are not required. Thank you for your support as always – it makes such a difference.

Tea, coffee and biscuits morning drop-in



Thank you to those who have attended our coffee mornings. The next one will be on **Thursday, 4th May** and will be held in the KS1 hall. We hope this will be another way to drop in and have an informal chat and cup of coffee or tea with a member of the senior team. We do have an open-door policy, but hope that this regular slot will enable more of our families to come in and share any positive or development items that you may have.... or just pop in to say hello!

ECO update

Growing! Growing! Growing! We have plants growing in our grounds, in our classrooms and in your homes. The weather in general has been helpful. A little bit of sunshine and a lot of rain is keeping our outdoor plants healthy. The classes are busy making plans for our Big Help Out days, which will be the last week of this half term. Our focus will be our grounds and the plants and wildlife that can be encouraged within it, giving them the best possible chance to flourish.

You may remember that before Easter our Eco Warriors were given a wonderful opportunity to participate in filming for the WWF and RSPB, who are linking together with the BBC to promote providing more spaces for native nature to grow. Below is the link to the finished product. I think you will agree it is a fabulous piece of film and demonstrates our passion for nature and a better world. It truly shows that our children are architects of better worlds.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QX2yXDcVdic>

School of Sanctuary

Some of our School of Sanctuary Ambassadors have been busy creating a PowerPoint presentation to showcase all the hard work and dedication everyone in school displays towards being welcoming. They plan to share this at our partnership schools, supporting them in working towards their School of Sanctuary accreditation.



Other School of Sanctuary Ambassadors have been exploring the different languages spoken in their classrooms and have displayed these on orange hearts, representing compassion for people fleeing war and persecution!

We are very much looking forward to continuing to ensure that our school is a happy, safe and welcoming place for those seeking sanctuary.

Fiver Challenge

The children have become entrepreneurs in their classrooms, aiming to raise lots of money for charity. It all started with a £5 note: they have created business names and are working hard on creating unique and bespoke products to sell. At the end of the school day, on different days of the week, the children will have their stalls out on the playground, aiming to sell as many of their products to our wider school community, helping their £5 to grow, meaning they can then make more and more products and in turn make more and more money for charity. We will be asking our school councilors to put forward charities that they have researched from class discussions. The finale is our Fiver challenge fete on Thursday 6th July, where we look forward to welcoming our families and wider community.

Here is a list of their businesses and products that will be on sale:

Class	Business Name	Product	Days on sale	Class	Business Name	Product	Days on sale
Year R	Cookies of some sort	Cookies	Fridays	3W	Perfect Pebbles	Knocking down tin cans/ key rings	Wednesdays
1A	1A-eroplanes	Peg aeroplanes	Mondays	4CH	Lovely lemonade	Lemonade stall	Tuesdays
1H	Frozen Happiness	Ice lollies	Mondays	4M	Cookie Community	Cookie Jars	Wednesdays
1M	A gift from me to you	Paracord Key rings	Thursdays	4P	4P Flower Shop	Flowers and Pots	Wednesdays
1P	Super Slime!	Slime	Mondays	4S	Mystery Reads	Mystery book sale	Wednesdays
2BH	Beautiful Bookmarks	Bookmarks	Tuesdays	5P	Easy Squeezy Emojis	Flour Balloons	Thursdays
2H	Nothing but Sun	Sunflowers	Tuesdays	5S	Terrific T-shirts	T-shirt selling and creating/ designing.	Tuesdays
2KM	Pretty plants!	Home-grown plants	Tuesdays	5W	Shakes 'n' Cakes	Milkshakes and cakes	Thursdays
2M	Pompom Pals	Pompom key rings	Tuesdays	6H	Plants4U	Growing plants	Fridays

3Ch	The Lava Generator	Lava lamps	Thursdays	6Q	Quality Creations	Paper Products	Fridays
3GH	Save the bees	Seed sticks (toilet roll seeds)	Wednesdays	6S	Too hot to handle	Recycled fans	Fridays
3P	Art Hub	Making art to sell	Wednesdays	6T	Paper Paradise	Paper Crafts	Fridays

PTFA News

The Film Club was a huge success with over 200 children attending! Many thanks to the parent volunteers and teachers, who gave their free time to make sure that the ratios in place enabled this event to occur.

The Year 3 and 4 disco will be held on Thursday, 18th May. More information will follow shortly from the PFTA.

House Competitions

Welcome back everyone!

A huge thank you for all your hard work with our house competitions last half term. The children should all be incredibly proud.

This half term we have some more exciting competitions for you all to take part in.

Sports:

Our sports competition this half term will be our sports day, with the children taking part in a range of activities throughout the day to earn points for their houses. Sports Day is on Friday, 19th May (weather permitting).

Knowledge:

With the upcoming Coronation of King Charles III, our knowledge competition will be a King Charles quiz. The children will be learning interesting facts about the new King and will be quizzed each week to earn points.

Charity:

The charity competition this half term will be a sponsored walk around the field. Each house will be collecting funds for a different charity, which will be announced next week.

Curriculum and Enrichment

Year R

Literacy: This week, we have been learning about the traditional tale Jack and the beanstalk. A magic beanstalk grew in Blue base and we have written amazing stories about what is at the top.

Maths: This week in maths, we are learning all about measuring. We are learning about standard units of measure. We have discussed centimetres and metres!

Foundations: We have been planting cress for Olivier, Miss O'Donnell's tortoise. He is very grateful and we have learned that they need water, sun and air to grow!

Busy Bee: We had a tower building competition and our tallest tower was 55cms tall! Well done Sofia. We have also been tending to our gardens and watching our plants grow.

Year 1

Multiplication Magicians!

This week, Year 1 have been using their excellent Maths skills to learn all about multiplication! We found out that when we multiply, all our groups need to be equal. We used a range of different resources to help us with our learning, such as multilink, counters and Miss Peacey even showed us some real life examples with doughnuts and bread rolls! We found out that it's important to count in groups of numbers that we know (like 2s, 10s and 5s) so that it helps us count numbers quickly!

Somebody Swallowed Stanley

In Guided Reading, we have been exploring our class text 'Somebody Swallowed Stanley', all about a plastic bag in the ocean that gets mistaken for a jellyfish! The animals in the ocean swallow him up without realising and get poorly! We have been putting our eco-hats on, and have been discussing how the author's words make us feel and making links between the book and the problems we face in our world now. We finished off our topic by taking an item that would normally be put in the bin, and recycling it into a piece of art.

Year 2

Do you know the difference between a 2D and 3D shape? Well, Year 2 can tell you all about the properties of 2D and 3D shapes. Why don't you ask them how many vertices a cuboid has or how many sides a circle has? They will wow you with their mathematical expertise! If you want to challenge your children at home, how many shapes can they spot around the house or out and about in Southampton?

On your marks....get set....COLLAGE! This week we will be starting our new art topic and learn all about the well-known artist Henri Matisse. Building on their understanding of collage from art week, the children will recap some of the techniques we learnt in preparation for creating their own minibeast at the end of term! We can't wait to see their final outcomes at the end of term. Come along to our Work Expo at the end of summer term to see all the children's hard work!

Year 3

G'day mate! We are loving geography so far this term! We are continuing our theme of climate change but this time focusing on the impact on the Great Barrier Reef. So far, we have identified where Australia is on a map and the oceans surrounding it. As well as this, we discovered some very interesting facts about Australia! Did you know that Australia is 32 times bigger than the UK?! This week, we will be retrieving our learning from Autumn 1 on the UK and making comparisons between the two areas before we explore some of the key issues that are impacting the Great Barrier Reef.

Year 4

Money, money, money

Year 4 are off to a brilliant start this half term proving that they are marvelous money mathematicians! The children have enjoyed conceptual activity challenges such as making different amounts in the most efficient way. Money has presented fantastic opportunities to interweave purposeful revisit knowledge related to the four operations and fractions as well! We have explored real life open ended problems revolving around food menus which has been really engaging (and made us a little bit hungry!). There has been plentiful

opportunities to discuss and estimate general pricing different items from a pint of milk to the cost of a house. Keep up the great work, Year 4!

Year 5

Go gadget! This week during writing the children have been specially chosen for a secret mission by MI5. But shhh this is top secret! Each child will be designing a brand new gadget along with explaining their functions and features. In lessons this week we have been exploring and understanding the features of explanation texts and the use of technical vocabulary.

Can you keep our mission hidden from our enemies?

Year 6

Science - Delicious Digestion

As part of our topic on the human body, in year 6 we have been learning all the fascinating details about how our bodies extract nutrients from the food we eat. As well as learning many of the organs involved and technical vocabulary about the various processes we will be creating our own 'stomach' to simulate digestion of some crackers. After this practical fun we will evaluate the model to see how well it demonstrates the real process in our bodies.

Tasty!



Year 6 Residential to Skern Lodge

Year 6 are becoming very excited about the residential to Skern Lodge in July. Many parents are paying in regular instalments and I would like to thank you for ensuring these are up to date. Full payment needs to be made by 19th May 2023, as Skern requires payment at this time.



The current Year 5s are also beginning to get very excited about going on the same residential to Skern Lodge in July 2024. There will be a meeting for parents on Tuesday 16th May at 3:45pm in the KS2 hall to provide more information.

Competition Winner

Across the partnership, we held a 'Pip and Pap' Design an Easter Egg Box competition for Years R to 2. We had so many entries - and some absolutely spectacular designs!

Congratulations to Orla (Year R) who was the winner at Bitterne Park Primary School! David Tomkins, Pip and Pap series illustrator, took her design and turned it into a real life Easter Egg box. We hope that Orla enjoyed her chocolatey treat!



Take a look at our gallery of entries at:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JxMEsJis00c>

The Pip and Pap Shop is now live – you can order decodable reading books for home use at www.pipandpapshop.co.uk. There is no obligation to buy, children will continue to borrow books in school as usual

REMINDERS

Dates for your Diary

- Monday, 1st May – May Day bank holiday
- Monday, 8th May – King's Coronation – extra bank holiday
- Tuesday, 9th May – Friday, 12th May – Year 6 SATS Week
- Thursday, 18th May – Year 3 and 4 PTFA Disco
- Friday, 19th May – Sports day and family picnic
- Thursday, 25th May – Inset Day
- Friday, 26th May – Inset Day
- 29th May – 2nd June – half term
- Friday, 9th June – Great Gardening Day
- Tuesday, 6th June – 13th June – Scholastic Book Fair
- Thursday 6th July – Fiver Challenge Fete
- Monday, 10th – 14th July – Year 6 Residential to Skern Lodge
- Friday, 21st July – break up for the Summer Term
- Monday, 4th September – Inset Day
- Tuesday, 5th September – Pupils return to school



Have a great half term.

Executive Headteacher