

BOCKING NEWS

Bocking Primary School Weekly Round Up Friday 17th January 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Our Year 3 pupils recently took part in an engaging and innovative learning experience centered around their Egyptian topic in English and history. An intriguing mystery unfolded when an Egyptian artefact mysteriously vanished from the classroom. This unexpected event served as a catalyst for an investigative exercise, requiring the pupils to go over the school grounds, interviewing various staff members and meticulously recording their findings. This fascinating scenario was carefully orchestrated as part of their English 'hook', an educational strategy designed to stimulate interest and engagement in their forthcoming topic and English work.

This approach is part of our Talk for Writing English practise, which emphasises the importance of pupils hearing and internalising stories before creating their own. We look forward to reading the mystery narratives that will develop from this exciting experience.

On the music front, we continue to celebrate the accomplishments of our talented pupils. I am pleased to announce that Adam in Year 2 has successfully passed his Piano Step 1 examination with distinction. This remarkable achievement serves as a testament to his dedication and the high standard of music education provided at our school. We are aware that several other pupils are preparing for their exams scheduled for the summer term and we look forward to hearing how they get on.

Our commitment to music is evidenced by our comprehensive Stave House music programme, which all pupils from EYFS to year 4 take part in. To showcase the progress our pupils have made since September, we will be featuring musical performances in our assemblies this term. Additionally, we are organising concerts for next half term, providing an opportunity for parents to witness firsthand the musical prowess of their children!

The popularity of our after-school activities continues to grow, with both SCS and our Engineering club reaching full capacity for this term. Our iRock and Taekwondo clubs are also nearing maximum enrolment. I encourage parents interested in securing a place for their child in any of these clubs to contact the school office promptly.

Looking ahead to next week, our choir is excited to take part in the Young Voices event at the O2. This extraordinary opportunity will allow our singers to perform alongside 9,000 other young vocalists, fostering creativity, musicianship, and teamwork. We believe this experience will create amazing memories and nurture a profound sense of community among our pupils.

Have a lovely weekend, Mrs Cagney Headteacher

WHAT'S COMING UP

January 21st - Young Voices 24th - PTSA Movie Night 4:30-6:30 27th - Y6 Chelmsford Court Trip 28th - Comic assembly

<u>February</u> 13th - PTSA Disco 11th - Y2 Layer Marney Trip 14th - Non pupil day 17th - 21st - Half Term

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Mon - Choir Tue - Art Club Tue - STEM Wed - SCS Gymnastic Thu - SCS Football Fri - KS2 Taekwondo

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STAR OF THE WEEK

EYFS - Leah Year 1 - Blake Year 2 - Livia Year 3 - Alfie Year 4 - Maxwell Year 5 - Skylah Year 6 - Anashe

AR READERS

Year 2 - Tyr-Zyzven, Ruby, Carter, Joshua, Pearl, Abigail, Sienna, Isabella, Florence, Olivia Year 3 - Huxley, Ryan Year 4 - Cleo, Olivia, Jake, Harper, Levi

ATTENDANCE

- 93%- Year EYFS 93% - Year 1 92% - Year 2
- 90% Year 3
- 95% Year 4
- 96% Year 5
- 97% Year 6

Attendance target 95%

CLASSROOM NEWS...

YEAR 3

Since coming back to school, we have been eager learners who really are putting our all into all aspects of learning. This has been evident in our fitness lesson in P.E., with the coaches commenting on the effort and determination that they are seeing in their lessons. We have started our new topic on ancient civilisations in History and our first discovery was that different civilisations overlapped on the timeline. We noticed that while we were in the Stone Age, over in Egypt, the Ancient Egyptians were building their pyramids. While we did contribute to our lives today during the Stone Age, we soon realised that other ancient civilisations have made significant contributions, such as: toilets, governments, kings, paper, calendars with 365 days in a year and numbers. This is just the beginning of our learning and we are looking forward to studying Ancient Egypt in greater detail and taking a closer look at our artefacts. On that note, on Tuesday a bizarre mystery unfolded- one of our Ancient Egyptian artefacts had been taken! We had to work as a team to solve the mystery and uncover the culprit: Mr Baine! Our teachers were very impressed with our communication and decision making and this experience will be helpful when we wrote our own mysteries later in our Talk for Writing unit.

YEAR 4

This week, Year 4 has been busy with a variety of exciting activities! In History, we brought Ancient Rome to life by role-playing different roles in their government, deepening our understanding of Roman society. In Science, we've been investigating electricity and circuits, discovering how they work through hands-on experiments. Our new Life Skills lessons began with learning the importance of a good handshake and how to introduce ourselves confidently—skills that tied perfectly into our French lessons, where we've been practicing how to present ourselves in a new language. In English, we've started exploring our new model text, which delves into Brutus' difficult dilemma as he contemplates the assassination of Julius Caesar—a great link to our history work! It's been a fantastic week of learning, filled with creativity, curiosity, and cross-curricular connections.

YEAR 5

This week in year 5 we have been working hard at our multiplication using the informal written method with 3 digit and 4 digits numbers. Despite it being challenging, we have put our best effort into our work and come out the other side better mathematicians! On Tuesday, we had to go on an adventure around Bocking to problem solve our way out of the Year 5 curse that has been lingering over our class (ask us about our tricky board!). We solved riddles, discussed friendship, brainstormed how we could survive in a desert and finally found the treasure! We learned how adventures were 'fun', 'surprising', 'difficult' and 'shocking'. In geography we have learnt the continents, lines of latitude, longitude and oceans and in computing we are starting to programme our Micro bits to make a name badge.

YEAR 6

In Science we have been learning about how offspring are not exactly the same as their parents. In history, we have been learning about World War II such as the schools being bombed and how the schools were used as other things. In English, we have been learning how to use DADWAVERS! and what they are. In maths, we have been learning how to multiply and divide fractions. In PE, we have been doing fitness training. **By Year 6 Learning Ambassadors: Brooklyn and Hannah**