



# The Botwell Bulletin

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2023

## Maths Week

Next week, we will be celebrating Maths Week in school. During this time, we have a number of exciting events lined up. These are outlined below:

**Monday:** Maths dress up day – the children can dress up in a maths themed outfit. There will be a prize for the winning costume in each year group.

**Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday:** Children's maths workshop sessions provided by the Problem Solving Company. Each year group will have the opportunity to take part in this.

**Friday:** Junior maths sale - the children from Year 3 – Year 6 will be selling products they have made during the week, focusing on the skills of measuring and money. Children from Year 3-6 can bring in up to £3.00 to spend at the sale.

Please note: Children in Early Years and the infants will **not** be attending the sale and do not need to bring in any money.

## Upcoming events

- WB 13<sup>th</sup> Nov – Maths Week
- Mon 13<sup>th</sup> Nov – Maths dress up day
- Mon 13<sup>th</sup> - Wed 15<sup>th</sup> – Maths workshop for all year groups
- WB 13<sup>th</sup> Nov – Year 5 swimming
- Fri 17<sup>th</sup> Nov – Children in Need day.
- WB 20<sup>th</sup> Nov – Year 5 swimming
- Sat 25<sup>th</sup> Nov – Parish Christmas Bazaar
- Wed 29<sup>th</sup> – Nasal flu vaccinations

## Children in Need Day



This year, Children in Need will fall on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November (the final day of Maths Week). On this day, the children can wear their own clothes and we are asking for a voluntary donation of £1, all of which will be donated to Children in Need.

## Diwali Assembly



As it is the festival of Diwali on Sunday, some of our children and staff who are celebrating led the school in a special Diwali assembly today. The children dressed up in traditional outfits and some treated us to an amazing dance routine. Others explained how they celebrate Diwali at home, providing us with fantastic pictures of their celebrations with their families. Thank you to everyone who organised and took part in the assembly.

All the staff at Botwell would like to wish our families who are celebrating, a happy Diwali.

### **Year 4 Gurdwara Trip**



Year 4 were learning about Sikhism last week and were lucky enough to visit Hayes Sikh Temple where they learnt lots of information about the religion. It was an amazing opportunity to better understand another faith and they behaved in a respectful manner throughout the visit.

### **Reception Lidl Visit**



Since it was the birthday of Fred (our phonics frog), our Reception children paid a visit to Lidl this week, to buy ingredients for a birthday cake. They helped to prepare the cake and enjoyed eating it at Fred's birthday party on Thursday. You can see the amazing cake in the photo above, along with Reception B posing outside Lidl.

### **Parish Car Park**

Can we remind parents that the parish car park in front of the church is not to be used to park, when dropping off and collecting children.

We still have a number of parents who are doing this on a daily basis, with some even removing the barrier across the entrance to drive in and others driving in through the exit. Cars are blocking other vehicles and causing a lot of horn tooting and arguments.

The parish have not given parents permission to use this car park and it is a safety hazard to our children who are walking across the car park during this time.

Please respect the wishes of the parish and the safety of our children and do not park in that car park.

All families can park across the road in the Lidl car park for 90 minutes, without any cost.

### **Friends of Botwell (F.O.B)**

Exciting times everyone.

The new PTA will hence forth be known as 'Friends of Botwell'. I think this is a much more inclusive name as the archaic Parent and Teacher Association naming seemed to leave out. The 'Friends' have already been busy planning and plotting and have already got some great ideas.



Initially the Friends will be hosting a Christmas Cinema event on the 13th December where the younger children stay after school and the KS2 children return at a later point. At the moment we are busy setting up what's app groups and email addresses to get the ball rolling with those 'friends' that have already joined us for a meeting. More info will follow shortly.

### **Remembrance Ceremony**



Tomorrow at 11.00am, we will remember all of those in the armed forces who lost their lives during past and present wars. There will also be remembrance services around the country on Sunday, most notably the ceremony around the Cenotaph in London, where King Charles will lay a wreath.

To commemorate this day, our children held their own remembrance ceremony at the junior prayer garden, where they upheld two minutes of silence as well as placing a wreath of poppies at the foot of our Mary statue.

### **Prayer and Reflection**

In the spring of 1915, shortly after losing a friend in Ypres, a Canadian doctor, Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae wrote his now famous poem after seeing poppies growing in battle-scarred fields. It was this poem which inspired the use of poppies as a symbol of remembrance for all those who have fallen in conflict.

#### **In Flanders Fields by John McCrae**

In Flanders' fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place: and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.  
We are the dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie  
In Flanders' fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe;  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high,  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders' Fields.



Let us pray together:

*Ever-living God, we remember those whom you have gathered from the storm of war into the peace of your presence; may that same peace calm our fears, bring justice to all peoples and establish harmony among the nations, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*