



# The Botwell Bulletin

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025

## VR Workshops

Year 3 enjoyed our Virtual Reality workshop this week, which was a great way to start our new Rainforest topic.

The children saw the different layers of the Amazon rainforest and flew over the emergent layer as well as lurking amongst the creepy crawlies found on the forest floor.

We then came face to face with leafcutter ants, the Amazonian tarantula, the slow moving sloth, the deadly jaguar and the mischievous capuchin.

It was an amazing experience for all the children.

Year 6 too, enjoyed an incredible VR workshop that truly brought Shackleton's expedition to life!

It allowed us to virtually explore Antarctica and understand the challenges he faced.

This immersive experience enriched our Geography and English lessons, providing us with a deeper insight into the polar regions and the significance of perseverance and teamwork in extreme conditions.



## Upcoming events

- WB 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> March - Book Week
- Tue 4<sup>th</sup>/Wed 5<sup>th</sup> March – Poetry workshop for children
- Wed 5<sup>th</sup> Mar – Ash Wednesday Mass 9.30am
- Wed 5<sup>th</sup>, Thu 6<sup>th</sup> and Mon 10<sup>th</sup> March – Book Fair (after school in hall)
- Thu 6<sup>th</sup> Mar – World Book Day dress up day (children to dress as their favourite book character and bring the book along to share with their class)
- WB 10<sup>th</sup> Mar – Science Week
- Mon 10<sup>th</sup> Mar & Fri 14<sup>th</sup> March– Science workshop for children
- Wed 12<sup>th</sup> Mar – Police talk for Reception & Year 1 children
- Wed 19<sup>th</sup> Mar – Fire Brigade to visit Year 4 children

## **African Dance and Drumming Workshop**

Year 1 had an incredible time at our African drumming and dance workshop, where we explored rhythmic beats and energetic movements. We loved experiencing the vibrant music and culture, making it a truly memorable. Check out the photos below!



## **Book Week is Coming—Let's Celebrate!**

Next week brings a special treat,  
A celebration that can't be beat!  
It's Book Week—a time for cheer,  
With World Book Day drawing near!

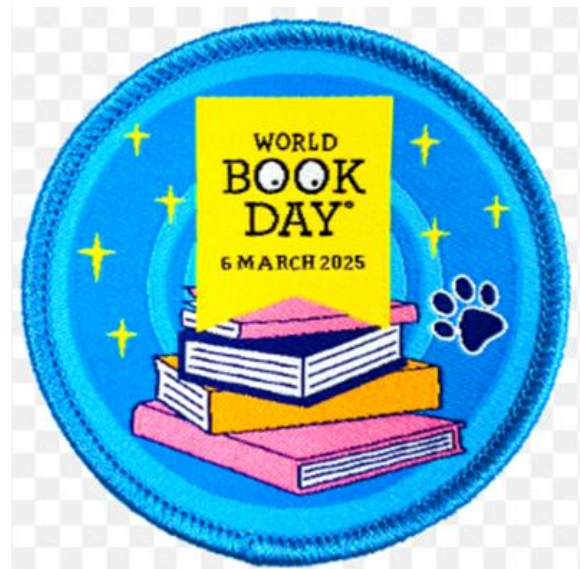
This year's theme is poetry,  
With styles to learn for all to see—  
Acrostics, haikus, limericks too,  
Creative minds will shine right through!

Each child will write or take the stage,  
To bring their poems off the page.  
A prize awaits the best in class,  
For rhymes and verses sure to last!

A poet's workshop—how exciting!  
With tips to make our words more striking.  
And after school, come take a look,  
At our amazing book fair books!

Then Thursday 6th, don't forget,  
Dress as a character—we can't wait yet!  
Bring your book to share and read,  
Let's spread the joy—a reader's creed!

A week of fun for everyone,  
With stories, poems, and laughter spun.  
So get ready—it's almost here,  
Book Week's the best time of the year!



## **Vet and Fire Brigade Visits**

This week in Reception we have had some special visitors. The fire service came let us sit in their truck and send water across the playground, which was great fun. We were also visited by trainee vet, Mia Galleni, who showed us how to bandage an injured puppy. We all had a fantastic time and learnt lots.



## **Price & Buckland School Uniform Price Increases**

Please read the statement below from our uniform provider Price & Buckland about price increases:

*We always take great care when looking at our prices and where possible we hold them where we can, especially of core uniform items. For example, the price of our embroidered polo shirt and cotton rich sweatshirt and cardigans have remained unchanged for 3 years.*

*As manufacturers, we can often negate some of the impact of rising costs, however with the well-publicized rises in National Insurance and The Living Wage, prices of some garments will have to go up.*

*None of the regular garments shown on our website will be going up in price by more than 50p except for embroidered bags and hats which are increasing by £1.00 unless you opt for a printed logo instead of embroidery, in which case prices will remain the same.*

*Price increases will take effect from 1st April.*

*For our online customers, the delivery charge remains unchanged and we continue to offer FREE returns, FREE delivery to school for those that accept it, and FREE delivery on orders over a certain value. To help further, this summer we are introducing Klarna which will enable parents/carers to spread payment over 3 months.*

Price & Buckland's website can be accessed [here](#). To access their new video resource which supports navigation of their new website click [here](#). Alternatively, scan the QR code below:



## **Tissue Donations**



It's that time of year again when coughs and colds are doing the rounds in school and many of our children have the sniffles. We would be extremely grateful for anyone who is able to donate a box of tissues for their child's class as the children are going through them rapidly.

Thank you in advance for your support.



## Uniform reminders

We are still seeing some of our older children coming into school wearing leggings. The material on the majority of leggings is thin and tight, and can be see-through. This is not appropriate for school. Please can parents refer to our uniform policy which shows that navy blue jogging bottoms should be worn for PE sessions.



Can we also remind parents that any earrings worn should be small gold/silver studs, as shown in the picture on the left.

A number of children are still wearing large earrings or hoops which pose more of a danger during PE lessons and outdoor play. If children arrive at school with unsuitable earrings, they will be asked to remove them.

## St David's Day Recipe

Thank you to Gigi Ferrer who has shared with us another fantastic recipe. This week, in celebration of St. David's Day on Saturday, Gigi has provided us with a recipe for making Welsh cakes. Why not have a go at making some with your child over the weekend? They look delicious.



**Welsh Cakes**

**Ingredients:**

- 1/3 Cup Self Raising Flour
- 1/2 tbsp Currants
- 1 tsp Caster Sugar (and extra to sprinkle)
- 1/4 Tsp Nutmeg
- Pinch of Salt
- 2 tbsp Butter
- 2-3 tbsp Oat Milk
- Oil to fry

**Have your utensils ready!**

**To make the Welsh Cakes:**

**Step 1**  
Mix the flour, salt, and nutmeg in a bowl. Rub in the butter with your fingertips to make a fine, breadcrumb consistency.

**Step 2**  
Add the sugar, currants, milk, and bring together as a dough ball. If the mixture is too dry, add more milk.

**Step 3**  
Roll out and cut into circles.

**Step 4**  
At home, heat some oil on a frying pan and cook for 3 - 4 minutes per side until lightly golden! Sprinkle some sugar immediately and enjoy with jam or butter!

## Attendance

This week's attendance for each class is shown below. The percentages are still quite low in many classes but we are aware that there is a lot of illness going around. Well done to the 5 classes whose attendance was 96% or above and in particular to 2L and 2P who both had 98% attendance.

The winners for each phase this week are:

Reception: Reception I

Years 1/2: 2L and 2P

Years 3/4: 3M and 4B

Years 5/6: 6S

Class	Percentage
Reception C	90%
Reception D	89%
Reception I	91%
1B	95%
1H	87%
1W	89%
2C	88%
2L	98%
2P	98%
3B	92%
3M	97%
3P	95%
4A	94%
4B	96%
4N	89%
5B	95%
5J	91%
5S	94%
6B	92%
6S	96%
6W	92%



## **Prayer and Reflection**

This Saturday, 1st March, we celebrate St. David's Day, the patron saint of Wales. St. David was born in the year 500, the grandson of the King of Ceredigion. According to legend, his mother St. Non gave birth to him on a Pembrokeshire clifftop during a fierce storm. The spot is marked by the ruins of Non's Chapel, and a nearby holy well is said to have healing powers.

St. David became a renowned preacher, founding monastic settlements and churches in Wales, Brittany and southwest England – including, possibly, the abbey at Glastonbury. St. David reputedly made a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, from which he brought back a stone that now sits in an altar at St. David's Cathedral, built on the site of his original monastery.

The most famous miracle associated with St. David took place when he was preaching to a large crowd in Llanddewi Brefi. When people at the back complained that they could not hear him, the ground on which he stood rose up to form a hill. A white dove, sent by God, settled on his shoulder.

St. David died on 1 March in 589. He was buried at the site of St. David's Cathedral, where his shrine was a popular place of pilgrimage throughout the Middle Ages. His last words to his followers came from a sermon he gave on the previous Sunday: 'Be joyful, keep the faith, and do the little things that you have heard and seen me do.'

*God our Father,*

*You called your servant David to uphold the Christian faith*

*amongst the people of Wales,*

*to encourage them by his observance*

*of fasting and obedience,*

*and to show them compassion through small acts of great love.*

*As light is poured onto the mountain-tops*

*and as fresh rain is sprinkled on the hills,*

*help us to be good carers of one another*

*and of Your great and glorious Creation.*

*Amen.*



