



BOCKING NEWS

Bocking Primary School Weekly Round Up
Friday 16th October 2026

WHAT'S COMING UP

**NO FOREST SCHOOL
W/C 19/10**

**RESUMES 2/11
GROUP A**

October

19th - Flu

Immunisation

19th-21st Yr 6

Residential

21st Open Door

Afternoon 2.30-3.00

**parents come into
school**

22nd - PTSA

Halloween Disco KS1

4 -5 KS2 5:15 - 6:15

**26th - 1st Nov Half
term**

November

2nd - Autum term

4th - EYFS 27/28

**Show rounds 9.30-
10.30**

17th Parent TLCs

3.30-7.00

19th Parent TLCs

3.30-7.00

December

9th Christmas

Dinner/jumper day

14th Nativity 2.00pm

15th Nativity 9.30am

17th Whole School

Carol Service at

Bocking Church at

2pm

18th Celebration

assembly 9:05am

Dear Parents and Carers,

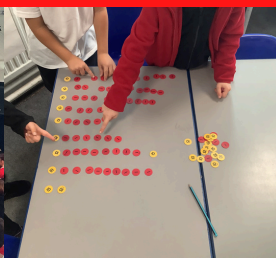
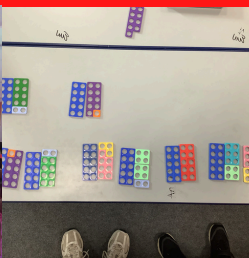
As we continue to develop the very best education for our children at Bocking Primary School, we are always looking for ways to strengthen and enrich our curriculum. One of the most effective ways of doing this is by working alongside experts and leading organisations within their specialist subject areas.

Over the past year, we have been reviewing, adapting and further improving our science curriculum through our partnership with the University of Hertfordshire. This collaboration has enabled us to enhance the quality of science teaching and learning across the school, ensuring that our pupils develop the knowledge, skills and curiosity that are essential for future success. A huge amount of this work has been led by our Science Lead, Miss Collins, whose dedication, expertise and passion for science education have been instrumental in driving these improvements. I am absolutely delighted to share that, as a result of her hard work and commitment, we have been awarded the Primary Science Quality Mark. This award recognises excellence in science leadership, teaching and learning, and is a wonderful achievement for our school community. The award is held for three years, and we will continue to build upon this success through our ongoing partnership and commitment to developing science provision even further. Congratulations and thank you to Miss Collins for this fantastic accomplishment.

On Wednesday, we treated the children to a surprise experience when M&M Productions visited the school to perform their adaptation of Pinocchio. The impromptu live performance captivated pupils from start to finish and brought the well-loved story to life through outstanding acting, energetic dancing and memorable music. The excitement and engagement across the school were wonderful to see. The experience did not end there for our Year 6 pupils, who also had the opportunity to take part in a workshop following the performance. During the session, they learned about the many different roles involved in bringing a production to the stage, including actors, set designers, costume designers and other members of the production team. It was a valuable insight into the creative arts industry and helped pupils appreciate the teamwork and skills required behind the scenes.

Finally, a reminder that this evening our Parent TLCs (Termly Learning Conferences) will go live for booking on Arbor. These meetings provide an important opportunity to discuss your child's progress, celebrate successes and understand the next steps in their learning journey. Please take the time to book an appointment with your child's teacher, and we look forward to welcoming you to school in the coming weeks.

Have a lovely weekend
Mrs Cagney



STAR OF THE WEEK

EYFS - Jenson & Jaxson

Year 1 - Carter & Teddy

Year 2 - Vincent & Grayson

Year 3 - Lenny & Lucy

Year 4 - Sienna & Demi

Year 5 - Ellie & Connie

Year 6 - Millie & Irene

CLASSROOM NEWS...

YEAR 3

This week in Year 3, the children have completed their independent write for their Stone Age narrative in English and have worked incredibly hard to showcase all of the skills they have developed throughout the unit. In maths, we have been introducing column addition and are beginning to become much more confident with this new formal method. We have been particularly impressed with the children's resilience and determination as they have tackled this brand-new procedure. Next week, we will be moving on to column subtraction and are excited to build on the progress already made. We have also recently sent home Times Tables Rock Stars and Doodle logins. We would love to see more children accessing these platforms at home, as current engagement levels are quite low in our class. Even short, regular practice sessions can make a significant difference to children's confidence, fluency and progress.

YEAR 4

This week in Year 4 we have been busy conducting an experiment! We used 5 eggs, left them for a few days in different liquids and observed what happened. This was in order to answer our enquiry question 'How do different liquids affect our teeth?' From this, we deduced that milk and water are the best for our teeth, but orange juice, vinegar and coke were the worst. We have been finishing our set of instructions on how to build a settlement, and will be sending these to Braintree District Council for them to read! In maths, we have been persevering with addition and subtraction, using methods such as counters, base ten, place value charts and column method. We have found this challenging, but have not given up!

YEAR 5

This week we have started our figurative poetry writing unit. We've learnt all about the features including onomatopoeia, alliteration, metaphors, similes, repetition, personification and today we enjoyed learning about hyperboles with our hyperbole brag battle! Some of our best lines were

- I'm so fast I can outrun a rocket
- I'm so fast I go back in time when I run
- I'm so strong I have a 20 pack
- I'm so strong I can lift a skyscraper

In maths, we have been applying our addition and subtraction learning to missing number problems. On Mondays we have an opportunity to have small group collaborative problems solving sessions while the other half of the class are at forest school. During their forest school time over the last fortnight, children have been able to practise their whittling skills and den building.

YEAR 6

In maths, we have been learning long multiplication and bus stop method and how to do it in the correct way by using multiples. In English, we have been writing our own mystery narrative. During PSHE, we considered our concerns for the residential and how to keep ourselves calm. We also discussed our residential worries in life skills. In science, we have been learning how to keep a healthy body for the future.

By Learning ambassadors, Millie C and Levi

AR READERS

Year 2 - Vianna, Romeo, Ella, Erik, Amelia, Ted, George M, Libby, Esme, Maisie.

Year 4 - Theodore, Jodie, Sienna, Wren

Please remember we are a No Nuts School, that includes Nutella

All items of clothing should be named.

Water only in bottles please.

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



ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

- 95% - EYFS
- 96% - Year 1
- 95% - Year 2
- 94% - Year 3
- 95% - Year 4
- 94% - Year 5
- 95% - 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 AND ATTENDANCE

Protecting Children’s Images from AI Abuse
AI tools can now be used to manipulate ordinary photographs of children into sexual or otherwise harmful imagery. The Internet Watch Foundation and the National Crime Agency have produced practical guidance for parents and carers about reducing the risk of image misuse. The advice includes thinking carefully about privacy settings, who can see photographs, how much identifying information is shared and involving children in decisions about posting their images as they get older. The guidance also explains what parents can do if an image has been manipulated or misused. Link: [IWF - Parent Guide: Stopping AI Child Image Abuse](#)

Understanding AI Companions

AI chatbots are increasingly able to hold long, personal conversations and may sometimes feel more like companions than simple information tools.
For parents, it's useful to understand how repeated conversations with an AI system can encourage trust or emotional attachment, particularly for children who may find the interaction supportive or easier than talking to another person.
Children and Screens has produced a short research overview explaining some of the opportunities and concerns around AI companions and young people.
Link: [Children and Screens – Chatbots, AI Companions and Youth](#)

Categorising attendance and learning hours lost

Descriptor	Threshold attendance	Actual attendance (days)	Whole days absent	Lost learning hours	Level of concern
Excellent	100%	190	0	0	Green
	99%	188	2	10	
Good	98%	186	4	20	Green
	97%	184	6	30	
	96%	182.5	7.5	37.5	
Cause for concern	95%	180.5	9.5	47.5	Orange
	94%	179	11	55	
	93%	177	13	65	
	92%	175	15	75	
	91%	173	17	85	
Unsatisfactory	90%	171	19	95	Red
	89%	169	21	105	
	88%	167	23	115	
	87%	165	25	125	
	86%	163	27	135	
Critical	85%	161.5	28.5	142.5	Red
	84%	159.5	30.5	152.5	
	83%	158	32	160	
	82%	156	34	170	
	81%	154	36	180	
	80%	152	38	190	



CLUBS...

Clubs: Autumn 1

Monday

3.15-4.15

Taskmaster Book Club

Years 1-2

Tuesday lunchtime

12.15-1.15

Lego Club

All Welcome

Wednesday

3.15-4.15

FITC Football Club

Years 1-6

Thursday

3.15-4.15

FITC Gymnastics

Years 1-6

Friday

mornings from 8.30

iRock

All welcome

Friday

3.15.4.15

Taekwondo

Years 3-6

FITC clubs are available through the following link:

<https://fitc-academy.class4kids.co.uk/>

iRock club is available through the following link:

<https://www.irockschool.com/>

Taekwondo club is available through the following link:

<https://www.olympustaekwondo.com/>