



A message from the Head...

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a new term, I do hope you had a lovely and restful half term. It has been a great week at school with so many exciting things going on. Highlights this week have been the wonderful Year 1 trip to the Snowzone in Milton Keynes (see pictures below), as well as the Reception trip to the Steam railway. Thank you the parents who kindly gave up their time to help on these trips. Next week continues to be a busy week with our traditional pancake races and World Book day!

Have a good weekend,

Denise Burgess



This week's letters home

Year 4 – Grafham Information Evening

Friends of Great Denham Pancake Race

Speech & Drama Festival – Choir (selected children)

Year 3 & 4 - Speech & Drama Festival Poems (selected children)

Year 5 & 6 - Speech & Drama Festival Poems (selected children)

Year 1 – Music Concert

Year 6 – Fabulous Finish

A BIG Thank you!

Thank you to everyone at Great Denham Primary School for the huge number of knitted hats that have been donated for our newborn babies born at Bedford Hospital.

They are absolutely beautiful and very much appreciated. We thank everyone that took the time and effort to help knit over 100 hats.

Online Safety

National Online Safety this week: **What parents need to know about NFTs (NON-FUNGIBLE TOKENS)** (see poster attached to email).

If you haven't signed up already, please take advantages of this brilliant resource by following the link below:

<https://nationalonlinesafety.com>

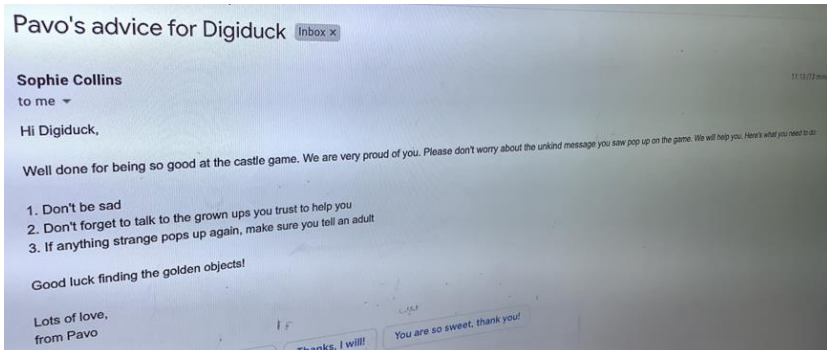
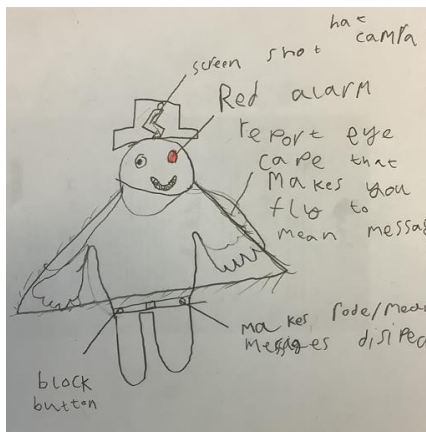
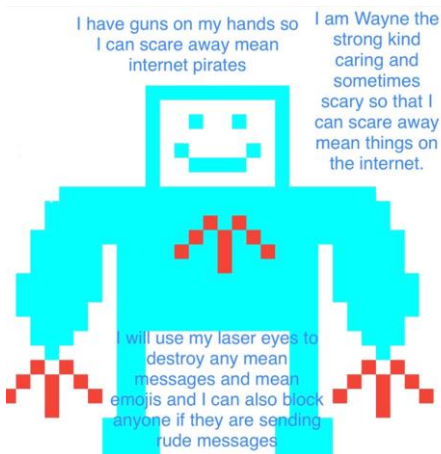
Diary Dates

Tuesday 1st March – Pancake Race

Thursday 3rd March – World Book Day

Safer Internet Day

On Tuesday 8th February, all of our children celebrated Safer Internet Day along with children all over the country. The theme this year was 'Respect and Relationships Online'. All of the children spent the day learning about the importance of forming good relationships and behaviours whilst using the internet, when gaming or interacting with others online as well as what to do if someone they meet online scares or worries them. Our year 5 and 6 children also had an informative session with two officers from the Bedfordshire Police who helped them understand about their digital footprint and the impact on themselves and others online through their choices and behaviours. Some of the children designed Cyber Super Heroes, some wrote emails with advice for Digiduck or made recipes for a safer internet as well as many other activities. Hopefully, they have come home and told you all about it!



Safer Internet Workshop

If you want to know more about online safety then don't forget to get your tickets for one of our parent workshops on the **28th February**, click on this link for your tickets.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/safer-internet-day-2022tickets-262491427927>

YEAR GROUP UP DATE

Year 4

Year 4 have had a busy first half term, exploring the life of Ernest Shackleton and exploring his legacy! Through our learning we have gained a wealth of knowledge including the location and climate in Antarctica, sequencing and understanding the events of his Transantarctic Imperial Expedition and even exploring Antarctic Food Chains.

In English, we have developed our ability to write to persuade as we pitched ourselves as ideal expedition members. After reading these incredible letters, Miss Langstone and I felt that Shackleton would certainly want to have them by his side! Following on from this, we looked closely at our key text 'Shackleton's Journey' and we decided to get creative! We loved the illustrative style of William Grill and created our own Antarctic scenes using Batik. I think you will all agree that we have some talented artists in our year group!

This week has seen the arrival of some amazing take home tasks and we cannot wait to see more as they arrive over the coming week.



SPORTS UPDATE

Sports events next week:

Tuesday 1st March – Year 5 & 6 Mixed Handball Match

Wednesday 2nd March – KS2 Volleyball competition

Thursday 3rd March – Year 5 & 6 Girls Basketball League Match

Physical Education (PE)

We have started the half term with a new focus in PE; striking and fielding and invasion games. We are very fortunate to have a cricket coach working with us on a Wednesday, delivering fun and exciting sessions to one class in every year group. Coach Will is from Cricket East and is part of the chance to shine programme- this week's focus for all was catching and we were impressed by the level of effort, engagement and ability in all classes. Already we have children engaged and excited to play cricket and we look forward to sharing opportunities out of school with you all soon.



School Sport

Year 5&6 Boys Basketball friendly match v Westfield

This match was organised to offer additional year 5&6 boys the opportunity to play a competitive match in a sport they love and wow did they play well! As a team their communication, support for each other and want to win was fabulous. They had an outstanding first quarter scoring 3 baskets and had many more attempts to score. Well done boys, your performance was outstanding and the 8-4 victory thoroughly deserve.

Team: **Aydin, Charlie, Ken, Max, Mo & Romaine**

Physical Activity

This week our sports ambassadors and captains met to discuss the importance of physical activity, in particular the benefits it has on us both in and out of the classroom.

The team are excited to feed back the ideas shared and the top tips discussed to the adults and peers in their class. Additionally, they have a questionnaire to ask their class that will help to plan our lunchtime and extra-curricular clubs for the summer term, let the planning commence!



Awareness days and religious festivals

1st March – **Shrove Tuesday**

3rd March – **World Book Day**

18th March – **Comic/Sport Relief**

21st March – **Mothering Sunday**

Mencap Summer Play Scheme

Here at Bedford Mencap we have been getting ready for summer playscheme 2022! We have been working to try and make the booking process easier for everyone, and therefore this is all done online now via the link below:

<https://forms.gle/REtBfbBXnZNWEw73A>

A bit about our scheme:

At Bedford Mencap Playscheme we support children & young people between the ages of 4 and 18yrs with Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND) and we have a large number of experienced staff to support.

The dates are as follows, you can book 1, 2 or all of the dates (however many you want). Our bookings are taken on a first come, first served basis, so be quick!

Week 1: July; 25th (half day-PM, 12.30 start), 26th 27th, 28th, 29th

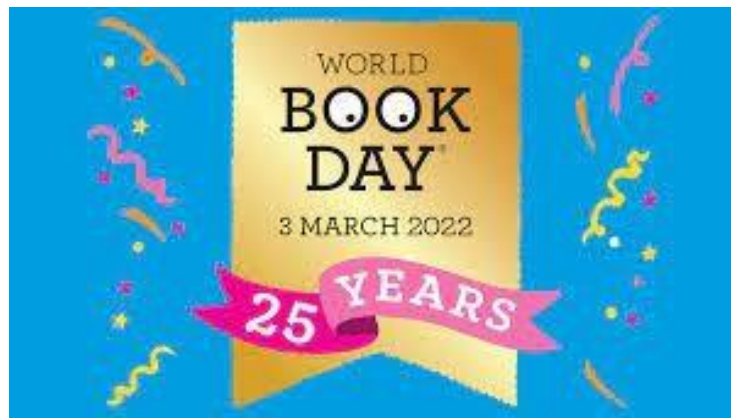
Week 2: August; 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th,

Week 3: August; 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, (half day-AM, finish 12.30).

Each group has a group leader, and support staff, all of whom have vast experience in working with children with special needs. To help with the ratio of adults-children, and support the children, we recruit volunteers, who are often young people aged 14yrs+ from local schools. If your child has not attended our scheme before or you want to discuss their needs further, please don't hesitate to phone or email me, so we can discuss ways to support your child effectively (details on the booking link).

The playscheme this year, will be held at **Westfield Primary School, Chester Road, Bedford, MK40 4HW** and will operate from 9.15am – 3.30pm.

If you require a paper copy or other version of the booking form, please don't hesitate to get in touch via email - lauren.mencapplayscheme@gmail.com.



Celebrating 25 years of world book days!

This year, we would love the children to dress up for the occasion. We would like to encourage them to dress up as a character from their class key text linked which links to their project (where possible) or failing that, as their favourite book character from any story!

During the day, the children will set up their classrooms ready for a book party – celebrating 25 years of world book day. They will create book themed decorations, play book themed party games and enjoy a party tea menu full of book tasting samples. We invite the children to bring in a book they no longer wish to keep, to swap with a brand new book! They will then bring this home with them, along with their book token!

We would also like to take the opportunity to support the charity 'caring for humanity' (www.caringforcommunity.org) brought to our attention by students at Wixams Academy, who have asked for our support in raising money to aid their donations for the charity as part of their Duke of Edinburgh award. If you happen to have extra books you wish to donate for others to buy at the end of the school day, please bring these in too.

Our year 5/6 reading ambassadors will set up a stall similarly to the one earlier in the year, where you will be able to buy books for 50p-£1.00 at the end of the school day.

We look forward to celebrating world book day and thank-you for your support.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

We are now on Facebook and Instagram as well as Twitter. Please follow us to keep updated with the latest school news and activities.



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LOCAL EVENTS & ADVERTS



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Church End, Biddenham MK40 4AR







CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE PE AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY CONFERENCE

WEDNESDAY 18TH MAY 2022

Center Parcs, Woburn Forest

Workshops include:

- Concept Curriculum
- Deep Dive in PE
- Creating an Active and Engaging Playground
- Quidditch
- EYFS -Boosting Communication, Language and Literacy through Movement
- Mini Muay Thai
- Supporting all your pupils in developing a physical activity habit

Early Bird Rate - £175pp for bookings made by 18th March

To register your place head to www.teambedsandluton.co.uk/cyp-conference

Or scan QR code



JOIN IN THE FUN AT OUR
February 2022 Camp

NEW FOR 2022
 horse & wilderness day



Tennis		Dance		Go Karts	
Nerf		Baking		& More	


Feb 14th - 18th	Feb 21st - 25th
Templefield Lower School	Banbury Cherry Fields
Loughton Manor	Willen Primary School
Milton Keynes	Great Linford Primary School
Horse and Wilderness	Tickford Park Primary School


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