

PRIMARY NEWSLETTER September 2024

IN THE KNOW

Dear Parents /Carers / Grandparents,

We would love to raise our profile across Facebook so the local community know we are here alongside secondary as well as share all the amazing things we do. Please can you give us a follow, ask friends and family to give us a follow and share any of our posts if you would like to. We will be tagging in any businesses we are working with including any trips we go on.

Please remember: if you DO NOT want your child posted on Facebook, please let us know.



**Bournville All-Through,
Primary**

40 likes • 73 followers



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SWIMMING

I want to update you with changes in swimming that have happened this year and the reasons for this. We have been running swimming for primary now for a few years and the school pay fully for this. This is unusual for a school, however, our Trust want to keep costs to a minimum for parents. Unfortunately, the cost for the coaches to and from swimming were costing us £12,000 per year and this is an amount we couldn't sustain. We therefore had to make the decision to either stop swimming altogether or move locally so we could walk to the pool. We value swimming as a life skill and confidence builder in children, as well as a fun and engaging opportunity for children to learn

and play out of a school environment. We have therefore moved our lessons to the Linden Road pool and we walk the children there and back. We appreciate that some children will be familiar with being transported in a car and may not play outside in all weather while other families walk to school in all weathers and have the space for their children to play outside come rain or shine. So with this in mind, please can you ensure your child/ren are equipped to walk with the correct outdoor clothing. We don't mind them bringing wellies if it is raining or an umbrella. We will place some wellie racks outside the Key Stage 2 classrooms so children can store their wellies safely. But this will be a permanent change. We will be opening a ,Pre-Loved Uniform store once a term so if you require coats, these can be collected from this store to help with cost.

STAFF CHANGE

We also have some sad/happy news to report. Mr King will sadly be leaving us at Christmas this year. He was successful in gaining a position as a Deputy Head Teacher in a large primary school. This means that he will be able to develop even more as a leader, helping to improve a larger staff team and school thus enabling him to grow in his career.

We are happy for him as a person, however, I am sure you will all agree it is a loss for our school. We have loved having Mr King with us and we have been fortunate to have him work alongside us for the last 4 years, supporting and inspiring pupils in many ways and being an awesome team player.

We hope this won't be the last we see of him at Bournville and will certainly be organising a proper send off before he leaves us but we wanted to let you know now to allow time for conversations and goodbyes.

ATTENDANCE

Please can I remind all parents/legal guardians that you have a legal duty to ensure your child **attends school every day**. Children cannot have days off for things like: birthdays, visiting family, haircuts, holidays, their sisters/brothers are sick. Our first few weeks of attendance in Primary were incredible however sadly, the last few weeks has been really poor. Unfortunately, parents are not informing us why their child is off and when we make a phone call, a few parents are not answering. This results in an unauthorised absence.

As a school, fines are now being issued for parents whose children are frequently late or are not attending school. This fine is £80 per parent, per child.

It is a parental responsibility to ensure your child arrives at school by 8.20am (to make sure they are not late) and is collected at 3.00pm. We do have a breakfast club that starts at 8.00am so parents can miss the heavy traffic and drop early if required – this is currently a free service! It is important we work together to promote really healthy habits for your children's futures.

Poor attendance at work can result in the loss of a job so we want to instill good, positive habits early on, little by little, so children succeed. Attending, on time, every day is a positive, healthy habit to embed.

THANK YOU

Lastly, a HUGE THANK YOU for your donations for the Harvest Festival. We were blown away by your generosity as parents/families of all the tins/packets and jars of food that we donated to the B30 Foodbank. It was lovely to see so many parents/ friends and carers at the Harvest Assembly and these events mean so much to your children and to us as a staff team. We love coming together to celebrate and share in the success of your children.

We look forward to all that is ahead.

Kind regards,

Miss Briner

ATTENDANCE LEAGUE TABLE

Each week, the class that gets the best overall attendance is awarded a Trophy, a certificate and a prize (ice-lollies/chocolate, etc.). The children love to win. Here is the league table so far...by ensuring your child is at school every day, you help your child's class to win the prize and it gets very competitive (that's just the staff!) 😊.

Please ensure you are bringing your child to school every day. This is the time we start to build resilience in our children, helping them to overcome small things now so that later on in life, they are very confident, capable and kind young men and women.

Class	Percentage of Attendance %				
	Overall	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
Reception	98	99	98	97	98
Year 1	94	87	96	97	94
Year 2	97	93	98	96	99
Year 3	91	82	94	95	92
Year 4	95	97	99	94	91
Year 5	97	100	97	98	94
Year 6	98	97	98	97	98
Primary Overall	95	92	98	97	94

Reception – Miss Bell

Welcome to Reception Class. We have had a busy first term settling in and learning our school routines, rules, and values.



Weekly Family Read Sessions

These sessions are an excellent way to come together as a Class family and share stories. Reading together not only strengthens the bond between you and your child, but it also significantly supports their cognitive and emotional development. Reading with your child will increase their vocabulary, give them better comprehension skills, and help them to perform better in school. Additionally, reading enhances imagination, empathy, and critical thinking. The time you spend reading together creates a foundation for lifelong learning and a love of books.



Phonics (Read Write Inc).

Learning to read is the most important thing your child will learn at our school. Everything else depends on it, so we put as much energy as we possibly can into making sure that every child learns to read as quickly as possible. We want your child to love reading – and to want to read for themselves. Therefore, we put our efforts into making sure they develop a love of books as well as simply learning to read. We start by teaching phonics in Reception Class. This means that they learn how to 'read' the sounds in words and how those sounds can be written down. This is essential for reading, but it also helps children to learn to spell well. We teach children simple ways of remembering these sounds and letters. Ask them to show you what these are. The children in Reception Class have fully embraced their learning and are always so proud of their work.



Outdoor Learning



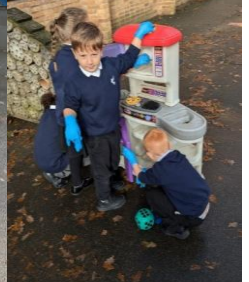
Reception Class have fully embraced our outdoor learning space this Autumn. They have enjoyed collecting leaves, sticks, stones and using them to practice their measuring skills as well as using them in our sensory outdoor kitchen area. Outdoor learning really does foster curiosity, creativity and critical thinking as well as improving co-ordination, balance, and motor skills.



Year One with Miss Clay and Miss Hutchison

We've had a busy and eventful term so far in Year One. We've been learning new routines and finding out about our new topics including 'The Great Fire of London' in History and 'Animals including Humans' in Science. This week we were also very excited about moving into our new classroom that has both an indoor and outdoor learning space. We enjoyed helping to clean and tidy up the outdoor area on the first morning. Luckily, the weather was nice enough for us

to start using it straight away. We will be using this area throughout the winter so please send in a pair of wellies for your child if you are able to. Any parents having spare wellies not needed any longer, please send in as Year 1 will appreciate them!



Year 2 and Year 3 - Miss McLynskey

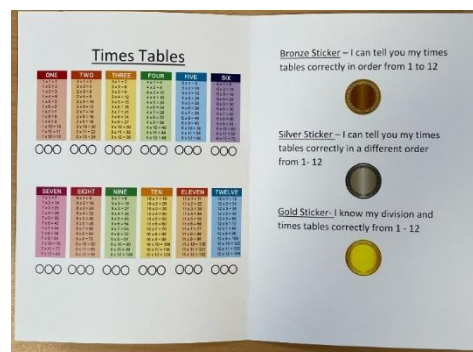
This year, Year 2 and Year 3 have had an exciting and engaging start with the introduction of Spanish to their curriculum. The children are taught each week by Mr Narvaez from secondary and have embraced the new subject with enthusiasm, actively participating in lessons and showing a keen interest in learning a new language. So far, they have explored which countries around the world are Spanish-speaking and have practiced using basic greetings, both in writing and conversation. The pupils are particularly excited as they look forward to learning numbers up to 10 in Spanish, eager to expand their vocabulary and deepen their understanding of the language.

This addition has sparked curiosity and enthusiasm for learning about different cultures and languages.



Year 4 with Miss Heyer

The start of Year 4 has been fun and engaging, with the introduction of a new activity called "Times Table Masters." The children have really embraced this challenge, where they test each other on their times table knowledge in a fun and interactive way. They are not only motivated by the friendly competition but also by the chance to earn stickers for their achievements, which has created a buzz of excitement in the classroom. This hands-on, peer-led approach is helping them build confidence and mastery of their times tables while having a great time.



In English our recent work with *The Frog Prince Continued*, the children have been gathering their skills for a character description, focusing particularly on the Frog Prince. After reading the story, they explored the unique traits of the character, both before and after his transformation, capturing his personality, appearance, and emotional journey. Here is an example from one of our students.

In the image, the frog prince is slouching on his grand high chair. This suggests that he is bored of his life with the princess. In addition to this, he is sick of constantly being tormented by the princess for leaving his belonging around the castle. As a result of this, the prince decides to run far away into the forest. In the living room of the magical, majestic castle, the prince lays on his seat whilst possessing green, slimy skin. This is possibly because he was once a frog. In his previous life.

Slouching on his grand chair he looks lazy scraping the floor with his feet pecking his long tongue like train tracks levitating in the air. When he goes into the forest he looks lost. With all different witchies trying to give him many types of spells.

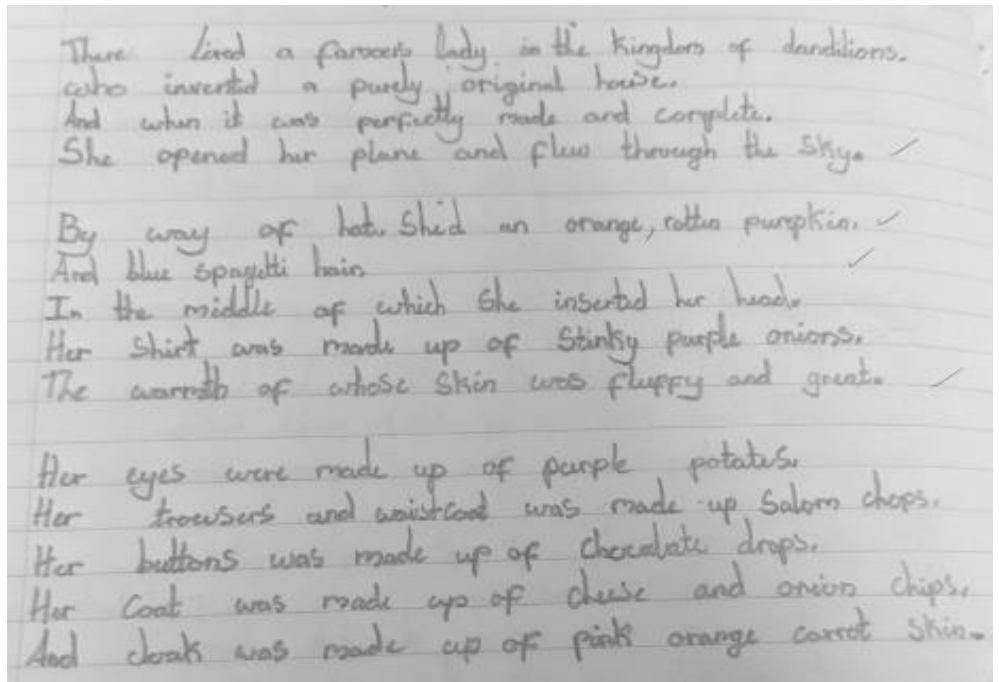
Seb Year 4
Character
description

Year 5 with Mr Newton and Miss Walker

This half term, Year 5 have been immersed in a variety of exciting activities! In English, we delved into nonsense poetry, focusing on *The New Vestments* by Edward Lear. The students showcased their creativity by writing their own amusing and imaginative nonsense poems.

We have also been reading *Street Child*, which has sparked great interest in the harsh realities of workhouses during the Victorian era.

In Art, we explored the work of Yayoi Kusama, and the children have enjoyed creating beautiful butterfly drawings inspired by her style.



Meanwhile, in P.E., the class has taken on the challenge of learning Gaelic football. Their energy and enthusiasm have been truly impressive!

Year 6 with Miss Withy and Mrs Hathaway



Some of our Year 6 students have been putting in exceptional effort in their SATs Booster Club. They have been tackling a variety of challenging questions in Maths.

Year 6 are currently developing their mastery of the four operations—addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division—by applying them confidently across a variety of arithmetic and word problems. They have also been deepening their understanding of key number concepts, working with decimal numbers and revisiting essential topics such as multiples, factors, and prime numbers.

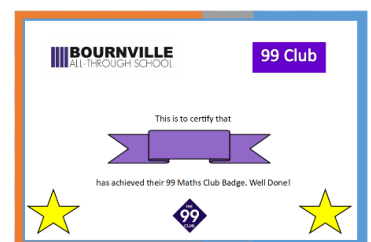
It has been wonderful to see these children so dedicated to improving their skills, not just in preparation for their SATs, but more importantly, for their overall learning journey. Well done!



For useful resources to support both KS1 and KS2 SATs preparation, visit **Free interactive KS1 and KS2 SATs revision resources - BBC Bitesize:**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zrybvk7>

Maths We are excited to announce that we will be continuing with the 99 Club this year to support our children in mastering their times tables. Regular practice of times tables is essential as it builds a strong foundation for more advanced mathematical concepts, improves mental arithmetic skills, and boosts confidence in tackling a range of math challenges. We



encourage all children to participate and aim high as they progress through the club levels. Please continue to practice these at home.

PE Kit

Please ensure that your child is sent to school in the correct PE kit outlined below. Please ensure everything is labelled too.

Can I also remind parents that children should be wearing **black school shoes or plain black trainers** only to school (no colour allowed on the trainers).

Black/blue shorts/joggers/leggings

Plain red/blue/yellow/green t-shirt (their team colour)

School jumper

Black trainers

PE bag



Nearly New Uniform Rail

Just to let parents know that we have a pre-loved uniform rail in school, including shoes. This houses many items that have been donated to school (PE kits, summer dresses, trousers, skirts, etc). If you are in need of any items, please come and help yourself to clothing or send a note on dojo and we can pass clothes onto your children. We appreciate uniform is expensive and that children can lose items too. We do not charge for this uniform as it has been donated free of charge.

Primary Dates for Your Diary

Friday 4th October 2024

Training Day (no pupils in School)

Friday 11th October 2024

Macmillan Coffee Morning – 9.00am

Non uniform–wear green or pink – £1.00 donation

Wednesday 16th October 2024

Year 6 Assembly – Parents invited

Monday 21st October 2024

Parents evening (3.00pm – 6.00pm)

Tuesday 22nd October 2024

Parents evening (3.00pm – 6.00pm)

Mon 28th October – Fri 1st Nov 24

Half-Term

Wednesday 13th November 2024

Friendship Assembly (2.00pm)

Friday 15th November 2024

Anti Bullying week – Non uniform day – wear something unique - £1.00 donation

Tuesday 3rd December 2024

Christmas Fair – 2.30pm

Wednesday 4th December 2024

Year 5 Assembly

Wednesday 11th December 2024

Christmas Concert (All Years)

Friday 13th December 2024

Christmas Jumper day

Tuesday 17th December 2024

Pantomime – Cinderella

Wednesday 18th December 2024

Christmas Dinner

Friday 20th December 2024

End of term