

The Botwell Bulletin

Friday 15th November 2024

Remembrance Day



On Monday, which was Armistice Day, the nation remembered all of those in the armed forces who lost their lives during past and present wars.

To commemorate this day in school, our children held their own remembrance ceremony at the junior prayer garden, where they upheld two minutes of silence as

well as placing a wreath of poppies at the foot of our Mary statue.

Maths Week











Our children have had a fab week celebrating Maths Week. They started their week by dressing up in a maths themed costume. We saw some amazing homemade costumes that were really creative. Thank you to all the parents who supported with this!

Each class also took part in a Problem Solving Workshop. These maths problems challenged not only their brains but also their team building skills as they worked in small groups to solve the problems.

Our junior children have been working hard all week to plan and make items to sell in their sale today. A huge range of maths skills were used for this, including various forms of measurement, designing and making nets and adding and subtracting money. As

Upcoming events

- WB 18th Nov Y5 swimming
- Tue 19th November Y5
 science workshop
- Thu 21st Nov Parent book look @3.15pm
- Thu 21st Nov Indoor athletics competition (Swakeleys School) 9.00am-12.00pm
- Thu 21st Nov Ranger Stu to see Y1 (animal workshop)
- Fri 22nd Nov Y6 heart dissection workshop
- WB 25th Nov Y5 swimming
- Fri 6th Dec Choir performing at Heathrow Airport
- Tue 10th Dec Y1/2 nativity (buggies and babies)
 @9.30am
- Tue 10th Dec Reception nativity (buggies and babies)
 @1.45pm
- Tue 10th Dec Carols by candlelight, Church @6pm
- Thu 12th Dec Choir performing for Age UK @12.30pm
- Wed 11th Dec Reception nativity (adults only) 9.30am
- Wed 11th Dec KS1 nativity (adults only) @1.45pm
- Thu 19th Dec Party day (own clothes)
- Thu 19th Dec Nursery party (stay & craft). Last day for Nursery
- Fri 20th Dec End of term @12.50pm (Rec/KS1)
 @1.00pm (KS2)

you can see from the photos above, the sale was a great success and left over items were sold after school. Thank you to everyone who helped with this.

Football Team



Well done to our football team for their first victory of the season against Guru Nanak.

It was a very tight game but the team played superbly and worked well together as a team.

The final score was 1:0 to Botwell.

Fred's Birthday Party









Our Reception children had a fun time today celebrating the birthday of Fred the phonics frog today. As you can see, the ingredients they bought from Lidl last week were turned into a scrummy looking birthday cake and the children enjoyed eating it. They also enjoyed playing Pass the Parcel and throwing and catching balloons. They all had an amazing time, and we are sure that Fred enjoyed the party as well!

Hand, Foot and Mouth

There have been cases of Hand Foot and Mouth within the school.

This is a very common viral illness and is generally mild. It is most contagious in the first 7 days and is spread by direct contact with body fluids and coughing and sneezing. It is important to teach our children good respiratory hygiene. Please teach them to use tissues to blow their noses and to cough into, how to dispose of them and how to wash their hands

Children are safe to return as soon as they are feeling better.

The symptoms

Your child may develop a fever, a temperature of over 38°C, 1 or 2 days later a rash may appear with blisters on their hand and feet and on the tongue. The incubation period is 3 to 5 days.

Pregnant Women

There is usually no risk to pregnant women but it is advisable to avoid close contact with anyone who has hand foot and mouth.

If you are at all concerned, please speak to your midwife.

It is not necessary to see a GP a visit to the local chemist can confirm hand foot and mouth.

For further information, please see the NHS website.

Thank you Ms Rayner Welfare Officer

Book Look

We are inviting families to our autumn term 'Book Look' on Thursday 21st November. This event is a chance for you to look through your children's books, along with your child, and see their learning journey since the beginning of the year. It also gives you the opportunity to check out their learning environment. Your child's class teacher will be present in the room to facilitate the Book Look but please note that they will not be answering questions about your child's learning or progress. This should have been discussed at parents' evening.

The event will start at 3.15pm and will finish at 4.00pm promptly (last entry into classrooms will be at 3.50pm). If you have more than one child at the school, please be mindful of the time so that you have a chance to visit all of their classrooms. We don't want any disappointed children.

Staff will call parents in a year group at a time to ensure that staircases do not become overcrowded. Please wait in your usual collection area to be called.

Scooters/Bikes etc



Can we remind families once again that scooters/bikes etc are not to be ridden up the school driveway/in the infant playground during drop-off and collection. We have a designated area at the end of the driveway (just before entering the infant playground) where bikes and scooters can be stored safely. With so many families in such a small space, children riding on scooters could easily collide with someone else and cause an injury. Thank you for your support with this.

Parish Christmas Bazaar

Next Saturday, (23rd November) the parish will be having their Christmas Bazaar from 12.30pm until 4.00pm. If families wish to support or donate, please could you bring in the following items into school next week (by Friday at the latest):

- Jars containing sweets examples shown
- Wrapped sweets
- Stationery
- Small toys

Children can bring the items to their class teacher. They will then sort the items ready for the sale.

Birthday chocolates

We would like to re-iterate that families are not to give out birthday chocolates or sweets anywhere on the school site. We have a number of children with nut allergies and any contact with nuts could cause a severe allergic reaction. Last week, a staff member saw chocolates being given out on the infant playground at the end of the day; some of these chocolates contained nuts. Please support us with this to ensure the safety of all our children.

Borrowed clothing from Welfare

If any families still have any school uniform/underwear that has been borrowed from Welfare, please could you wash it and return it to school as soon as possible. We are running very low on spare uniform and need to make sure we have enough in stock for emergencies. Thank you.

Also, if any parents have spare uniform that they no longer need and are willing to donate, we would be very happy to receive it.

Attendance

As a school, we are always striving to improve the attendance of our children. Research has shown that poor attendance can affect children's attainment and progress, their wellbeing and wider development. They are less likely to achieve the expected standard at the end of primary school and are more likely to achieve lower grades at GCSE level.

Poor attendance also creates gaps in children's learning, which affects not only their attainment but also their self-esteem and being able to develop and sustain friendships.

To encourage good attendance, we will be taking on a number of initiatives over the course of the year, starting with a weekly attendance reward for the class in each phase who has the highest attendance. Children from that class will receive extra playtime for their efforts.

We will also be publishing the weekly attendance for each class in the Bulletin.

Prayer and Reflection

This coming Sunday, 17th November, is World Day of the Poor. It was established by Pope Francis in his Apostolic Letter, Misericordia et Misera, issued on 20 November 2016, and is celebrated annually on the 33rd Sunday of ordinary time. The theme this year is "The prayer of the poor rises up to God", which is taken from the Book of Sirach (cf. Sir 21:5), which Pope Francis says is not sufficiently known and deserves to be discovered for the richness of its themes. In his message for this World Day of the Poor, the Holy Father reiterates that "the poor hold a privileged place in God's heart" and invites everyone to learn to pray for the poor and to pray together with the poor, with humility and trust.

We pray for the intercession of Our Lady, whose loving arms embrace those who are poor.

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy,

Hail, our life, our sweetness and our hope.

To you do we cry,

poor banished children of Eve.

To you do we send up our sighs,

mourning and weeping in this vale of tears

Turn then, most gracious advocate,

your eyes of mercy toward us,

and after this, our exile,

show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb,

Jesus.

O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

