

Begbrook News

A round-up from a busy term

We promised you an action-packed term, and we have certainly delivered! The children have been doing some incredible learning and continue to impress us by telling us all the things they know – I am sure you get to hear all about some of the wonderful units that they are being immersed in at school. We have been able to show prospective parents around our school this term and it has been great to show off just what the children get up to at Begbrook.

Earlier in the term, we joined in with fundraising for Children in Need. The children decided that we should all come to school wearing our pyjamas and so we enjoyed a very comfortable day. We managed to do a whole school conga, with all children and staff from Preschool up to Y6 – for those of you who have not yet seen the YouTube video, click [here](#). We managed to raise £611.06 so a massive thank you to everyone who donated.

For the last few weeks, we have started to get into the festive spirit! Our fantastic PTFA decorated our school hall with a beautiful Christmas tree, a huge inflatable Father Christmas and lots of bunting. It has made our school lunches very exciting!

We are also delighted that our nativity performances have been able to go ahead. So far, Reception children have performed to parents and carers and the performances were just magical. We are really looking forward to seeing Y1 and Preschool performing next week – we know they will be amazing! In the next newsletter, we will share photos of these performances. We'd like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to our staff for their hard work in putting these performances together.

A couple of weeks ago, a professional recording company came into Begbrook and helped us to record a Christmas CD. Each year group has a song on the CD, and there is also a special treat from the staff too! These CDs have been available to purchase so we hope you enjoy them. The children will also be performing these songs live at Winterfest so make sure you pop along!

Today, the PTFA have organised a Christmas Shop for the children to visit. The volunteers all commented on how incredibly well behaved the children were. They thoroughly enjoyed looking through all the gift options and selecting the ones they wanted to buy. Thank you to the PTFA for organising such a lovely event.

We are planning to be ending the term on a high with WINTERFEST! This fantastic event is taking place in the main playground after school on Wednesday 15th December, 3:30-5:30pm. The children will be taking to the outdoor stage to perform a Christmas song in their year groups. There will also be food, drinks, games and raffles – we are even hoping that Father Christmas may attend! The event will be held outside, so please dress warmly. If the weather is bad, we will unfortunately have to cancel as we cannot hold this large event inside. So please keep your fingers crossed for dry weather! All the money raised will go towards the PTFA fund and we will use this money to improve resources and opportunities for the children at Begbrook. We really hope as many of you as possible will be able to make it and we look forward to seeing you there!

Mr Munro, Mrs Hine and Miss Adams

Online Safety

Many of you may be giving devices as Christmas presents this year. Follow these top tips to ensure they are used as safely as possible.

Top tips for giving tech gifts this Christmas.

1. **Set up and play with the device before wrapping** - The easiest way to explore the safety settings, reporting tools and other features on the device you have just bought is by testing yourself.
2. **Discuss your expectations** - make sure that everybody understands the importance of staying safe and being responsible online.
3. **Give practical safety tips** - At the most basic level this could be; “turn the screen off,” or, “turn the device over,” and, “come and get an adult.”
4. **Keep the conversations going!** - Finding natural, regular opportunities to start [conversations](#) around life online, will show you are engaged and interested in your child’s activities, and will help your child feel confident that you can help them.

Click the following link for more in-depth advice on each tip.

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/blog/4-tips-for-giving-tech-gifts-this-christmas>

Volunteers

Are you interested in volunteering at Begbrook? Would you like to help make a difference to the experiences our children receive at school? If so, we would love to hear from you! You could volunteer in a number of ways:

- Parent readers
- Supporting or running an after-school club
- Help with educational trips and visits
- Classroom support e.g. Art, DT (cooking/sewing/projects)
-

Please complete a form (click [here](#)) to register your interest in being a volunteer and we will be in touch with you as soon as possible.

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.

We have noticed an increasing number of children arriving slightly late, just after the gates close. We would really like to encourage punctuality by encouraging all children to arrive at school on time, between 8:45-9:00am. At 9:00am, the gates close 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 your child is absent, on the first day please contact the school to let us know. You can do this by going to the contact page on our website and completing the ‘Reporting my child absent’ form - <https://begbrookprimaryacademy.clf.uk/contact-us/> Alternatively, please ring the school office and leave a message. If we do not hear why your child is not in school, we have to make contact with you on the first day of absence. Please support us by communicating as early as possible if your child will not be in school.

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.

Community Links

Flu Jabs for 2-3 year olds



HM Government

NHS

BOOST THEIR IMMUNITY THIS WINTER

Protect your toddler from the harms of flu this winter. Children aged 2 or 3 before September are eligible for a free flu vaccine. It's just a quick and painless nasal spray.

Book an appointment today at your GP surgery.

Are you a parent of a 2–3-year-old? Flu can be a serious illness for children and we'd like to remind you that your child should now have their free flu vaccination.

This winter, it is possible that more people will catch flu compared with last winter when strict COVID-19 restrictions were in place. Vaccinating your child will help protect them from getting flu and prevent it spreading among more vulnerable family and friends.

Book an appointment with your child's GP practice.

If you have any questions, please visit <https://orlo.uk/cUUEx> or call 119.



Diary Dates



ALL DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

DATE	EVENT
Wednesday 5 th January	First day back in school for children
Thursday 13 th February	PTFA Bedtime Stories
Wednesday 19 th January	Academy Council Day – our Academy Council members will be joining us for the day
Thursday 27 th January	CLF Eco Conference – a group of children will be representing Begbrook
Thursday 27 th January	Y2 Assessment Information Session for parents and carers – 9:15am and 3:30pm
31 st January – 4 th February	National Storytelling Week
Thursday 3 rd February	Y2 trip to SS Great Britain
Monday 7 th February	Y1 Wild Science Visit
Wednesday 9 th February	Parents/Carers Evening
Thursday 10 th February	Parents/Carers Evening

Term Dates 2021-22

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

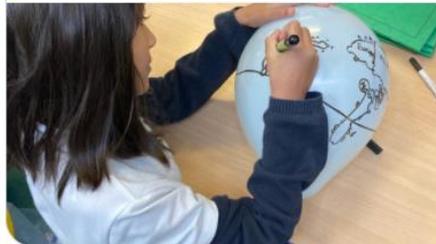
Tues 4th January
 Wed 16th March
 Friday 8th July

Begbrook Photo Board



Harry Potter Day was so much fun! Y5 wrote invisible messages to each other so Professor Snape wouldn't read them and they found out which house they were in at Hogwarts! They even tried some of Bertie Bott's delicious (jelly) beans!

Our Year 4 children have been Geographers this term and have been familiarising themselves with planet Earth by drawing the key features of a globe onto a balloon: 🌍 longitude, latitude, equator



Year 5 were very honoured to work with Bristol Council and Lloyds Bank volunteers to plant trees in Begbrook Park. They represented Begbrook beautifully, working together to improve our community.

Our Year 1 learners have been investigating odd and even numbers using tens frames and counters. They noticed that even numbers are made up of 2s! What a huge amount of sapphire power being used in Y1!

