



The Botwell Bulletin

Friday 2nd February 2024

Upcoming

Keeping Safe Week

Next week is our Keeping Safe Week. Over the course of the week, the children will be learning how to keep themselves safe in a number of different areas. As well as a range of tasks in class, the following activities will be taking place:

- Dogs' Trust assembly and workshop for all year groups, supporting children in how to keep safe around dogs.
- Year 6 bikeability, where the children in Year 6 will learn how to ride their bikes safely on the roads.
- Police/Firefighter visit, where the children will have a chance to explore a police car and find out about how to stay safe outside of school.
- First aid sessions for all classes where the children will learn some basic first aid.
- E-safety focus day in every class.
- PANTS sessions, where children will be learning how to keep their bodies safe.
- 2 parent workshops on 'keeping children safe on devices' and 'e-safety.'

- 5th Feb – 9th Feb – Keeping Safe Week
- Mon 5th – Thu 8th Feb – Y6 bikeability
- Tue 6th – Fri 9th Feb – Dog's Trust workshops
- Wed 7th Feb – Keeping children safe on devices parent workshop
- Wed 7th Feb – Year 3 Roman Day
- Fri 9th Feb – Crazy hair day
- Fri 9th Feb – E-safety parent workshop
- Fri 9th Feb – FOB Valentine tuck shop
- Fri 9th Feb – End of half term

As well as this, our Year 3 children will also be taking part in a Roman Day on Wednesday. So it will be a packed, fun-filled week for everyone.

Parent Workshops

As part of our Keeping Safe Week, we will be running two parent workshops to support parents with keeping our children safe online and when using devices.

Workshop 1: Keeping children safe on devices: This workshop will focus on the risks associated with overuse of mobile phones, tablets and laptops as well as the risks associated with specific APPs, games, streaming sites and social media, and how we can lower these risks to keep our children safe.

Date/location of workshop: Wednesday 7th February at 9.00am in the school hall.

Workshop 2: E-Safety: This workshop will focus on the dangers faced by children online, as well as the issue of online bullying.

Date/location of workshop: Friday 9th February at 9.00am in the school hall.

Science Day

To celebrate Science week Botwell House welcomed the Science Boffins! Our Science Boffin demonstrated a range of different experiments to the children and spoke about fire safety. The workshop was based around fabulous flames, with lots of experiments for the children to watch and ask questions. One of the greatest forces of nature in the palm of our hand. We watched the science boffins demonstrate fire in ways never seen before – making flaming experiments to wow, amaze and educate our children, on the power and the dangers of mankind's greatest discovery.

The whole school thoroughly enjoyed their science learning today from nursery all the way up to Year 6!



FOB Valentine's Tuckshop



Crazy Hair Day (FOB event)

Our Friends of Botwell have organised a Crazy Hair Day as their next fundraising venture. This exciting event will be happening on Friday 9th February (the last day of the half term) and we cannot wait to see what crazy hairstyles your children can come up with.

All money raised will be put into the Friends of Botwell fund which will be spent on our children.

Eco-Warriors Little Recyclers

A few weeks before Christmas our KS2 Eco Warriors teamed up with the Little Recyclers to participate in their school fundraising programme. As a school our clothing donations weighed 269kg and we raised £147.95! Not only have we helped to divert textile waste ending up in landfills, we have raised a huge amount for our school. Thank you to everyone who took part; we couldn't have done it without you!

Plea to support the Hayes Foodbank

The foodbank at St Anselm's Church in Station Road has been helping local Hayes families for many years but it is currently desperately short of provisions.

The picture shows Father Josiah Myles-Abadoo standing beside one of the almost empty cupboards. There are growing needs to be met but since the New Year, donations have not kept pace with demand.

There is an urgent need for the following items:

- Soup
- Tinned meat
- Tinned fish (mackerel and tuna)
- Tinned fruit
- Sweetcorn
- Tea & coffee
- Long life milk

But no pasta please. They have tons of that.

Please give as generously as you can.

The Church is open most days and you can contact them by phone on 020 3855 0113 or by email. The foodbank is on Wednesdays between noon and 2pm and at other times in an emergency. Unlike many other foodbanks there is no need to have vouchers to take advantage of what is available. Everything is based on need.



Prayer and Reflection

This week, on Friday 2nd February, we celebrate the feast of Candlemas. Candlemas primarily focuses on Jesus' early life. Many Christians believe that Jesus' mother Mary presented him to God at the Temple in Jerusalem after observing the traditional 40-day period of purification (of mothers) following his birth. According to a New Testament gospel, a Jewish man named Simeon held the baby in his arms and said that he would be a light for the Gentiles (Luke 2:32). It is for this reason that this event is called Candlemas.

Many Christians consider Jesus as the “light of the world” so it is fitting that candles are blessed on this day and that a candle-lit procession precedes the mass. The following prayer may be said at Candlemas:

*Lord Jesus Christ,
You are the true Light
enlightening every soul born into this world.
Help us to realise,
this day and every day,
that our own humdrum daily work,
if it is done for love of You,
will shine brightly before You for all eternity.
Help us realise, too,*



*each time we see the blessed candles at Holy Mass,
that they are a symbol of Your Light shining in the darkness of this world.
Help us to live in that Light, to make it our own, and to kindle it in the souls of others,
Then we, too, working for You, shall be light-bearers who will help to spread Your kingdom on
earth,
and increase the number of those who dwell in heaven, the city of eternal light. Amen.*