



**Be the Best You Can,  
Guided by God**

# Newsletter

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Autumn  
Term  
Newsletter  
9<sup>th</sup> February  
2024

## Dear families,

It is incredible to think that we are already half way through the school year! It has been a busy fortnight with Safer Internet Day and Chinese New Year as well as Silver Birch's trip to Newhaven Fort. We have seen some amazing writing over the course of the last two weeks, with children from all classes wowing with their handwriting, content and enthusiasm for writing. Well done all!

After half term, we are going to be focusing on the characteristics of negotiators and risk takers whilst continuing with each class's big question.

## Mushroom Spotting

In readiness for new learning that is going to take place next term, we are challenging the children to go 'Mushroom Spotting' over half term. Why not download the Mushroom Picture App and see what you can find.

<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/picture-mushroom-fungi-finder/id1474578078>

Please save any pictures that you take and bring them into school so that we can build a collection of mushrooms that are local to Bolney.

## Goodbye Miss Fox

We say a sad farewell to Miss Fox who has worked as a Teaching Assistant and Midday Meals Supervisor over the last year. I know that the whole school joins us in thanking her and wishing her well. We will of

course still be seeing Miss Fox as a mummy at the school gate.

## Miss Bryant

After half term, we will be welcoming Miss Bryant into Beech Class as the new Teaching Assistant. She has already been in to meet with the children and get to know the school.



## Willow Class

In Willow Class we have talked about our dreams and goals. We have passed these to Mr Pitt and asked him to keep them safe until we are in year 6! We read My Mum Is a Super Hero and thought about our own parents superpowers. We watched Banana man Meets Dr Gloom in Drawing Club and enjoyed drawing Banana man, his house and imagining what he could be turned into by the evil Dr Gloom. We have danced like Superheroes and danced with a partner copying their actions. We have practised recognising and

counting 1-12, working out 1 more and 1 less. In phonics we have been learning new sounds. We marked Safer Internet Day by talking about changes and what happens when something unexpectedly changes on our screens and who we ask for help. We celebrated Chinese Lunar

New Year, heard about how it is celebrated ad the story behind it. Mrs Ellis-Brown came in to cook amazing noodles and stir fry for us. We painted cherry blossom pictures and made dancing dragons. We have learnt about Andy Warhol and Popart and copied his style.

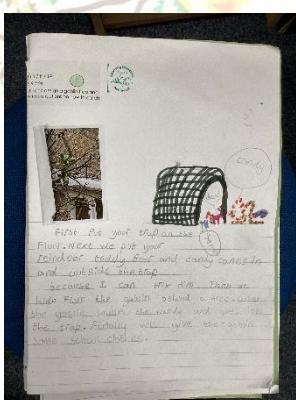


## Beech Class

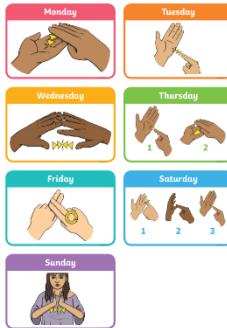
On Thursday, we celebrated Chinese New Year. We wrote down Chinese numbers and made lanterns, animal masks and spiral dragons.



This week in writing, we have made instructions on how to catch a goblin. We found a goblin in the peace garden and thought of ways we could get him down! We all agreed to welcome him into Beech class and give him a carpet spot!



Due to the recent announcement of the new BSL (British sign language) GCSE. We have started learning the days of the week in sign language!



Over the last half term, we have been looking at the way plants move and interpreting that through dance. We started as seeds, and then became roots, then dandelion seeds, and finally, the rain. We really enjoyed learning about levels in dance. We celebrated this unit by inviting Willow to come and watch our performance.

## Holly Class

We have had a busy two weeks. In English, we have been exploring figurative language: similes, metaphors, personification and hyperboles. We have had fun identifying examples of these in our whole class text and our own reading books. We will be writing our own for the illustrations in the class text Flood. We have been playing with words and made our own poems about the amazing illustrations in the text too.

I wanted to celebrate reading in this newsletter as the children really do have a love of it.



In maths, we have continued with multiplication and division, looking at related calculations, multiplying by 10 using place value counters and place value charts. The children have loved

the TT Rockstars worksheets too and have made excellent progress in their timetables. In RE, we have continued to explore the question 'How does the story of Rama and Sita inspire Hindus to follow their dharma?' and the children learned about the story of Ramayana becoming a character in the story.

In science, we learned about the Water Cycle. We had several activities to do. Researching water, poetry and writing a comic strip. We also explored condensation and carried out an investigation using water. This week we will be dunking biscuits; pictures to follow in the next newsletter!



The children have been learning how to play London's Burning on the recorder. Russ is extremely impressed with how much the Year 4's can remember from Year 3!



## Silver Birch Class

We started this week with our trip to Newhaven Fort. It was a very enjoyable trip where we experienced an air raid, looked around lots of interactive and

interesting exhibitions about the home front and the Blitz. We also explored the fort itself – including the many tunnels and underground passages.



We have also continued to write about WW2, finishing our reports about the Coventry bombings. In maths Year 6 have been learning about ratio – through recipes and real life problems. Year 5 have finally finished their fractions unit!

In science, we have continued to learn about space. We considered future exploration missions to Mars and what that would look like and what the purpose would be.

In PE, we have finished the half term with some circuits work. We have been setting targets based on first attempts and worked to try and beat it on our next go. It has been great to see the resilience and determination!

## PACE

PACE How to build connections between adults and children	
<b>Playfulness</b> EdPsychEd Light-hearted and reassuring manner Open, calm and engaged attitude Allows young person to relax Less defensive and more reflective 	<b>Acceptance</b> Unconditional acceptance of thoughts, feelings and struggles Normalising emotions and providing affirmations 
<b>Curiosity</b> Support development of Self-Awareness so young person can identify reasons behind their own actions 	<b>Empathy</b> Show compassion Being present in the moment to understand experiences as the child does 

All staff have recently received training on PACE and how we can use this model to help support children in school. PACE is an approach developed by Dr Dan Hughes, an American psychologist. PACE stands for Playfulness, Acceptance, Curiosity and Empathy. These principles help to promote the experience of safety in adult's interactions with young people. Children need to feel that you have connected with the emotional part of their brain before they can engage the thoughtful, articulate, problem solving areas.

For further information please access this link:  
<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/sites/default/files/file/children-and-families/PACEforteachers.pdf>

Or find out more on our school website:

<https://bolney-pri.eschools.co.uk/web/pace/680407/cHJldmlld3x8MjAyNC0wMi0wOCAwOToyNjoyNg%3D%3D>

## Litter Posters

The Bolney Volunteers have opened a poster competition and would like children to design posters to encourage people to "Keep Our Village Tidy". They would like to offer a small prize for each year and the closing date will be Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February, with entries on A4 paper. There will also be a village litter pick on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. Information for this will be sent out separately.

## Values Awards

This week's certificates:

**Love** Arabella T  
**Respect** Rohan McA  
**Resilience** Pip T  
**Honesty** Lincoln M

## Friends of Bolney NEWS

We are looking forward to the Golden Ticket Chocolate Bar sale after school today! We hope the children are excited by the chance of winning being Head Teacher for a morning, as well as many other great prizes!

**Friday 23rd February - School Disco 4:45 - 6:15pm**

**The Disco is the first Friday after half term! The rsvp / payment deadline was today, so if you could please send in your forms and payment asap if your child would like to attend. A photo of your completed form can be emailed to**

**[friendsofbolney@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofbolney@gmail.com)**

**We are still in need of volunteers for this event to meet the ratios required. Please let us know if you can help.**

**March - Easter Egg Hunt and Cake Sale**

**Date is to be confirmed**

**Finally we are always keen to have new ideas and input so if you are interested in being involved or have any fundraising ideas please get in touch with us at [friendsofbolney@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofbolney@gmail.com)**

**Have a great weekend!**

**Friends of Bolney**

## Diary Dates:

See the website calendar for important dates:

<https://www.bolneyschool.org.uk/web/calendar/223211>

NB: There is an **INSET day** for staff on **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February** so we welcome the children back in on **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February**.

**Ms Lofthouse and all staff at Bolney CEP School**