



BOROUGH GREEN

Primary School

Dear Parents and Carers,

May 2021 Newsletter

It has been wonderful to have the children in school for a whole term and we are all hopeful that this will continue to be the case until the end of the academic year. The government are hoping that the UK can move to Step 4 from the 21 June, which includes no legal limits on social contact. It is therefore likely that the Department for Education will also confirm that schools no longer need to use the Bubble System. If this is the case, then the staggered timetable can be removed with all children being dropped between 8:40 and 8:50 and collected at 3:15 (please note the permanent change to the end of the school day to fall in line with other schools). Confirmation that this can take place will be sent to all parents.

Uniform

You will have received an email that provides information regarding the new uniform supplier that we are using. The new company is more user friendly and allows you to order at any point in the year. We are taking this opportunity to upgrade the house P.E. tops to a neoteric textured fabric which has UPF 30+ UV Protection. It is made of 100% polyester and is crease resistant when kept in the PE bags and is certainly an improvement on the current shirts. There will be a period of transition to this new top so please don't feel that you need to purchase this new style if your child's current P.E. top still fits although of course you are welcome too at any point.

I have noticed that some children are wearing trainers to school. Please ensure that trainers are only worn in Years 3-6 on P.E. days, black shoes must be worn on all other days.

Curriculum

We will continue to send home the medium term plans and knowledge organisers for each year group. Please take time to look at this so you can talk to your children about what they have been learning. The planning includes how their current learning builds on previous learning and also includes activities you could do to enhance what is being covered in school. The knowledge organisers are a useful snapshot of the vocabulary your child should be familiar with as well as key **skills and knowledge that the children should obtain by the end of the experience.**

Y1/2 'Oh I do like to be beside the seaside' – They will learn that aspects of our lives change over time. They will be comparing the familiar setting of the seaside now with that of the seaside during the Victorian times. Children will understand that going to the seaside was a significant event for most children living at this time. Children will learn about: how the Victorians made the seaside a popular past time and what has changed and what has stayed the same. As part of this work children will also learn about the geographical features, both human and physical and think about man's impact on the coast. Year 2 children will write an



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historical recount describing a day at the seaside. Year 1 children will be writing postcards and short factual pieces about the seaside.

Y3/4 experience is '**Between the Towers**' based on the book by Philippe Petit. They will be exploring the geography of New York City and learning about the event through lots of primary and secondary sources starting with a tightrope walk!

Y5/6 are learning about Vikings: '**Raiders, Traders or Settlers?**' When exploring the evidence and stereotypical views of the Viking settlers we are able to help children to appreciate how careful we must be when labelling groups of people, whether it is today or in the past. Pupils will become more aware of diversity and the need to respect other societies and the nature of historical evidence.

Volunteer Readers

We have always been very fortunate to have a number of volunteers to hear children read. The pandemic has not allowed this to happen but now, with careful precautions in place, this can open up again. Please contact the school office if you are able to help.

Bags to School

I have just heard that the school have been presented with a cheque for £102 for the Bags to School event. Thank you to all those who had a big sort out during lockdown and the PTA for once again organising events that raise funds for the school.

Staffing Updates

I am pleased to announce that at the end of the academic year Miss Butterfield will be starting her maternity leave. Throughout Term 6, Miss Butterfield and Poplar Class will be based in the hall to provide additional space and social distancing. From September, Mrs Gordon, who has previously worked at the school, will be covering Miss Butterfield's maternity.

Mrs Luffingham, our new music teacher, has settled in well and the children are thoroughly enjoying their music lessons. Mrs Luffingham plays a number of instruments one of which is a ukulele and therefore we are hoping to purchase a class set so the children can learn too. At the end of the academic year, we will also be saying goodbye to Mrs Jones who will be retiring after almost 27 years, 25 as a member of staff and 18 months as a volunteer. I am sure you will join me in wishing her all the best for the future.

Below is a summary of recent develops in Science by the Science Lead and Forest School Lead

Term 5 has been fabulous for science at BGPS. Notable highlights have included the launch of a nature club, the sewing of a wild-flower mini-meadow on site, a student shortlisted for the final round of the national Lab Coat Design competition (congratulations Norah), several



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children achieving their Green Blue Peter Badge and general buzz around conservation events such as making our gardens more hedgehog and bee friendly. A huge thank you from us to your wonderful children for their enthusiasm and energy and to all of you for recognising the importance of these issues and encouraging your children's involvement with them. We wouldn't be at all surprised if we have a future Greta Thunberg or David Attenborough here among us.

The (hopefully) favourable weather over half term provides a perfect opportunity to keep up this engagement...

The Wildlife Trusts is challenging us to go '30 Days Wild' and do one wild thing a day throughout the month of June! That's 30 simple, fun and exciting Random Acts of Wildness. We would also encourage you to sign up for free at <https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/30-days-wild-2021-sign-your-pack> for further inspiration and for the charity to register your involvement in this project.

In addition, Saturday 5th June is UN World Environment Day with the theme this year of Eco-System Restoration. We are fortunate to have a variety of rich and diverse eco-systems on our doorstep in Borough Green - including rivers, forests, farms and even coastlines. We would love to hear about any adventures you may have exploring these over the holidays. Closer to home, you could also challenge your children to consider their own roles in ecology by going on a litter pick, sorting the recycling at home, planting new flowers or building bug hotels or hedgehog paths. Many of these activities would also count towards your child's Green Blue Peter Badge pledges.

For more information on World Environment Day, please visit <https://www.worldenvironmentday.global>

Thank you again for your continued commitment to your children's futures and the future of our planet.

Mrs Quantick and Mr Wheatley
Science Lead and Forest School Lead

I wish you all a wonderful half term and I look forward to seeing you all on **10th June**.

Kind regards,
Mrs. K Sandberg
Headteacher, Borough Green Primary