

Begbrook News

Focus of the term - Children's mental health and wellbeing

On Friday 13th November, Begbrook joined in with raising money for Children in Need. This year, the theme was inspired by supporting children's mental health and wellbeing. Throughout the day, children from across the school explored a range of ideas and activities to help children learn how to take control of their wellbeing and mental health. In particular, we focused our attention on mindfulness – colouring, yoga and deep listening, the importance of sleep and the importance of exercise. Children also took part in a fun 'Mindful Minstrel eating' activity, which involved children looking at, smelling and slowly tasting the minstrel as it dissolved. If you haven't yet had a chance to see our YouTube video of Children in Need day at Begbrook, click here: <https://youtu.be/G1LspNvGxns>

Monday 16th November was the start of Anti-Bullying week. This year, the theme is 'United Against Bullying'. We launched the week with an assembly where we came up with words to explain 'United' and what this means. Classes took photos of themselves wearing odd socks and came up with a phrase to explain how their class was United Against Bullying. You can see these on the photo board! We also talked about a phrase that we have been using in school this year: Begbrook Primary Academy – Everyone is Welcome. The children were set a challenge to come up with a logo to represent this phrase. Watch this space as winners will be announced next Monday! Throughout the week, children have been learning about what bullying is, how it can happen, and why it is so important that we are united against it. We have also reminded children that we take any reports of bullying very seriously.

This term we have also started our very first Virtual Parents' Evening meetings. Those of you who have taken part in this so far have all been extremely positive about the experience. We have appreciated your support in setting this up and being understanding of any technical issues that have arisen. It has been great to spend time discussing how well the children have settled into their classes and the progress they are making in their learning.

One final message from us is a reminder of the following:

If you, or any member of your household has symptoms of Covid-19 (a new, continuous dry cough, a raised temperature or a loss of taste or smell) you must get a test and **everyone in your household must remain at home until the results of the test have come through as negative** e.g. Dad has symptoms and gets a test – while he waits for the results, his children must not go to school. We are reminding you of this because we have had situations where children have been sent into school even though an adult in their house has symptoms and is awaiting a test. **If anyone in your household is having a Covid-19 test, for any reason, everyone must isolate until the result comes back as negative. Only then can you send your children back to school.** The impact of not following these guidelines is that children are having to be sent home rather than being at school for up to 14 days when they did not need to be.

Thank you for supporting us in keeping everyone safe.

Mr Munro, Mrs Hine and Mrs Shaw

Staffing News

Mrs Jen Shaw, our amazing Assistant Principal, will be leaving us at the end of this term as she has accepted the role of Vice Principal at another of our CLF schools, Minerva Primary Academy. Mrs Shaw started at Begbrook as an NQT 16 years ago and became part of the Principal Team 3 years ago. She has been instrumental in driving school improvements and we cannot begin to tell you how much we will all miss her. We are sure you will join us in saying a huge congratulations for her new role!

We would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to our new Operations Manager, **Jane Whiteman-Bruner**. Some of you will have already met Jane as she has been helping us out on the gates before and after school. Jane will be working closely with the Principal Team, Senior Leaders and Office staff.

We would also like to share the news that **Lynn Wise**, who has been a Teaching Assistant at Begbrook for many years, has decided to retire. Lynn has worked with hundreds of children during her time with us and we are extremely grateful for her hard work, care and dedication. We hope she goes on to have a happy, healthy and enjoyable retirement.

Finally, you may have already guessed, but we would like to officially share the lovely news that **Mrs Emma Skade** is expecting her second baby, due in the Spring.

Christmas Plans

Normally, the end of Term 2 is packed full of exciting events and opportunities to learn about and celebrate Christmas... and we are more determined than ever to ensure that our children do not miss out on this! Despite the Covid-19 restrictions, we still plan to do lots of exciting things to celebrate in the build-up to Christmas. Here are some things to look out for:

Christmas Dinner: All children from Reception to Year 6 will be able to take part in Christmas Dinner week from Tuesday 8th to Thursday 10th December. A letter has been sent this week all about it – please complete the form to sign up for Christmas Dinner and the form to select your menu choice by Friday 27th November.

PTFA Christmas Shop: We have been working with the PTFA to make sure that the Christmas shop can run this year. Presents will cost £2.50 and we have some lovely items along with the usual chocolate favourites we know you love. A video and a list of the items for sale will be shared with you and the children. The **Christmas Shop order day is Friday 6th December** – please bring money in so children can place the orders. **The Christmas Shop delivery day will be Monday 14th December** - children will bring home the items on this day. This gives enough time in between for quarantining of forms and presents.

Christmas Jumper Day – Friday 11th December: For a voluntary donation to Save the Children, children will be able to wear a Christmas Jumper or festive outfit – always one of our favourite days of the year!

Class parties: Classes will be having a party, with games and snacks and activities. More details about this will follow soon.

Christmas Cards – we are asking children to bring in Christmas cards for their **class bubble only**. Card can be brought in during the week Monday 6th – Friday 11th December. Cards will go into a class post box to be quarantined over the weekend. They will be handed out on Monday 14th December.

We are unable to do **WinterFest** this year due to the restrictions. We all feel very sad about this as we love the chance to be able to celebrate as part of the whole school community. But, without giving too much away (as we all love a surprise at Christmas Time), we will still ensure that the children get to showcase their talents to you. We are all super excited – we hope you are too!

PTFA Corner

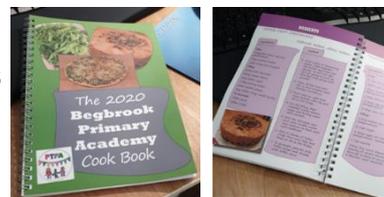


PTFA AGM PLANNED FOR 26TH NOVEMBER AT 8PM- ONLINE ZOOM MEETING

If you are interested in finding out more about the PTFA and want to be more involved please contact us and we'll forward you meeting details and any information you need.

There are a number of current members stepping down this year, so it's a great time to find out more about how you can help and be involved. There is a place for everyone, either in a main committee role such as treasurer or Chairperson or as a general committee member.

Begbrook Cookbook It's finally here!!!! – If you have been missing our lovely international food fayres then don't worry - we have put together all the recipes you kindly sent us, so now you'll be able to cook your favourite recipes at home. The cookbook will be on sale soon and can be paid for online and your purchase delivered to school. More information to follow soon.



CALLING ALL HARRY POTTER FANS! – A surprise virtual event is coming your way next term ... keep your eyes and ears open for more info!
PTFA@bpa.cabot.ac.uk

Birthday Books - Wish List

Earlier this year we announced that, for various reasons, we were no longer able to allow the children to share sweets or treats with their class on their birthday. Instead, we suggested that children bought or shared a book with the class for their birthday.

We have been delighted at the response to this idea. Children from across the school have been so excited to share their favourite book for their birthday. Here is Jasmine in 2RF reading the class her book on the big screen for her birthday:



Below are links to an Amazon Birthday Book wish list for those of you who are interested. We hope you find them helpful.

Nursery and Reception: https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/3I4XM2YHUD8MP?ref=wl_share

Year 1 and Year 2: https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/R41EGDRNM219?ref=wl_share

Year 3 and Year 4: https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/3UFAGYRUBZXSQ?ref=wl_share

Year 5 and Year 6: https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/3BIIM6G8845Q6?ref=wl_share



Diary Dates



ALL DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

DATE	EVENT
16 th -27 th November	Virtual Parents' Evening meetings – online via Microsoft Teams
Thurs 26 th November	PTFA Annual General Meeting – 8pm online via Zoom
Fri 27 th November	Last date to sign up for Christmas Dinner – use link to form on previous letter
Fri 6 th November	Christmas shop order – bring money in (£2.50) and order the item you would like
Mon 7 th – Fri 11 th December	Christmas cards for class bubble to be brought in from today and placed in class post box – cards will be quarantined over the weekend
Tues 8 th December	Christmas Dinner – Reception, Y1 and Y2
Wed 9 th December	Christmas Dinner – Y3 and Y4
Thurs 10 th December	Christmas Dinner – Y5 and Y6
Fri 11 th December	Christmas Jumper Day – Save the Children
Mon 14 th December	Christmas Shop delivery day – orders will be given to children to take home today Christmas cards for class bubble to be sent home today

Term Dates 2020/21

Term 2: Mon 2nd Nov – Fri 18th Dec

Term 3: Mon 4th Jan – Fri 12th Feb

Term 4: Mon 22nd Feb – Thurs 1st Apr

Term 5: Mon 19th April – Fri 28th May

Term 6: Mon 7th Jun – Wed 21st Jul

INSET DAYS

Friday 18th December 2021

Monday 4th January 2021

Wednesday 17th March 2021

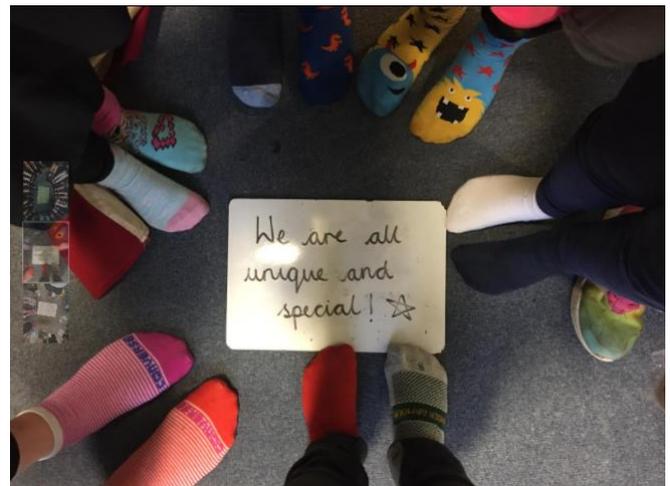
Friday 2nd July 2021 (TBC)

Begbrook Photo Board

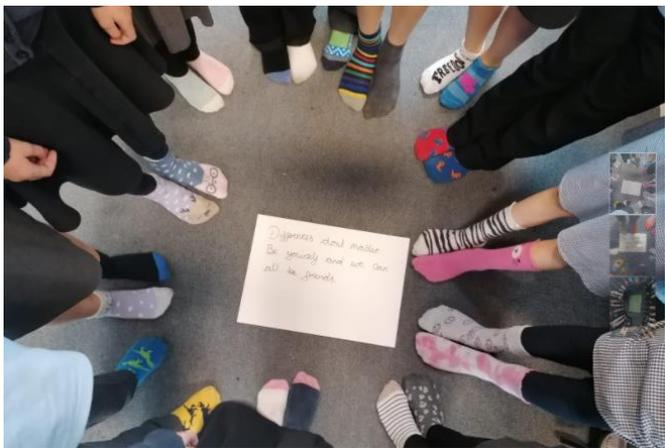
Here are just some of the class phrases that were inspired by Anti-Bullying week:



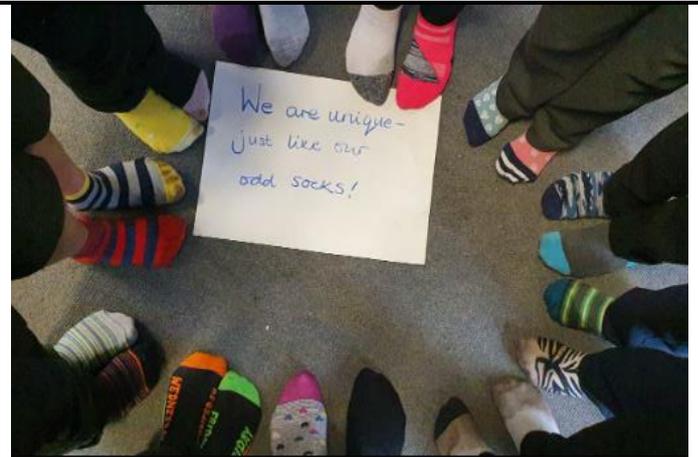
2RF – It's nice to be different



1FE - We are all unique and special!



4CW - Differences don't matter. Be yourself and we can all be friends



5RH - We are unique – just like our socks!



2EM – We are all different and we like it that way!



1VS – Born to be different!