



BOCKING NEWS

I am Ambitious, Respectful, Responsible, Engaged and I Persevere.
Bocking Primary School Weekly Round Up

Friday 19th January 2024

WHAT'S COMING UP

January 2024

- 30th - KS2 VR Day

February 2024

- 6th - EYFS Super Hero Day
- 8th - Y6 Mersea Parent/Child Meeting 2:45
- 15th - Open Door 2:30

March

- 11th - Y2 Layer Marney Trip
- 12th - TLC's
- 14th - TLC's
- 26th - 28th Y6 Mersea Residential

April

- 17th -Y5 Swimming x 6 wks

May

- 20th - Y5 British Museum Trip
- 21st - EYFS/Y1 Boydells Farm Trip
- 23rd - Open Door 2:30

June

- 5th - Y6 Swimming x 6 wks
- 6th - Y3 - Botanicals Garden Trip
- 6th - Y4 Colchester Zoo Trip

July

- 4th - Sports Day KS1 AM then picnic lunch for whole school, and KS2 PM
- 19th - Celebration Assembly
- 23rd - Leavers Assembly
- 9th - Y6 Production PM
- 10th - Y6 Production Evening

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Mon - Choir Club (Y3-Y6)

Tues - Lego Club (Y1-Y6)

Wed - Art Club (Y2, Y3, Y4)

Wed - SCS Football (Y1-Y2)

Thu - SCS Football Boys and Girls Y3-Y6

Fri - FITC - Multisport W/C 26.1 Y1-Y6

Dear Parents and Carers,

Starting on Friday 26th January, we will be launching the FITC Multi Sports club for children in Year 1 - 2, and Year 3 - 6. These sessions will be run by highly experienced and qualified academy staff, who have all played and coached at a high level. The club will cover a range of sporting disciplines and focus on developing transferable skills and attributes that can be beneficial in all sports. Some of the topics covered will include ball work, throwing, catching, coordination, speed, agility, fitness, balance, sharpness, reactions, movement, and flexibility. Sports such as basketball, hockey, football, athletics, SAQ, rounders, and more will be used to coach these disciplines. To recognise the efforts of the students, there will be "Players of the Day" after every session. The link for booking this club is: <https://fitc-academy.class4kids.co.uk>

I am pleased to share that persistent absence across the school has significantly decreased compared to this time last year. The percentage of pupils identified as persistent absentees, with an overall absence greater than 10%, has fallen from 30% to 15% this term. I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the importance of regular attendance.

Did you know that a child with 90% attendance is equivalent to having one day off every two weeks? This can put them at a disadvantage when it comes to committing their learning to long term memory. While we understand that there are circumstances where a child may need to stay home due to illness, we kindly request that you make all reasonable efforts to send your child into school.

I would like to introduce Mrs Gia Frances, who joined us this term as our new Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Coordinator (SENDCo). Mrs Frances has already begun meeting with some of our parents and is eager to ensure that she meets with all our families with any SEN needs very soon. Her working days as SENDCo are Monday and Tuesday. Please note that Mrs Frances teaches in Year 6 all day on Wednesday, so she will not be available for SEND-related meetings on this day.

Safeguarding: Snapchat - New Parental Controls

In April 2023 Snapchat introduced My AI, essentially a chatbot. It was an embedded feature, and whilst many users are reporting a positive or mixed experience there have been some significant concerns over the advice being given to younger users.

Last week Snapchat expanded their Family Center tools which, amongst other features, allows parents to restrict the ability for My AI to respond to chats. Further details of these new features and the full list of teen protection features can be found <https://values.snap.com/en-GB/news/expanding-our-in-app-parental-tools-2024>

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Have a good weekend
Mrs Cagney



STAR OF THE WEEK

Certificates were presented in our celebration assembly to:

Tobias (EYFS)
Florence (Yr 1)
Daniel (Yr 2)
Amelia (Yr 3)
Elliot (Yr 4)
Grayson (Yr 5)
Indie (Yr 6)

AR READERS

Quiz Scores 100%

Year 2 - Winter, Joseph S

Year 3 - Millie C, Diogo, Albie

Year 4 - Freddie, Stanley, Oliver J, Kayton, James R, Louis, Thomas

Year 5 - Maximus, Teddy

Word Count Winners

Year 6

3,420,649!

TIMES TABLE ROCKSTARS



WINNER - Brunel

Year 4

Year 2 - Huxley

Year 3 - Irene

Year 4 - Katy

Year 5 - Alaia

Year 6 - Evan S

ATTENDANCE

95% - Year EYFS

95% - Year 1

95% - Year 2

98% - Year 3

97% - Year 4

92% - Year 5

92% - Year 6

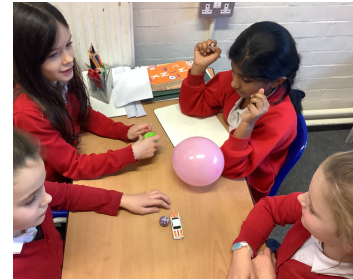
Attendance target

95%

CLASSROOM NEWS...

YEAR 3

In Science this week, Year 3 have been looking at the forces which affect how things move. We have been focusing on pushing and pulling forces. So far, we have carried out 2 different investigations. The first of these considered how different objects moved, and how the properties of these objects influenced their movement. The second determined how the surface affects the ease with which a protractor can be pushed/pulled. As part of our experiments, we have discussed how to conduct a fair test ensuring that only one variable is altered.



YEAR 4

In English we have been focusing on the deforestation of the Amazon rain forest, and produced a stanza poem using alliteration, similes, and metaphors. In Maths the focus has been on division and the children especially enjoyed learning the bus stop method, please ask your children if they can show you what this is!

YEAR 5

In Year 5, we have been learning about Highwaymen. We have created actions and pictures to help us memorise our model text and have been focussing on descriptive writing. The children have produced some amazing pieces of work and the vocabulary they have used has shown how much they are improving and growing as writers. In Maths, we have been using formal methods to multiply and divide and the children have shown perseverance and determination to learn a new skill. In computing, we have been using the Micro:bits to develop our programming skills and the children have shown great engagement in the topic.

YEAR 6

Today, we have begun our journey towards answering our enquiry question, "Who has had an impact on our local area?". We have used archives, the internet and oral history to find out the history of Bocking and Braintree. Here are some of our findings that you might find interesting: the windmill has been in Church Street since 1721; the windmill was moved 200 yards by John Tabor; St. Mary's Church has been rebuilt many times and there are still underground tunnels, secret rooms and Roman helmets on the wall; Braintree Football Club was formed in 1898; the Lord of the Manor at Bocking in the tenth century was an East Saxon nobleman, named Aetheric. Perhaps, most exciting of all, was the research we conducted from the archives of our school records. We found out that: when attendance improved, the children were given a day off- how ironic; running in class would give you the punishment of a strike to the knee and hand; many children would have days off to do haymaking or pick the peas from the field. Our oldest source came from a hand-written recount of an Act of Parliament, dating all the way back to 1st May 1614!