



News and Information

Date: 17th November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have lots to share and celebrate in this newsletter. It has been an absolute delight to watch Year 3 and Year 4 perform our first festivities this year. Year 3 set the bar high with a fantastic Harvest performance just before half term and Year 4 brought us all to tears with their beautiful and thought provoking remembrance service. We look forward to Early Years and Year 5 at Christmas time, then Years 1+2 for Easter and finally Year 6 for their end of year leavers production.

I would also like to draw your attention to our next Coffee Morning which is taking place on 1st December. The Bucks Mental Health Team are attending this session and any parent in the school is invited to join us to hear about how we can support all our children with Mental Health and Well Being. There will also be an opportunity for you to ask any specific questions about your child to the team! So we look forward to seeing many of you there.

This issue also includes updates from Reading, Phonics, Maths and Sports. As well as celebrating some of the other opportunities such as visits to the local Hulcott Nursing Home.

Ms Martin

Headteacher

Headlice

Please can we remind all parents and carers that children who have hair long enough to tie up need to ensure it is tied back each day.

We have also been notified of a few cases of Headlice so we ask that you take some time to check your child's hair and apply treatment if required.



November:

Friday 24th—Mufti Day for Christmas Raffle Donations

Friday 24th—2:45pm Open Classrooms to view work

December:

Friday 1st—Coffee Morning—Children's Mental Health Support—All parents welcome

Tuesday 5th—FOBS Christmas Carols 3:30—4:30pm—School Hall.

Wednesday 6th—9am Nursery and Reception Classes Nativity Performance.

Thursday 7th—Children's Christmas Pantomime in School.

Friday 8th—Senior Citizens Christmas Treat

Monday 11th—Year 3 Parents Music Showcase Performance

Tuesday 12th—Hot Christmas Lunch

Wednesday 13th—FOBS Christmas Discos EYFS+KS1 3:15—4:15. KS2 4:40—5:30

Friday 15th—Year 5 Christmas Production to parents

Monday 18th—Christmas Party Day—Children invited to wear Christmas Jumpers

Tuesday 19th—Children's Christingle Services

Tuesday 19th—School closes at 1pm.

January:

Thursday 4th—School Reopens

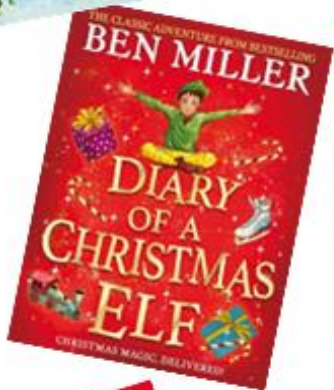
Reading this Winter!

Curling up under a blanket with a good book is a wonderful way to get through the British Winter! Here are some seasonal recommendations from us at Bierton.



Picture book

A wonderfully silly Christmas tale about a very hungry dinosaur with a very rumbling tummy. Can Christmas be saved from this hungry dino? Packed full of fun and silly rhymes a perfect story for younger children.



Younger chapter book

Disaster strikes at Santa's workshop when the new presents appear to be being stolen! Can Tog the apprentice elf use his magic to save Christmas. Funny and heart warming a perfect festive fable for all.



Older chapter book

When George stumbles across Marley's Curiosity Shop, he finds a mysterious and magical snow globe...

A modern retelling of Dicken's classic Christmas Carol, explore the true meaning of Christmas past, present and future with a cast of wonderful characters.

Our Library

Bierton is very lucky to now have a group of hardworking and committed Year 5 Librarians! This group of children have been a huge help in keeping the Library in good order. They have allowed us to open the Library at additional times for KS2 through lunchtimes and have promoted reading across the whole school. A heartfelt thankyou to all our librarians- you know who you are!

We have a new incentive to encourage children to excel with Accelerated Reader- the Golden Ticket! For reaching important milestones in their word counts, children can enter a golden ticket into a brand new raffle, at the end of the half term we'll have a draw to choose a winner of a magnificent and ridiculous prize!



Phonics at Bierton

Word Types

During our RWI sessions we talk about two different types of words. Green words which we can sound out and red words are words which can't be sounded out using out phonics, we teach the children to recognise these by sign.

This is how you can support your child to read the different types of words.

Green words: Use Fred Talk – point with your finger under each phoneme as you make the sound, then run your finger under the whole word to blend those sounds together to say the word. Over time, as they get more confident, encourage them to instant sound blend so they are saying the sounds in their head quickly then saying the word out loud.

Red words: The children should be told these words and practise sight reading them (without blending).



Phonics Videos

Every phonics group has been sent the videos for the sounds which the children have been learning in class. Watching these videos at home will imbed the learning in school. Each half term you will receive a new set of videos. These can be found on Purple Mash or Tapestry.

Developing children's blending

Blending is a method used to help children learn to read by combining different sounds, also known as phonemes, to form words. Blending sounds together teaches learners how words are sounded out, which will help them to decode long and unfamiliar words when they're reading.

Blending is an effective method that's used to help children learn to read. Through blending, pupils will join together individual sound-spellings in order to form a complete word. This skill helps children to decode words that they are unfamiliar with.

In RWI we call the sound out Fred Talk. When reading unfamiliar words we encourage the children Fred Talk" before reading a word."

There are many games you can play to encourage this skill

This games might include:

- **I Spy.**— "I can spy with my little eye a h-a-t."
- **Giving instructions**— While giving an instruction break one of the words into isolated sounds: "Can you please put this in the b-a-g?" or "Put the c-u-p on the table."
- **Talk like a robot**—Encourage your child to speak like a robot by breaking their speech up into syllables.
- **Listen and Draw Game** - This is a fun game to play with 2 people. The first person says a segmented word and the second person draws it. They can take turns to be the person segmenting or drawing.

Maths at Bierton

Famous Mathematicians.

As our children are gaining a wider understanding of the world, we thought we would share some information about famous mathematicians. As Year 5 and 6 have been learning about Space, our focus mathematician is Katherine Johnson.

Katherine Johnson

Key facts:

- Born: 1918
- Died: 2020
- Nationality: American

Areas of expertise: Mathematics, Aeronautics and Orbital Mechanics

Achievements:

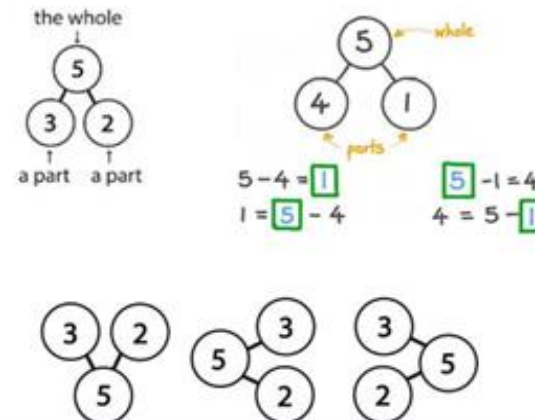
- calculating the trajectory to allow the Apollo 11 mission to reach the Moon and return safely to Earth.
- working on the trajectories of numerous other spacecraft, including the flight for Alan Shepard, the first American in space.
- checking calculations completed by a computer, by hand, at the request of astronauts to make sure they were correct.
- supporting the Apollo 13 mission with backup procedures to help astronauts return safely to Earth after a malfunction.
- helping to develop the space shuttle program.



Mathematical Representations.

Part-Whole Model

The part whole model is a way of representing the relationship between a 'whole' and its component parts. The diagram is used when students are learning to partition whole numbers, fractions, decimals and create number facts. This representation can help children to identify inverse equations. It will also be explored further when children begin to use a bar model.



Shouts Outs!

	Numbots	TTRS
Reception	Isaac H	
Year 1	Alessio N	
Year 2	Joseph R	Sianna G
Year 3	Finley H	Adbhyo M
Year 4	Saarang R	Molly J
Year 5	Mia E	Franek D
Year 6	Hansi K	Aryana D



Well done to the following children who have earned the most coins on either Numbots or TTRS in October.

You will get 5 dojos each!



Mental Health
Support Team
Buckinghamshire

BUCKS MHST COFFEE MORNING



The Buckinghamshire Mental Health Support Team provide a variety of mental health support for children, young people & their families across Buckinghamshire.

This coffee morning will be an opportunity to **meet the workers** supporting your child's school and ask questions of how we can support your family.

It will be run by Education Mental Health Practitioners alongside Family Workers.

You are invited to come
along to our coffee
morning



Venue: Berton Church of England
Combined School
Date: 1st December 2023
Time: 9-10am

www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/camhs/bucks/mhst

@buckinghamshiremhst





Year 3 Harvest Festival



On Thursday 19th October, Year 3 performed their Harvest Festival. They retold the story of some cheeky church mice and considered how Harvest is celebrated across the world. They performed a traditional Harvest dance called a 'Kassa' and sang several songs. Earlier in the month, some children went to visit Bridge the Gap food bank. In their Harvest Festival, they shared information about all of the amazing work the staff and volunteers do. We are so proud of all of the children - they performed fantastically! We would also like to thank you all for your generous donations and as always, your kindness is greatly appreciated.



Year 4 Remembrance Service

Year 4 were extremely proud to invite their parents in to attend our remembrance ceremony. The ceremony consisted of songs, prayers and poems. The children thoroughly enjoyed telling the stories of everyone who was on the front line and people who were at home and in different countries. What started off as a Remembrance Day for world war one has become so much more and Year 4 wanted to tell as many stories as possible. It was beautiful to watch as the children sung with passion and empathy and delivered their lines with clear pronunciation as well. I hope everyone enjoyed our performance.

Poppy Appeal

Thank you to our Year 6 helpers who have been stood outside each morning selling the poppy bands, key rings and poppies. The Royal British Legion will appreciate all the donations made by our community. We don't know how much has been raised yet but we will keep you updated once this has all been counted. Thank you to all those who purchased an item or made a donation.



Visits to Hulcott Nursing Home

On 20th September, we took a group of Year 6 children to Hulcott. It happened to be 'International Talk like a Pirate Day' so the children had great fun dressing up and entertaining the residents. The children and residents had to decipher some pirate terminology and were rewarded with a box of treasure at the end. Yo Ho Ho!



Our second monthly visit was on 19th October. The children and residents competed against each other in a game of target frisbee. It was lovely to see the children laughing and joking alongside the residents; I actually think the residents were more competitive—reaching out of their wheelchairs to gain an advantage!

Sports update

It has been a great Autumn term for Bierton sport, despite there not being many events as it becomes dark quickly at night. We have 17 clubs currently happening across the school for children to take part in. From these clubs there has only been events for the Tag rugby and football teams. There have been eight football matches across two boys' teams and the girl's team. As well as two tag rugby matches.

It has been great to see all the children really enjoying their football. The Bierton Sequoias, led by Charlie are currently undefeated. They have progressed in the Cup winning 4-0 away, as well as winning 9-0 and 3-0 in the league. It is hard to give stand out performances at the minute as they are all working so hard for each other. They have been showing great Christian values of Respect, Responsibility and Cooperation. To not concede a goal shows they are working very hard for each other.

The Bierton Blackthorns led by Noah have been coming up against some strong opposition. Which include schools that are a lot bigger than us. They have again shown great character to win two of their three games and winning a particularly tense nail biter 0-1 away. The whole team have been working extremely hard and making sure they again are demonstrating our Christian values.

Lastly, the girls' team have won one and lost one so far this season. It has been most impressive watching the girls team this year as they are a very new side and have not played much together, as many of the team left for secondary school. You wouldn't even notice it. The maturity that a lot of the team are showing on the football pitch fills the school with pride. Captained by Layla, they have demonstrated Christian values so well to gel together this quick and look such a good side together.

We are excited to see the season unfold for all the teams as we continue throughout the year.

National Hero Vidyut



On the 7th October 2023 Vidyut walked out as the mascot for England vs Samoa at the Stade Pierre-Mauroy in France. Vidyut was put forward by his rugby club, Tring. Vidyut had to relentlessly practice the national anthem to perform on the big stage, the Rugby world cup, with this being a pivotal match for England to qualify for the knockout stages. He even had to travel to the ground early to practice how he would be walking out! To walk out in front of 50,000 people must have been extremely daunting but he walked out so calm and delivered a perfect rendition of the national anthem.

Global Neighbours

This year the school has connected with two schools across the world who we will be our new pen pals.

We are linked with:

Huili School in Shanghai, China (Asia)

Tumanini School in Dzaleka, Malawi (Africa)

We will be sending the children at the schools cards, notes, artwork and photographs at Christmas, Easter and the end of the Summer Term.

Bierton School will receive some exciting notes and art work back for us to display in school.

As part of our Global Neighbours project, the children will spend time writing prayers, discussing Big Questions about inequality and diversity, and have the opportunity to take part in our Open the Book assemblies.





Bierton is taking part in ROAD SAFETY WEEK

Let's talk about...

19-25 November 2023

SPEED

www.brake.org.uk/RoadSafetyWeek



Road safety is so important! **Children please remember:**

- Wear a **helmet** and **knee/elbow pads** when cycling or scooting
- Making sure that it is **safe before closing the road** and looking left and right before walking
- **Walking** safely on the roads
- **Being bright** and being seen, wearing bright or reflective outdoor clothes

Parents/carers please remember:

- Driving **20-mph** down Parsons Lane, please watch your speed
- **Looking out** for children and pedestrians
- **Not parking over drives** or on the **curb** where children and pedestrians will be walking, scooting or cycling
- To **educate** your children on how to be **Road safe**



JRSOs and rewards:

Each morning this week, our passionate JRSOs will be at the gate looking for children following road safety rules. If you are wearing helmet or bright coloured clothes or walking to school safely or following any of the road safety rules, they may hand you a

certificate and award you **2-dojos!** Be on the look out for them as they will be

wearing their JRSO high-vis and cap. Also, they will pop into your class next-week during assembly time to talk to you about the importance Road Safety! 😊



Posters created by our fantastic JRSOs:





- Road Safety Week
19th - 25th November
1. Far drives
 2. Drive 20 mph
 3. Look where you are going

Please stay safe if U are on a scooter or a bicycle. Please wear a helmet!!

Road Safety Week Don't speed

Don't speed

Road Safety Week!!



ROAD SAFETY WEEK

BE AWARE OF FEELINGS

WATCH YOUR SPEED

look left and right



This week is all about safety week
So drivers should be
80 please and then
be more of when you are
walking. look left and right

Lets talk about... ROAD SAFETY WEEK

19-25 November 2023

SPEED

Toolkit for participants

5 people die on UK roads every day, so why do we still think it's ok to speed? Whoever you are, however you travel, we need to talk about speed.

Join the conversation www.brake.org.uk/RoadSafetyWeek #RoadSafetyWeek

