



# BOCKING NEWS

Bocking Primary School Weekly Round Up

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2025

## WHAT'S COMING UP

### December

9th - Y1 Victorian Day

11th - Christmas Jumper Day

15th - EYFS/Y1 Nativity @ 2pm

16th - EYFS/Y1 Nativity @ 9:30

17th - Christmas Dinner, Christmas jumpers can be worn.

18th - Whole School

Carol Service @ 2pm

19th - Celebration

Assembly

22nd - 5<sup>th</sup> Jan 2026 - Christmas Holidays

### January

6<sup>th</sup> - Spring Term

Dear Parents and Carers,

Last weekend, the spirit of Christmas truly came alive as the children from Bocking Primary joined forces with the Bocking Brass Band to perform at the village Christmas carol service on Saturday evening. Adorned in their festive Christmas jumpers, our children brought joy and warmth to the community gathering. It was brilliant to see so many families and community members come together to celebrate this special time of year. A big thank you goes to Mrs Reid for organising this wonderful event and to our staff members who supported the children so enthusiastically.

As part of our ongoing commitment to engage with and support our local community, the children in the school council have launched a new house competition. The challenge is for each house to donate the most food to our local food bank, helping families in need during this important season. It has been brilliant to witness the generosity of our children and their families. This initiative has sparked some mature and empathetic conversations, even among our youngest pupils, highlighting the importance of kindness and community spirit.

Our community connections continue to grow with Millard House care home. Following discussions with the manager, we are pleased to announce an event on Saturday 17th January for family, friends, and carers of loved ones affected by dementia residing at the home should you wish to attend. Looking ahead, we are excited about the possibility of celebrating Millard House's 60th Anniversary, bridging the school and care home communities. Additionally, our school choir will be visiting local care homes in Bocking in the coming weeks to share festive cheer through a Christmas choir service. We are also developing new artwork for the residents to enjoy, further enriching this valued partnership.

Another vital link to our community is through our dedicated school readers who generously give their time to read with our pupils. Alongside them, Ray and Max, our beloved therapy dog, bring comfort and joy to many children. Our pupils truly cherish these moments, which not only enhance their learning but also nurture strong, supportive relationships with our volunteers and furry friends.

Finally, we are delighted to continue our close partnership with St Mary's Church and Reverend Rod. We look forward to welcoming you all to our school carol service on Thursday 18th December at 2pm. It promises to be a wonderful occasion filled with festive spirit, and we can't wait to see as many of you there as possible!

### Health Notices

**Head lice and nits** are very common in young children and their families. They are not caused by dirty hair and are picked up by head-to-head contact.

Head lice can make your head feel itchy.

The only way to be sure someone has head lice is by finding live lice.

You can do this by combing their hair with a special fine-toothed comb (detection comb). You can buy these online or at pharmacies.

How to get rid of head lice

Treat head lice as soon as you spot them. You can treat head lice without seeing a GP.

Check everyone you live with, or have close contact with, and start treating anyone who has head lice on the same day.

There's no need to keep your child off school if they have head lice. You do not need to wash your laundry on a hot wash.

### Cold and Virus's

In late 2025, children in the UK are experiencing a significant increase in influenza, particularly those aged 5-14 years. This trend is part of a broader increase in respiratory illnesses, including COVID-19. To combat this, the UK government is encouraging vaccination for eligible children and providing advice on preventing respiratory illnesses. [Vaccination UK East Anglia Immunisation](#). 06/12/2025 - 10:00 - 15:00 Harlow Library. 10/12/2025 16.00-20.00 Colchester. 16/12/2025 16.00-20.00 Colchester. 17/12/2025 12:00 -19:00 Chelmsford.

## BEFORE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

FRI - IROCK

## AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Mon - Choir

Wed - SCS

Thu - SCS

Fri - Taekwondo



## STAR OF THE WEEK

**EYFS - Mabel**

**Year 1 - Leah**

**Year 2 - Erin**

**Year 3 - Kaiden**

**Year 4 - Freddy**

**Year 5 - Levi**

**Year 6 - Stanley**

## AR READERS

**Year 2 - Jacob, Sidney,  
Harry, Ramona.**

**Year 4 - Aniamina**

**Now the weather  
has changed,  
please ensure  
you child has a  
water proof  
jacket.**

**All items of  
clothing should  
be named.**

**Water only in  
bottles please.**

**Polite Reminder:  
The school toilets are  
closed for cleaning  
from 3:20.**

## CLASSROOM NEWS...

### YEAR 3

In science this week we took apart our wormeries to see if the worms survived, if the soil was damp enough and whether they had eaten the organic matter. This way we could see what we would do next time when we make our class wormery. In English we have started our independent writing where we have to compare Essex to a city in Europe. We are making sure we use strong adjectives, powerful verbs and cohesive devices to make it flow nicely. In maths we have been subtracting and adding two-digit numbers from three-digit numbers, we have found this easy but when subtracting we need to remember to exchange which can be tricky. In P.E we have been learning Samba dancing and using it to create dance routines with the Year 4 class. We have been working really hard and find it lots of fun and it has been amazing. Next week we are looking forward to finishing our independent writing and continuing our wormeries. ***Written by class learning ambassadors: Penelope and Theodore***

### YEAR 4

We're in the final stretch of writing our adventure stories about 'Hercules and the Golden Hind'. The children have done a fantastic job exploring exciting new vocabulary and carefully planning the structure of their narratives to keep their readers hooked. We have tackled multiplication and division in maths; times tables have been incredibly useful during our lessons! We embraced our inner scientists by planning an evaporation experiment. The children are testing how quickly wet materials dry in different locations around the classroom. To round off the week, we delved into the world of Ancient Greece, researching the various Gods and Goddesses and discussing why they were so important.

### YEAR 5

This week, Year 5 have been making progress across the curriculum. In English, they have written engaging character descriptions, with their growing accuracy in punctuation impressing all their teachers. In science, they explored reversible and irreversible changes, discovering how water can change between solid, liquid, and gas phases by collecting condensation and turning it back through the cycle. They also learned the scientific name for vinegar—acetic acid—and understood that mixing bicarbonate of soda with vinegar creates an irreversible change, forming new substances. In maths, the focus has been on fractions, where their open mindset has helped them to find equivalent fractions and convert between mixed numbers and improper fractions. During PE, Year 5 demonstrated sensible and considerate behaviour while learning about symmetrical and asymmetrical balances, working effectively with partners. They continue to work hard, strive for neatness, and show great determination in every lesson. Keep up the fantastic effort, Year 5!

### YEAR 6

We have persevered through our fractions learning in maths and it is one of the hardest units in the year. In English, we did fantastic writing with hyphens, semi-colons, commas and brackets. For science, we drew our design for our Christmas LED light card and we had to list the materials and what the circuit was going to look like. In PE, we travelled in gymnastics by using different ways of moving. In Life Skills, we focused on the importance of having leisure time so we designed a word-art picture to show things we do in our spare time.

***By Learning Ambassador- Stanley.***





## ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

92% - EYFS  
94% - Year 1  
90% - Year 2  
90% - Year 3  
94% - Year 4  
79% - Year 5  
93% - Year 6  
Attendance target 95%

Please be aware that the gates open at 8:35, and your child is marked late, affecting their attendance from 8:50am. Punctuality is a valuable lifelong skill. Late arrival affects not only the pupil who is late but disrupts the whole class. Where a pupil arrives after the registers close, with no justifiable reason, a U code will be entered into the register. The U code amounts to an unauthorised absence for the whole session. We must warn you, a penalty notice may be issued where there have been at least ten sessions of unauthorised absence during a rolling 10 school week period.

## ONLINE SAFETY..

What children need to know about

# ONLINE BULLYING

**What is online bullying?**  
ONLINE BULLYING – ALSO KNOWN AS CYBERBULLYING – IS BULLYING THAT TAKES PLACE ON THE INTERNET OR VIA ELECTRONIC DEVICES AND MOBILE PHONES. IT CAN INCLUDE:

1. SENDING SOMEONE MEAN OR THREATENING EMAILS, DIRECT MESSAGES OR TEXT MESSAGES
2. HACKING INTO SOMEONE'S ONLINE ACCOUNT
3. BEING RUDE OR MEAN TO SOMEONE WHEN PLAYING ONLINE GAMES
4. POSTING PRIVATE OR EMBARRASSING PHOTOS ONLINE OR SENDING THEM TO OTHERS
5. CREATING FAKE SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS THAT MOCK SOMEONE OR TRICK THEM
6. EXCLUDING SOMEONE FROM AN ONLINE CONVERSATION OR BLOCKING THEM FOR NO REASON

**Why does it happen?**  
GOING ONLINE MAKES IT EASIER FOR PEOPLE TO SAY AND DO THINGS THEY PROBABLY WOULDN'T DO FACE TO FACE. ONLINE BULLIES DON'T GET TO SEE THEIR VICTIMS' REACTIONS IN REAL LIFE, SO THIS CAN COOON THEM FROM THE REAL DAMAGE THAT THEY ARE DOING. QUITE OFTEN, PEOPLE BULLY BECAUSE THEY ARE GOING THROUGH SOMETHING DIFFICULT THEMSELVES AND TAKING IT OUT ON OTHERS IS THE ONLY WAY THEY KNOW HOW TO GET CONTROL OF THEIR OWN EMOTIONS.

**How does it feel to be bullied?**  
BEING BULLIED CAN IMPACT ON YOUR SELF-ESTEEM, CONFIDENCE AND SOCIAL SKILLS BECAUSE IT HAPPENS ON YOUR PHONE, TABLET OR COMPUTER. IT CAN FEEL LIKE YOU ARE UNDER THREAT EVEN WHEN YOU'RE IN A SAFE ENVIRONMENT, SUCH AS YOUR BEDROOM. DON'T FORGET...IT IS NOT YOUR FAULT IF YOU'RE BEING BULLIED.

**Am I an online bully?**  
SOMETIMES IT ISN'T OBVIOUS THAT WHAT YOU ARE DOING IS WRONG, BUT IF YOU USE DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY TO UPSET, ANGER OR EMBARRASS SOMEONE ON PURPOSE, THIS MEANS YOU'RE INVOLVED IN ONLINE BULLYING. IT MIGHT BE AS SIMPLE AS 'LIKING' A MEAN POST, LAUGHING AT AN ONLINE VIDEO, OR SPREADING A RUMOUR. BUT THE PERSON BEING BULLIED COULD FEEL LIKE THEY ARE BEING GANGED UP ON. THINK ABOUT HOW IT WOULD MAKE YOU FEEL IF IT HAPPENED TO YOU. EVERYONE CAN MAKE MISTAKES, BUT IT'S IMPORTANT TO LEARN FROM THEM – GO BACK AND DELETE ANY UPSETTING OR NASTY POSTS, TWEETS OR COMMENTS YOU'VE WRITTEN.

**Who do I tell?**  
YOU DON'T HAVE TO DEAL WITH THE BULLYING ON YOUR OWN. TALK TO AN ADULT THAT YOU TRUST – A PARENT, GUARDIAN, OR TEACHER. MOST WEBSITES, SOCIAL MEDIA WEBSITES AND ONLINE GAMES OR MOBILE APPS LET YOU REPORT AND BLOCK PEOPLE WHO ARE BOTHERING YOU. YOU COULD ALSO CONTACT CHILDLINE (WWW.CHILDLINE.ORG.UK), WHERE A TRAINED COUNSELLOR WILL LISTEN TO ANYTHING THAT'S WORRYING YOU – YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE TO GIVE YOUR NAME.

**How do I prove it?**  
WHEN CYBERBULLYING HAPPENS, IT IS IMPORTANT TO DOCUMENT AND REPORT THE BEHAVIOUR, SO IT CAN BE ADDRESSED – RECORD THE DATES AND TIMES WHEN CYBERBULLYING HAS OCCURRED, AND SAVE AND PRINT SCREENSHOTS, EMAILS, AND TEXT MESSAGES.

**How can I stay safe?**  
MAKE SURE YOUR PRIVACY SETTINGS ARE SET SO THAT ONLY PEOPLE YOU KNOW AND TRUST CAN SEE WHAT YOU POST. NEVER GIVE OUT PERSONAL INFORMATION ONLINE, SUCH AS IN PUBLIC PROFILES, CHAT ROOMS OR BLOGS, AND AVOID FURTHER COMMUNICATION WITH THOSE SENDING THE MESSAGES. KEEP AWARE OF FAKE PROFILES AND INTERNET USERS PRETENDING TO BE SOMEONE THAT THEY ARE NOT.

**BE KIND ONLINE**  
BEFORE PRESSING 'SEND' ON COMMENTS, ASK YOURSELF THESE 3 QUESTIONS...

1. WHY AM I POSTING THIS?
2. WOULD I SAY THIS IN REAL LIFE?
3. HOW WOULD I FEEL IF SOMEBODY SAID THIS TO ME?

**NOS National Online Safety**  
#WakeUpWednesday

www.nationalonlinesafety.com Twitter - @natonlinesafety Facebook - /nationalonlinesafety Phone - 0800 368 8061