

Great Bookham School Newsletter

Welcome to Issue 5 - 4th October 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for the phenomenal support at this year's book fair. You raised an incredible £867.29 for our school to spend on books. Reading is the cornerstone of our curriculum and we are delighted to be able to purchase more beautiful and diverse texts and continue to ignite a love of reading for all children.

Yesterday was National Poetry Day and children across the school enjoyed reading and sharing poems that they love. Our Year 5 children visited Bookham Library to perform their poems and the librarian commented on how wonderful the children's creativity, expression and enthusiasm was. Years 5 and 6 took part in a National Poetry workshop that Waterstones were holding for schools and they immersed themselves in descriptive writing through use of their senses.

Our Year 6 cohort have had a fantastic start of term and have really risen to the challenge of taking on various leadership roles within school. Our Sports Crew attended their first official training session of the year and they all achieved their bronze qualification. The excellent behaviour of our children during this session was commented on and we are very proud to have them start leading sporting activities for their peers during playtimes.

*Reception and KS1 have been busy preparing for their Harvest celebration next week which parents are invited to attend on **Friday 11th October at 9am**. We will be collecting food donations for our local foodbank so please send in any donations into school from Monday 7th October.*

*We are looking forward to hosting our first workshop for parents - 'Tea & Talk' next week which will be led by Learning Space and focusing on Managing Anxiety in children. This is a great opportunity for parents and we look forward to seeing you there on **Wednesday 9th October at 2:15pm** in the junior hall. Please remember to register your interest [here](#).*

Next week is 'Surrey Feeling Good Week'. The theme this year is “**Embracing Emotions**” and throughout the week we will be taking part in activities to celebrate this. On **Thursday 10th October**, to coincide with World Mental Health Day, we would like invite the children to wear one colourful accessory to school - socks, badge, hairband, tie, bow, sweat bands, etc.

Today is the second instalment of our cross country events, held at KGV. We look forward to seeing lots of our children represent GBS there and if your child would be interested in joining future events, please speak to Mrs Jupp.

Miss J. Allen





JOIN US FOR

TEA & TALK

MANAGING ANXIETY AT HOME


WITH LEARNING SPACE

Learn how to take practical steps to help your child to manage anxiety and worry at home



With a focus on **practical steps** and understanding what happens when your child feels anxious.

Open to parents of years 3, 4, 5 & 6





Uniform

We are so proud of our school and are continually striving for excellence in all that we do. School uniform is an important way in which we create a feeling of solidarity, pride and a sense of belonging. When the children put their uniform on they are representing our school and the values that we represent. We therefore ask that all children wear the correct uniform and approved footwear every day in school.

Fidget toys

We have noticed that a number of children are bringing fidget toys into school and using them during lessons. As of next week, we ask that your children keep these at home and only use the school approved fidget toys as agreed between the SENCo and parents of specific children.

Upcoming key dates

8th-9th October - Year 3 Feet First: Walking Training

9th October - Year 6 Health Checks

11th October - Reception, Y1 and Y2 Harvest Festival



Headteacher award

Elijah in Year 3 shared some fantastic maths work.

Eloise, Emilia, Emily and Lara in Year 3 have all really enjoyed creating comic strips based on the story The Way Back Home. They could confidently tell me about thought and speech bubbles and how to use onomatopoeia.

Sophia in Year 3 beautifully sketched pairs of eyes to show different expressions.

Alice in Year 5 wrote a wonderful description of a Hobbit house and she had obviously been inspired by her learning.

Billie in Year 6 worked very hard with her homework this week and produced a thoughtful piece of writing.

2.10.24

Multiplikation und
Division 3er 3

$400 + 23 = 423$
 $40 - 8 = 32$
 $36 \div 3 = 12$
 $4 - 4 = 0$
 $112 - 22 = 90$

$1 \times 3 = 3$ ✓
 $2 \times 3 = 6$ ✓
 $5 \times 3 = 15$ ✓
 $10 \times 3 = 30$ ✓
 $4 \times 3 = 12$ ✓
 $8 \times 3 = 24$ ✓
 $6 \times 3 = 18$ ✓
 $12 \times 3 = 36$ ✓

$6 \times 3 = 18$ ✓
 $18 \div 3 = 6$ ✓

$3 \times 7 = 21$ ✓
 $21 \div 7 = 3$ ✓

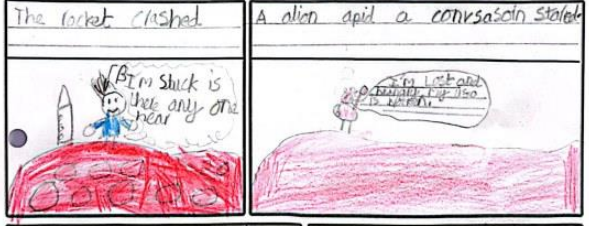
$8 \times 3 = 24$ ✓
 $24 \div 3 = 8$ ✓
 $12 \times 3 = 36$ ✓
 $36 \div 3 = 12$ ✓
 $3 \times 1 = 3$ ✓
 $3 \div 1 = 3$ ✓
 $9 \times 3 = 27$ ✓
 $27 \div 3 = 9$ ✓

Amazing EW!
24 ✓
24 ✓
20 ✓

Excellent!
2 x (HP)

Miss Allen
says
Well Done!

THE WAY BACK HOME



THE WAY BACK HOME!!

One sunny day Freddy looked at his rocket.

6 days later he is in the sky.

He finally got on the moon.

He wonders where am I.

Immediately the alien and Freddy had a chat.

They started to think.

Miss Allen says Well Done!

The way BACK HOME

Tom found a rocket.

HOURS later

He crashed!

He saw a alien!

Final detorkin on the moon.

They were thinking for hours.

Miss Allen says Well Done!

The way back home

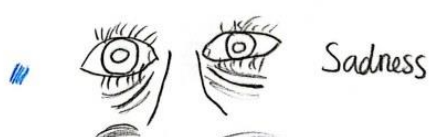
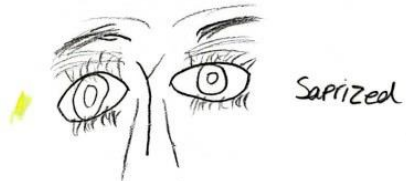
Miss Allen says Well Done!



4.10.24

Expressions

- Satisfied ✓
- joy ✓
- Happy
- Sadness
- embarrassment ✓
- fear
- angry



Miss Allen says Well Done!

20th September
Have you ever been in a hobbit hole, or in fact even seen one? They are luxurious houses or holes as you might call them, with shining chandeliers and thousands of rooms. If you have never been in one, your adventure starts here!



As soon as you walk through the tiny, polished, round door you will immediately be in the main room. It has shining glorious chandeliers and a bright, open fire. Inside it, it has a welcoming atmosphere, but this one hobbit is not as welcoming as his house is. There are doors and archways on every side leading to further corridors and rooms. Stepping into it, it seems like a mess, but Bilbo knows exactly where every thing is. If you walk straight forwards

along the hallway you will see there are hundreds of pegs for visitors to put their coats and bags on. All around it, there are beautiful, gold, polished wood picture frames and beautiful pictures inside them. At the end of each side of the hallway there are even more rooms. Walking into the main room again, you will see the kitchen. In it there are amazing views out of the circular window and piles and piles of food, if you ever decided to live in one you would never get hungry again. It has glorious smells of baking bread and lovely spices like cinnamon and more, although there is food piled up in every corner and spilling out of all the "cupboards" it's actually quite a nice kitchen. If you go back into the hallway and to the end there is a bedroom, that bedroom is the biggest

because it's the master bedroom. It has a King size bed (which I don't know why because Hobbits are small and don't need that much room) and two bedside tables, one with an alarm clock set to 6 o'clock and on the other side a bright lamp with a dim, fascinating glow. On one side there are three perfectly circular windows in a astonishingly straight line. Back in the hallway again, on the other side there is the pantry. In the pantry there shelves and shelves of delicious and wonderful, freshly cooked food like gnomas cakes and bread that has just been cooked this morning. This room doesn't actually have any windows because it's on the right side (only the rooms on the left side have windows because the other side is going into the hill). On one side there are five huge shelves covered in cakes and nothing else,

on the other side there is another five huge shelves covering the whole wall with only bread on. There is one counter opposite the door but it is always covered in freshly baked food, that Bilbo can't fit inside any cupboard or shelves. Underneath the counter and the shelves there are four long wooden cupboards, in them there are all the foods that aren't scattered and piled up on the counter or on the shelves. On top of the cupboards there are draws with spices and herbs in like cinnamon and basil. Back in the hallway next to the bedroom is the bathroom. There are lovely fish painted, blue and green tiles on the floor and inside the bath. Next to the bath is a bright white toilet. By the door there is a sink with shining gold taps. If you go back into the main room then turn left you will get to the clothes room, but you will have to

go through a very long hallway and past even more hooks and pegs for visitors. Inside the clothes room it has five wardrobes and ten rails. Five of the rails only have coats on, the other five rails have shirts and jumpers on and the wardrobes have trousers and shoes in. I don't know why they so much clothes because know one needs that much clothes even if they are hobbits. This room does not have any windows because it's going into the hill on the right side. If you go back to the main room then go through the small circular door you will be on the lawn. Outside next to the door there is a flower pot with glorious tulips and roses. On the other side of the door there is another flower pot, but in this one there are orchids and bluebells growing in it. On the other

side of the lawn there is a old wooden bench with the words the Baggins Bench on it.

* so don't hesitate to go to one just make sure you don't go to Bilbo Baggins's house because you will not be welcome at all.

* Now that's a hobbit hole for you.



It was a place where no one
has ever been before. The sand of the
waterfalls clashing down on the rocks
you could see a reflection of light
on the wet rocks. The air smells so
fresh. I was looking around and I
saw a cave. It was so bright it
blinded my eyes. I shouted HELLO
is anybody there? and it kept
echoing through the cave.
I could see a shadow in
the distance. I began to
walk towards the shadow.
As I got closer, I saw shadow
was in fact a little girl.
I started to walk towards
her and then she ran towards
me. We held hands and
together through the
cave and then I woke
up it was all a dream!!

Miss Allen
says
Well Done!

wow! What a fabulous effort. I'm very
proud of you. @

Stars of the week

Our stars of the week are:

Ladybirds

Orla & Ronni

Bumblebees

Kiril & Lucy

Dragonflies

Jessica & Yahya

Foxes

Eli & Eloise

Squirrels

Asher & Leo

Hedgehogs

Keelia & William L

Rabbits

Archie & Izzie

Eagles

Aria & Shakira

Hawks

Tommy & Sam

STARS OF THE WEEK

Attendance

Congratulations to **Foxes** for winning the attendance certificate again **this week!**

MAC the attendance bear will live in **Foxes** classroom for the next week.



Online safety

Did you know WhatsApp has over two billion users worldwide? The ability to easily send text, videos, photos and files, along with the capacity to make video and voice calls have made WhatsApp the world's most popular messaging platform.

What's the age rating for WhatsApp?

WhatsApp is rated 13+.

In 2024, WhatsApp lowered the age rating in Europe from 16 to 13. This change received criticism from Children's Rights Advocates, arguing that the changes expose children to potential online harms.

This change may mean that more primary school aged children are accessing WhatsApp than ever before. That's why we have put together this guide for parents, carers and

teachers to understand the risks of WhatsApp and help to keep their children and young people safe.

Is WhatsApp Safe for children?

WhatsApp can be a great tool for staying in touch with family and friends. It offers children an easy way to communicate with loved ones, share memories, and even collaborate on school projects.

However, as with any online platform, there are risks to consider. Let's start by looking at the risks of WhatsApp, then explore some simple steps we can take to keep children safe on the platform.

What are the Risks of WhatsApp?

Exposure to Inappropriate Content

Because it's very easy to share content in WhatsApp through Group Chats, children may receive or come across inappropriate content.

Scams and Phishing Attempts

There have been multiple incidents of scams or phishing attempts on WhatsApp. This often takes the form of an offender posing as a friend or family member, requesting money or information.

Online Bullying

Group Chats on WhatsApp can bring about a herd mentality, something that starts as a joke can go too far and become bullying. Because of the 'always on' nature of technology, this means it can be difficult to get any time away from online conflicts or bullying.

Contact from Strangers

If a young person is added into a Group Chat, this group may include people who they don't know. Group Chats can increase the chance that a young person will be contacted by someone they don't know.

Sharing Location

WhatsApp gives you the option of sharing your location with other users. If this feature is enabled it could potentially allow other users the ability to track a child's location or find their home address.

Excessive Screen Time

Being part of a Group Chat can create a pressure to respond quickly. Children and young people may experience a fear of missing out, and the need to read and respond to messages

at all hours of the day or night. This can lead to excessive screen time that negatively impacts sleep and overall well being.

How can I make WhatsApp Safe for children?

Here are some steps you can take to help keep children and young people safe on Whatsapp:

Encourage Critical Thinking

Have a conversation with your child about treating messages with caution, particularly if they are sent from an unknown number. When we receive a message from an unknown number, we should ask the following questions:

- Does this message sound like something a friend or family member would send?
- Is this message asking me to share information or click on a link?

Agree with your child that if they ever have a funny feeling about a message they receive, they will tell you about it straight away.

Check Privacy Settings

WhatsApp has a range of settings to help users stay safe, so why not set these up on your child's account?

A good place to start is to go to **Settings -> Privacy -> Groups**.

You can then select specific contacts that can add your child into groups. This can help prevent the challenge of being added into lots of different groups, sometimes with strangers.

Be a Digital Role Model

WhatsApp allows us to stay connected with our friends all the time. This is really useful, but it's also important that children and young people have down time away from being in constant contact with others.

A good way to improve habits around screen time is to look at our own habits and behaviours. We can be a digital role model by becoming more intentional about when, and how much we use our screens around the home.

To manage screen time, you could also set some clear rules such as agreeing a specific amount of time your child can spend on WhatsApp each day or agreeing on periods during the day when no one will use their smartphones, for example this could be during meals, homework time, or before bed.

Mindful Messaging

When children send messages, especially in group chats, they might not fully grasp the impact their words can have on others. It's also very easy to get swept along and join in with unkind jokes or negative comments in group chats.

Group Chats are public spaces, anything we send into the group could be shared out of context.

Here are some strategies for Mindful Messaging

- **Think Before You Send:** Encourage the habit of taking a moment to think before sending a message. Particularly if we're feeling upset or angry, taking a moment to breathe can help us to make a better choice.
- **Set a Positive Example:** Model mindful messaging in your own behavior. You could show your child some of the messages that you send, and how to communicate in a considerate way.

Talk About It

Open and regular conversations about your child's activity on WhatsApp are a great way to minimise potential harms and keep them safe when using the platform.

Talking with your child about what they are using WhatsApp for is valuable because it can create a safe space in which they feel comfortable in sharing any concerns they have.

Once this dialogue and trust has been established, it will make it easier for them to come to you with any issues they encounter while using WhatsApp.

SEND Families Coffee and Play

Please see attached details of a coffee morning that Bookham Baptist Church & Children's Centre are hosting every second Thursday of the month 10:30 - 12:00.

You can book here: <https://bookhambaptist.org/bbcc-whatson>





SEND Families Coffee & Play

10:30-12NOON EVERY 2ND THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

A safe and non-judgemental space for parents of children with additional needs. Parents can bring their children and also come without their children if they are of school age. You'll find here a warm drink, something sweet to eat & a listening ear. Join us as we navigate the ups and downs of parenting. **Starting in September!**

