

Begbrook News

A fun-filled term at Begbrook

It doesn't seem very long ago since we started back, but already the days are getting shorter and just like that, we have reached the end of our first term! We have packed a huge amount into term 1 and the children have thoroughly enjoyed their units of learning.

Recently, we have been doing learning related to Black History month, which the children have been really inspired by. We started with an assembly and then the class reps met and shared ideas for how we could celebrate Black History Month. They then met with their classes and further developed these ideas. The children decided that they wanted to create 'Pop-up' displays to celebrate and life and achievements of significant Black people from history. The children used the displays to learn about each significant person and have enjoyed reading the 'Pop-up' displays around the school. We ended our celebrations with a class quiz to see what they had remembered!

For the children in KS1 and KS2, we have loved being able to have our Friday Gem Assemblies in the hall each week. We have been so impressed with all the Gem Powers that the children are using every day to help them to be ready to learn. Each week, children have the opportunity to share how they have 'Grown their Grit Power' outside of school, by bringing in medals, certificates, art work etc. to show to the rest of the children in assembly. If your child is keen to share something with us in assembly, please encourage them to bring it in on Friday and be ready to talk about it during assembly – we would love to hear all about it!

We have had a number of enquiries asking about whether our teachers will be resuming after school clubs this year. We have spoken with the children about the types of clubs they would like to have available. Now we know this, we will be working with our staff to try and ensure that a range of clubs are up and running from Term 3 onwards.

Our lunch time menu will be staying the same for next term – we will be starting back on Week 3 (please see attached menus for a reminder).

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support, commitment and kind words so far this term. It is lovely to see and speak to you all on the gates every day and we really do appreciate you taking the time to talk to us. Begbrook has such a great community feel, and as we say here – Everyone is Welcome.

Mr Munro, Mrs Hine and Miss Adams

Diwali Sweet Treat Sale

As part of our Diwali celebrations, on Thursday 4th November, we will be holding a Diwali Sweet Treat Sale after school at 3:30pm. Some classes will be making sweet treats to sell as part of this! If you would like to donate traditional sweets or cakes we would be very grateful. Please bring donations into school on the morning of Thursday 4th November and leave them under the blue canopy.



Parents' Evening

This week, we have facilitated Parents' Evening meetings for every class across the school. We understand that there have been some technical difficulties and we have appreciated your patience in trying to overcome these.

Whilst many of the COVID-19 restrictions have eased, we have still been working in an unpredictable climate and so offering our Parents' Evenings online meant that we were able to guarantee that they could definitely take place. We know that some of you are keen for meetings to continue in this way every time, whilst others of you would prefer to have the meeting in-person once again. We have taken this feedback onboard and, where possible in the future, we will be offering a blended approach to Parents' Evenings so that families can choose whether they join via a Teams link or come into school for an in-person meeting. Our next Parents' Evenings will take place in Term 3.

Online Safety

As the school holidays have arrived, our children and young people may be spending more time online. Wondering how to stay safe? Be SMART with a heart and follow childnet's top tips for using the internet safely and positively.

S is for safe



Keep your personal information safe. When chatting or posting online don't give away things like your full name, password or home address. Remember personal information can be seen in images and videos you share too. Keep them safe to keep yourself safe.

M is for meet



Meeting up with someone you only know online, even a friend of a friend, can be dangerous as this person is still a stranger. If someone you only know online ever asks you to meet up, for personal information or for photos/videos of you then tell an adult straight away and report them together on www.thinkuknow.co.uk

A is for accepting



Think carefully before you click on or open something online (e.g. links, adverts, friend requests, photos) as you never know where they may lead to or they may contain viruses. Do not accept something if you are unsure of who the person is or what they've sent you.

R is for reliable



You cannot trust everything you see online as some things can be out of date, inaccurate or not entirely true. To find reliable information compare at least three different websites, check in books and talk to someone about what you have found.

T is for tell



Tell a trusted adult if something or someone ever makes you feel upset, worried or confused. This could be if you or someone you know is being bullied online. There are lots of people who will be able to help you like your teachers, parents, carers or contact Childline – 0800 11 11 or www.childline.org.uk

Be SMART with a heart



Remember to always be smart with a heart by being kind and respectful to others online. Make the internet a better place by helping your friends if they are worried or upset by anything that happens online.

Follow the link for other activities, quizzes, and video lessons on how to be safe online.

<https://www.childnet.com/young-people/primary/get-smart>

Parking reminder

The traffic at drop-off and pick-up times remains incredibly busy, and is likely to get worse as the bad weather arrives. We have had a number of near-miss incidents reported to us this term and the children have also reported feeling anxious about cars coming up onto the pavement where they are walking. Please bear this in mind and park considerately and safely. We are in contact with the PCSO team who undertake random checks, but parking safely and considerately is everyone's responsibility all of the time. We highly recommend walking or cycling to school if possible, or making use of the park and stride from Begbrook Social Club. Thank you in advance for your support in helping to make this busy time of the day safer.

Volunteers

Would you like to volunteer some of your time at Begbrook? There are a number of ways you can do this:

- Reading buddies: hearing the children read to develop their fluency
- New parent buddy: if a new family start at our school, you could be there to support their transition and help to involve them in the existing parent community
- Helping out with an after-school club
- Regularly supporting with trips and visits e.g. swimming sessions

We will be sending out a sign-up form early next term, so if you are interested please look out for this!

Attendance reminder

As you know, at Begbrook we ask just **ONE BIG THING – for children to be in school every day that they are able to.**

All children should arrive at school between 8:45-9:00am. At 9:00am, the gates will be closed and children arriving after that time will need to be dropped off at the Late Door, which can be accessed around the corner of the Main Reception.

If we have concerns around attendance, we will be sending out a text message reminder. If attendance does not improve, you may receive a letter requesting a meeting. Please work with us too ensure that your children are in school, ready to learn.

If you have concerns or questions regarding attendance, please contact Zoe Sutton (family support worker and attendance lead) or a member of the Principal Team. Thank you for your support with this.

School Uniform

At Begbrook, we have a compulsory school uniform:

- Navy blue jumper with school logo
- White or light blue polo shirts/shirts
- Grey or black trousers, skirt, shorts or pinafore dress
- Predominantly black shoes, trainers or boots.

Please note, leggings may be worn under a skirt or pair of shorts but should not be worn on their own – they are not an alternative for trousers. On your child's PE days, they may wear suitable trainers into school instead of black shoes or boots.

Please ensure that you label all items clearly with your child's name so that we can return missing items to their owner. Each class has a 'jumper dumper' for children to use so if your child has lost an item of school uniform, these are the best places to check.

For more details, please see our School Uniform Policy on the website: <https://bpa3.clf-vps-001.clf.uk/wp-content/uploads/School-uniform-policy-2018-1.pdf>



Diary
Dates



ALL DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

DATE	EVENT
Wednesday 3 rd November	Academy Review Visit
Thursday 4 th November	Diwali Sweet and Treat Sale – 3:30pm in the main playground
Thursday 11 th November	Remembrance Day
Friday 12 th November	Children in Need – children can wear own clothes to school
Mon 15 th – Fri 19 th Nov	Anti-Bullying Week
Wednesday 17 th November	Begbrook Christmas CD recording Parent Information Event: Reading - 6:15pm in the main hall
Friday 19 th November	Parent Information Event: Reading – 9:15am in the main hall
Wednesday 24 th November	Y1 Phonics Information meeting – 3:30pm
Thursday 25 th November	Y1 Phonics Information meeting – 9:15am
Tuesday 7 th December	EYFS Christmas Performance – 2pm
Thursday 9 th December	EYFS Christmas Performance – 9:30am
Friday 10 th December	PTFA Christmas Jumper Day
Monday 13 th December	Y1 Christmas Performance – 2pm
Tuesday 14 th December	Y1 Christmas Performance – 9:30am Christmas Lunch – Y1, Y3 and Y5
Wednesday 15 th December	Christmas Lunch – Reception, Y2, Y4 and Y6 WINTERFEST – 3:30 – 5:30pm
Thursday 16 th December	Y2-Y6 Christmas Showcase Assembly

Term Dates 2021-22

Term 2: Mon 1st Nov – Fri 17th Dec
 Term 3: Tues 4th Jan – Fri 18th Feb
 Term 4: Mon 28th Feb – Fri 8th Apr
 Term 5: Mon 25th Apr – Fri 27th May
 Term 6: Mon 6th Jun – Fri 22nd Jul

INSET Days 2021-22

Tues 4th January
 Wed 16th March
 Friday 8th July

Begbrook Photo Board



Meet Amy and Manpriya (and imagine Gracie who couldn't be in school when the photo was taken!) These Y5 children have worked incredibly hard to create the first edition of the Begbrook Blarer – a magazine for the children, written by the children! Every class has a copy – we hope they enjoy reading it!