



The Botwell Bulletin

Friday 19th April 2024

Upcoming events

General reminders

Welcome back everyone to the summer term. Let's hope the weather starts to get warm and dry up as it is still very unpredictable. We can have all four seasons in one day! With this in mind, can you please make sure that your child is dressed appropriately for the weather, with a coat that will keep them dry should there be a downpour in the middle of the day (as there so often is). Also, if it is a PE day and the weather is cold, it would be better to send your child in their tracksuit bottoms rather than their shorts as some children are getting a bit cold.

Hair: Please make sure that if your child has long hair, it is tied back. We are having a number of children arriving at school with their hair loose. As I am sure you will agree, when it comes to hair hygiene and health, being pro-active against the spread of head lice is preferable.

Buggies: Please remember that children who attend our school do not need to be brought in buggies. In school, they are walking and running throughout the day, so walking in the morning is a great way to build up their leg muscles and stamina.

Drop-off/pick up: When dropping off and collecting your child, please keep them with you. We have had some children running around the playground and weaving in and out of staff cars in the driveway. This can cause accidents for other families who are walking into school, especially since so many people are arriving at the same time and it would be very easy for children who are not with their parents to run towards the main road. In addition, we ask that children do not play on any equipment (e.g. the climbing wall) before and after school. When the children use these during the day they are supervised by an adult. In the past, we have had children who have hurt themselves whilst playing on equipment unsupervised after school.

Mobile phones: Just a reminder that no one should be using mobile phones on the school site. Despite repeated reminders, we still have a small minority of parents who are repeatedly using their phones on site and ignoring staff members who ask them to come off. Please remember, we are safeguarding your children by doing this. In the past, there have been incidents when adults have filmed our children so please support us with this.

St George's Day

On Tuesday, we will be remembering St George, the patron saint of England. For this occasion, the children can dress up in red and white clothes. There will also be the annual Staff Vs Year 6 netball match taking place during the day, which is always a fun occasion!

Eid Mubarak

We know that many of our Muslim families were fasting before and during the Easter break during the holy month of Ramadan, and we would like to wish you all a happy (belated) Eid Mubarak.

- Tue 23rd Apr - St George's Day (red and white clothes)
- Thu 2nd May – School closed for polling day (except Y6)
- WB 13th May – Y6 Sats week
- WB 20th May – Assessment Week Y1-5
- Fri 24th May – May procession
- Tue 4th June – Potential date for KS2 sports day (at Uxbridge track)
- WB 17th Jun – Y6 Residential
- WB 17th Jun – International Week

Art Gallery

As you will know, our children displayed their amazing art work created during Arts Week in a gallery on Thursday afternoon. As I am sure you will agree, the gallery was absolutely stunning!

All the pictures and models on display were inspired by the theme of 'Botwell goes Botanical' and the work displayed was fantastic!

Well done to our children, who have shown such creative talent and thank to all the families who came to view the gallery. Your children were so excited to show you their pictures.

Also, we would like to say a massive thank you to Mrs Bhogal for organising the event.

Check out some of the pictures from the gallery below.



Virtual Reality Workshop



Years 1 and 2 had the opportunity to experience a VR workshop on Tuesday, which allowed them to have an immersive experience in the world of insects, whilst learning about their habitats and ecosystem.

The workshop linked with our botanical theme from Art Week and also had links with the science curriculum. All of the children thoroughly enjoyed the experience and gave them a real insight into the life of a minibeast. Thank you to Mrs Bhogal for organising this.

Go-Sketch Art Workshop

Our junior children were treated to an art assembly and workshop today, where they explored various artists in relation to our botanical theme. During this session they were able to develop their sketching skills, learning how to draw a range of patterns using a variety of techniques.

Each year group looked at a particular artist, using a specific skill. These are shown below.

Year 3

Artist: Beatrix Potter

Skill: Overlapping flowers to create depth

Resources: Watercolour pencils



Year 4

Artist: Edith Holden

Skill: Shape of leaves and curling leaves

Resources: Watercolour pencil, pencils

Year 5

Artist: Georgia O'Keefe

Skill: Colour and blending

Resources: oil pastels

Year 6

Artist: Kerby Rosanes

Skill: Tone using pen

Resources: pens



During the assembly, Emma, the provider, explained to the children the concept of how there is no such thing as good or bad art, it is merely a means of showcasing beauty or provoking an emotional response.

Thank you once again to Mrs Bhogal for organising the workshop.

Prayer and Reflection

This weekend, we celebrate St. George's day, the Patron Saint of England. He was adopted as the patron state of England, among other places, as it was believed he was the personification of the ideals of Christian chivalry.

St George's Day takes place on the 23rd April each year to mark the death of the Patron Saint of England, who is thought to have died in around AD 303 when he was tortured and executed in Palestine, becoming an early Christian martyr. He is widely known for slaying a dragon.

According to legend, the only well in the town of Silene was guarded by a dragon. In order to get water, the inhabitants of the town had to offer the dragon a human sacrifice every day, which was selected by drawing lots. When St. George visited the town, a princess had been selected for sacrifice. However, George killed the dragon, saved the princess and gave the people of Silene access to water. In gratitude, they converted to Christianity.

It is believed that the slaying of the mythical dragon is a metaphor for George's fight to stamp out pagan beliefs (including the sacrifice of human beings) and his mission to convert pagan populations to Christianity.

Prayer for St. George's Day

*Heavenly Father,
give us the bravery of St George
to stand up for what we believe.
Give us the strength to overcome the dragons
in our lives and in the world.
And where we see people in distress,
give us the compassion to help them.
Amen*

