



BOROUGH GREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Learning together with Kind Hearts and Determined Minds

NEWSLETTER – week ending 7 February 2025

A message from Mrs Jackson...

Dear Parents and Carers,

Another busy week in school with lots of fantastic learning taking place. It has been a real pleasure seeing some of the written work the children are producing in classes. In Year One, the children have been artists after seeing the work of Japanese artist Yayoi Kusama. Years 3 and 4 have been inspired by Wallace and Gromit and have been writing about their inventions-they have been very creative.

In Years 5 and 6, the children have been solving problems using division and looking at the impact of climate change. I have been impressed by their non-fiction reports about Arctic animals and looked forward to seeing their finished A3 posters.

In EYFS, the children have been learning about bees with the book, The Bumble Bear and have been enjoying plan-do-review time in the outdoor area. They always greet me with a smile when I pop in to see them and are full of enthusiasm about the different activities available.

I popped in to see Year 2 during their PSHE lesson and they were enthusiastically designing posters. I was further impressed by their concentration when they were observing closely and drawing during their art lesson.

In school, there has been a real competition started with the PTA House Penny Wars. Quite a few of you are putting those silver coins into the houses you are hoping you push back. Keep the pennies coming in please. Every penny really does count.



Thank you for your continued support.
Have a lovely weekend.
Best wishes,

Mrs Jackson

What we have been up to this week...

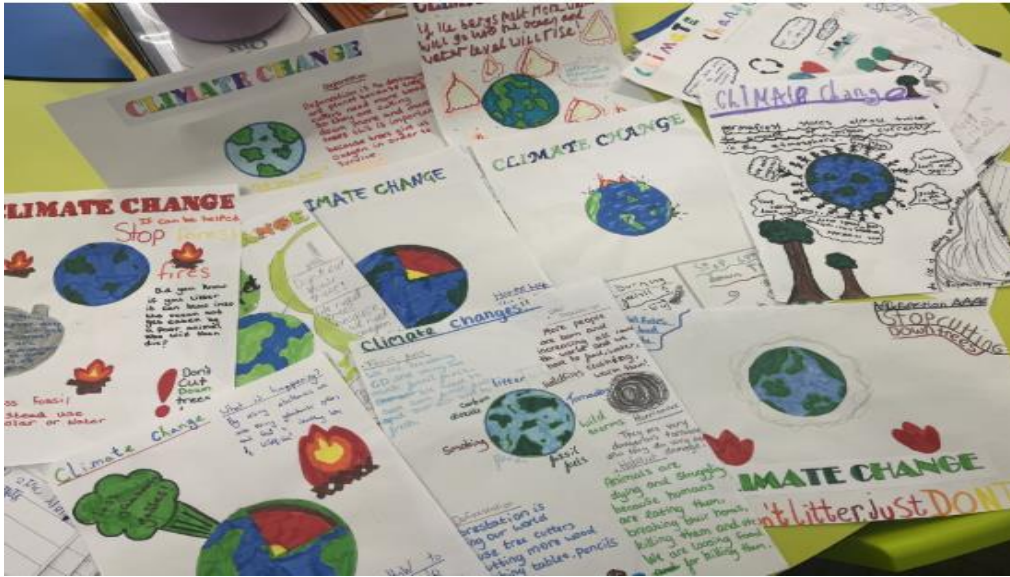
Inuit Art

In Year 5/6, our topic is Frozen Kingdoms, we have been working on polar landscapes, polar animals and polar climates. In art, we have been inspired by artist **Kenojuak Ashevak** and created some arctic owl inspired work using watercolours.



Saving Planet Earth

Since we have been focusing on polar landscapes, we have looked at the damage caused to these areas, especially sea ice and greenhouse gases. We have created Climate Change posters to inform others about the danger of climate change and how we can help. We have learnt there are 4 main contributing factors to climate change: deforestation, overpopulation, fossil fuels and over-farming. Remember we are collecting plastic bottle caps/lids to use for our environmental art next term.



West Bank Visit

A group of Year 3 & 4 children went to Westbank this morning. The children teamed up with the residents to play giant snakes and ladders and everyone had a good time



From our FLO...

HAVE SPARE FOOD?/NEED SOME EXTRA FOOD?

As you may remember, our school community did a fantastic job collecting food at our harvest festival and donated it to our local food bank, The Church of the Good Shepherd. This charity supports local families throughout the year so it seems appropriate that we offer support throughout the year, as and when we can. I am pleased to announce that we will now have a box in our main office area for any donations for the food bank so that you can add donations whenever you are able.

I have also recently tested out the Olio app. For any of you wanting to help minimise food waste, this is a great app to give away any food and non food items, for free, in your local area. That also means, if you use the app, there are lots of opportunities to get free, often fresh, food and prevent it being binned! If you have any questions about either of these services, please just get in touch.

Mrs Dechaine
FLO

Safer Internet Day - Tuesday 11 February...

On Tuesday 11th February it is Safer Internet Day with a focus on fake news and internet scams. Please read the information about keeping your children safe online.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SCAMS AND FAKE NEWS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

"Fake news" refers to falsified or misleading material presented as a legitimate account of events. It's often used by malicious actors online to push an agenda, or even by criminals as a way of making scams more persuasive. Scammers can trick us into handing over personal information, security details and even our hard-earned cash.

"CLICKBAIT" PHISHING SCAMS

A message arrives saying "Have you seen this video of yourself?" or you might be sent an attention-grabbing headline about a celebrity that's been shared on social media. The kind of "bait" is produced by scammers to drive us to click on an unsafe link, where malware could be downloaded to our devices. These scams rely on our curiosity and our "need-to-know" instinct.

SALES, DEALS & DISCOUNTS

Some scams appear as adverts, offering a chance to buy something – such as designer products, expensive gadgets or tickets to a popular show – at a reduced price. Such offers often include a time limit or countdown, urging us to hurry so we don't miss out on the deal. This pressure encourages us to input personal details or payment information before pausing to check if it's legitimate.

YOU'RE A WINNER!

This kind of scam involves fake giveaways, opportunities or freebies. It could be a message saying we've been shortlisted for a competition, or it could be a gift, like a bonus credit, and scammers might claim that a postage or refund is waiting. All these techniques are used to prompt us to share our personal information, thinking that there's something to be gained by doing so.

HAPPENS NEXT

FALSE FRIENDSHIPS

Scammers often pretend to be someone they've met to gain their victims' trust. They might attempt to convince any children they connect with that they're a class of similar age with shared interests. Warning signs include a high volume of messages (often with an intense tone), secrecy, inappropriate levels of intimacy, quick logging, emotional manipulation, threats of blackmail.

PANIC MODE

To trigger a sense of panic, scammers may claim that a child's account has been hacked, or a virus has been installed on their device, or they're a member of other scary scenarios. They may claim to be able to fix the problem or offer a solution – if the child hands over control of the device or sensitive information. Similar scams involve impersonating a friend or relative, claiming that they're in trouble and need help.

FAKE CELEBRITY ENDORSEMENTS

Impersonating influential people online is a common tactic for scammers, who can use technology to create fake photos, quotes and even videos that look authentic. These can be used to convince us, for example, to buy products, sign up for so-called "business opportunities" or invest in cryptocurrency schemes – all of which are fake or otherwise misleading. Many scams also involve the impersonation of popular companies' social media accounts, as well as those of individuals.

Advice for Parents & Educators

STAY INFORMED

Stay up to date with the latest information and best practice on cyber-security. See what scam stories are reported in the news and make note of what tactics were used. Keep up with young people's digital lives, talk about what they're doing online and use properly endorsed resources to learn what risks certain sites and apps pose to their younger users.

ENCOURAGE HEALTHY SCEPTICISM

Most scams rely on emotional or psychological manipulation, tapping into our human instincts – whether that's to keep ourselves safe, help others, and discover, make friends, avoid losing out or to secure something we really want. Encourage children to recognise that pressure to act can be always consult with an adult – especially if either a son or other sounds too good to be true.

TALK TOGETHER

Chat often and openly with young people about fake news, online scams and how they both work. Encourage them to talk to you about anything they're unsure of or worried about online. If a child claims to have been scammed, don't pass judgement. Blaming the victim may deter young people from asking you for help. Remember: adults are scammed just as often, if not more.

BE PROACTIVE

Children increasingly use digital devices for education, socialising, shopping and play. Don't wait for a problem to arise before you discuss the risks of scams, fake information and fake news. Slighting what to look out for and clearly communicate under what circumstances the child ought to speak to an adult. Firstly, ensure that they're aware of the support services that are available to them (such as Childline).

Meet Our Expert

Dr Holly Powell-Jones is the founder of Online Media Law UK and a leading expert in digital safety, media law and young people. Her PhD investigates children's understandings of risk online, line work with schools, businesses, and universities to provide award-winning education on the criminal, legal and ethical considerations for the digital age. Visit OnlineMediaLaw.co.uk for more.

#WakeUpWednesday **The National College**

Source: <https://www.nationalcollege.com/guides/fake-news-and-scams>

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Request...

Environmental Artists

For the next few weeks, we will be collecting recyclable plastic materials (clean) that will be utilised to create an art installation piece for our next topic after half term: 'Environmental Artists'. This includes but is not limited to:

- Gravy lids
- Milk tops (all colours)
- Fizzy drink plastic bottles (e.g. Coca-Cola, Sprite)
- Fizzy drink bottle tops (e.g. Dr Pepper, Fanta)
- Plastic carrier bags (e.g. orange Sainsbury's bag)
- Pringle tops

Please bring them into school, there will be a box for the recycling on the Year 5/6 door.

Bikes & Scooters...

For safety and security reasons, all unsecured bikes and scooters must now be delivered to the middle playground (by the swimming pool entrance) at the start of the day and collected from the same place at pick up. If your child's bike or scooter has a lock, it may be left in the covered shelter on the middle playground, but only if it is fully secured. If you would prefer to take your child's vehicle home with you during the day, that is of course is absolutely fine. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Attendance...

We really do want your children to achieve the best education at Borough Green Primary School, in both their academic and personal development. For us to achieve this, we need them to be here. Let us work together to improve attendance. There are 190 school days in every academic year. Together, we can make the most of them...

Apple	91.56%
Willow	95.32%
Myrtle	91.98%
Bay	94.24%
Cherry	89.56%
Poplar	79.31%
Acacia	99.60%
Maple	89.27%
Oak	96.58%



The total attendance so far this year is 92.6%, while the national average is 94.5%.

As we have said before, we believe that we are 'better than the national average at Borough Green Primary School' in many different ways. Help us to show this with our attendance too! We need the children here to work with them and provide the best opportunities to succeed...

PTA...

Dates for Your Diary

- Mon 13 Jan * Year 2 Bake Sale
- 3 Feb - 14 Feb * Penny Wars!
- Mon 10 Feb * Year 3 Bake Sale
- Fri 14 Mar * School Disco
- Tue 25 Mar * Mother's Day Sale
- TBC * Year 4 Bake Sale
- 31 Mar - 4 Apr * Wonka Bar Golden Ticket

- Sun 18 May * Colour Run
- Sat 28 Jun * SummerFest

BGPS PTA. Charity No. 1014450

PENNY WARS

3 FEB - 14 FEB

The Rules:

Each house will collect as many 1ps and 2ps as they can. Collection pots will be outside the school office.

Any other coins in the pot will count negatively towards the pot total.

(You can put other coins in the other rival houses!)
*****Any notes will be excluded from all totals*****

E.g. 1p = 1point, 2p = 2points, 5p = -5points, £1 = -100points

The winning house will get an own clothes day!

BGPS PTA Charity Number: 1014450

Awards this week...

Achievement Awards

Well done to our Children that have received an Achievement Award this week.

Apple	Darcy	Cherry	Eloise
Willow	Ruben	Maple	Phoebe
Myrtle	Aurora	Oak	Elodie
Bay	Zac	Acacia	Olin
Poplar	Ruby		

Term 3 House Points

House	Ashdown	Malyon	Morris	Seamark
This Week	424	386	421	323
Total	1552	1542	1451	1639



Congratulations to this week's Times Tables Rock Stars

31st January - 6 February 2025

Morris

310

Malyon

222

Seamark

164

Ashdown

163

Messages & Emails sent out this week...

Year 5/6: Term 3 & 4 Newsletter sent out. **Please note indoor PE on a Monday and outdoor PE on a Thursday.**

All Years: Star of The Term Trophy, we would be grateful if you could return the trophy to the school office by Wednesday 12th February 2025.

Reception: Kent Community Health Team will be attending the school to carry out the Vision and Hearing Screening on Monday 31st March 2025.

Year 1 & 2: Email sent out to Years 1 and 2 visit to Hever Castle - Wednesday 25th June 2025

Year 6: Email sent out regarding 3rd Payment overdue - Bushcraft Residential Trip.

Term 3 dates to remember...

Tues 11 February: Year 6 Bikeability

Mon 10 February: Martin Luther King Junior competition closes

Mon 10 February: PTA: Year 3 Cake Sale after school

Tue 11 February: Safer Internet Day

Fri 14 February: Last day of Term 3

Mon 24 February: Start of Term 4

Mon 24 February: Year 6 Lancaster Model Questionnaire

FULL LIST OF CALENDAR DATES ARE ON OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE