



BOCKING NEWS

Bocking Primary School Weekly Round Up
Friday 9th October 2026

WHAT'S COMING UP

FOREST SCHOOL GROUP B
W/C 12.10.26

October

13th/14th/15th -

27/28 EYFS show

around 9.30-10.30

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,

This week has provided some wonderful examples of our school values in action.

Eight of our Year 4 children had the exciting opportunity to take part in a Hockey Festival hosted by Braintree Hockey Club as part of the Braintree District Sports Partnership. The children represented the school brilliantly, demonstrating excellent teamwork, determination and sportsmanship throughout the event. Opportunities such as these are invaluable for our pupils, allowing them to develop new skills, build confidence and experience healthy competition alongside children from other local schools. Being part of strong local networks and partnerships is incredibly important.

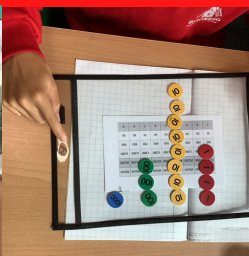
Back in school, we have seen democracy, responsibility and ambition at the very heart of our school community. This week, the four boys and four girls who applied for the prestigious role of Head of School stood in front of the entire school to deliver their election speeches. This takes an enormous amount of courage, and every candidate should be incredibly proud of themselves. Their speeches reflected the passion, commitment and ideas they have for making our school even better.

Following the speeches, pupils took part in a genuine election process. Classes visited a dedicated voting area and used a real ballot box to cast their votes individually for the candidate they believed would be best suited to the role. It was fantastic to see our children engaging in such an important democratic process and understanding how their voice can make a difference.

Due to today's emergency school closure, we were unfortunately unable to announce the successful candidates. We look forward to sharing the results and introducing our new Heads of School during an assembly on Monday. Alongside this role, our Year 6 pupils will also have the opportunity to take on a range of leadership positions, including House Captains, Sports Captain, School Council representatives and Lead Librarian. These opportunities are about so much more than winning a position. Through the process, children learn to write applications, prepare and deliver speeches, listen respectfully to others, and experience both success and disappointment with humility and resilience. I am immensely proud of every applicant for the maturity and courage they have shown.

Finally, thank you for your understanding and support regarding today's emergency closure. We are pleased to report that the water leak has been located and is currently being repaired. We look forward to welcoming everyone back to school as normal on Monday.

Have a wonderful weekend,
Mrs Cagney



STAR OF THE WEEK

This weeks winners will be announced next week...

AR READERS

Year 2 - Vianna, Ella, Leah, Libby, Maisie

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.

CLASSROOM NEWS...

YEAR EYFS

This week in Early Years, the children have thoroughly enjoyed their Understanding the World learning. We explored what a community is and helped Teddy Bear identify the people who help us in his community using picture clues. The children then reflected on the people who help them in their own community and discussed the important roles they play. We also enjoyed looking at photographs of Bocking and talking about the features of the area where we live. Later in the week, a lost sloth visited our classroom! The children considered whether Bocking would be a suitable habitat for him and quickly realised that a jungle in a hot country would be a much better environment. We compared the features of Bocking and a jungle, discussing the similarities and differences between the two habitats.

YEAR 1

We have had another busy and exciting week in Year 1! In English, we have been developing our sentence writing skills by creating our own three-part stories with a beginning, middle and end. In maths, we have been comparing numbers and quantities using the symbols for greater than, less than and equal to. In science, we have continued our learning about the seasons, focusing on the changes we see during summer, including the weather, plants and animals. Finally, in Art, we have been exploring primary and secondary colours and using our colour-mixing skills to create some fantastic firework paintings.

YEAR 2

We've had another fantastic week in Year 2, working really hard and showing great perseverance in our learning! In English, we have been working on our shared writing all about Isambard Kingdom Brunel and his incredible invention of the Royal Albert Bridge. We are excited to use what we have learnt to write our own pieces next week, focusing on the Thames Tunnel. In history, we researched the fascinating Mary Kingsley, exploring her achievements and discoveries. In science, we investigated the stretchiness of different materials, thinking like scientists by making predictions, testing materials and explaining our findings. In maths, we have been practising counting in 2s, 5s and 10s, working hard to build our confidence and fluency with these important number sequences and in PE, we continued developing our ball skills, focusing on catching and throwing while improving our hand-eye coordination.



ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

95% - EYFS

98% - Year 1

95% - Year 2

94% - Year 3

100% - Year 4

94% - Year 5

94% - 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

For Parents - WhatsApp's New Teen Controls

WhatsApp is introducing new parental controls for teenagers aged 13-17.

Parents and teenagers will be able to link their accounts and choose settings around privacy, groups, Channels, Status and Meta AI. Parents will not be able to read their teenager's private messages or listen to calls.

The features are being introduced gradually, so they may not appear just yet.

WhatsApp is also developing parent-managed accounts for younger children, but these have not yet had a full rollout.

Links:

[WhatsApp - New Controls for Teens](#)

[WhatsApp Help Centre - Parental Controls](#)

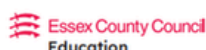
For Parents - Gaming Safety for Neurodivergent Children

Online gaming can provide friendship, enjoyment and a strong sense of community for neurodivergent children, but some children may also need extra support around social cues, scams, communication, rules and recognising when an interaction is becoming unsafe.

Internet Matters has produced a practical guide for parents and carers of neurodivergent children, with advice on supporting safe and positive gaming experiences.

It is particularly useful because it recognises the benefits of gaming rather than treating gaming itself as the problem.

Link: [Internet Matters - Gaming and Neurodivergent Children](#)



GOOD TIMEKEEPING



What to do the night before:

Get everything you need for school ready



Set your alarm allowing plenty of time

Make your lunch and drink if you bring a packed lunch to school



Turn off devices half an hour before bedtime

Have a good night's sleep - a minimum of eight hours!



Five minutes late per day soon adds up to three days of lost school time

For mental health support for young people
visit: www.youngminds.org.uk



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/>