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Our **Value of the Month** for November is **FRIENDSHIP**



## Newsletter – November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of Autumn term. Many thanks for all the support since September and the positive comments we have received. It has been very different for us all and with the current lock down we will continue to focus on keeping our school community safe. We appreciate you sending your children to school, even when there are concerns or worries. Equally we appreciate when you have telephoned rather than send your child in when you are seeking advice regarding symptoms and concerns about Covid. Your diligence and care with this have been truly amazing considering none of us are experienced in dealing with this situation. I appreciate that, in the vast majority, you are sending one adult only to collect your child and are wearing a mask correctly. We ask that with the rising cases and current lock down all adults continue to wear a mask and follow our procedures as this helps keep us all safe.

### Procedures in School

Book bags with homework and reading records are to be returned on a **Wednesday**. This allows enough time for them to be quarantined and books to be cleaned, ready to go out on the following **Friday**. If your child's book bag is returned later than Wednesday, books will not be changed that week. Thank you for your continued support with this. We have had some parents bringing items to the hatch to pass to teachers/pupils are we must politely remind you to follow the named days. Also, should your child have a medical appointment, please email a photo or copy of the letter to the office in advance allowing us to safely have proof of absence.

### Parent Governor Vacancy



We are advertising for a Parent Governor due to the end of the current term in office by Mr Gowland. He has been such an excellent and proactive parent governor and his experience as a senior leader in primary education has been invaluable. This is such an important role within our school and we are keen to ensure the high skill level remains on our very competent governing body. In our July 2019 Ofsted it was noted that 'Governance is strong'. If you require further information on the roles and responsibilities of School Governors visit the [Durham County Council](http://Durham County Council website) website 'School Governor' section and information regarding the role of a parent governor can be found on the National Governor Association website [www.nga.org.uk](http://www.nga.org.uk). If you are interested in strategic school development, contributing to the overall improvements of the school and have the time and commitment to give then please contact the school to speak to Mrs Snowdon who will inform you of the necessary steps to apply.

### Science Award Application - PSQM

Following our successful submission for the Primary Science Quality Mark (PSQM) in 2016, the time has now come to re-accredit the outstanding Science work that takes place at Bournmoor. Mr Seaton and our newly appointed Science Ambassadors from Year 1 – Year 6 are in the process of gathering evidence that will form our submission in the Spring term. Evidence is gathered from work in school, as well as the incredible Science projects and research tasks that have been completed at home. We would therefore like to take this opportunity to thank parents and carers for their increased support and guidance in relation to Science and STEM subjects.

### Primary Geography Quality Mark Award



This year we will continue our application for the Primary Geography Quality Mark. Mrs Kershaw, as our Geography Co-ordinator, will lead on this award which is new for our school. The PGQM celebrates achievements, encourages creative and critical thinking and support pupils to become responsible global citizens. Mrs Kershaw will ensure that links with children, staff and our Geography Governor occur during the year so all evidence can be collated.

### Rights Respecting Award (RRSA)

As a Rights Respecting school, we have been concentrating heavily on the right children have to be safe. Whether that is washing our hands, keeping a safe distance, staying in our own class bubbles and wearing protective wear. We have also linked keeping safe, to bonfire night, discussing fire safety and what steps to take to keep ourselves and others safe. All through the school, children have completed discussions, writing and crafts, all about keeping safe. Remembrance Day is the next school

wide topic and classes will be learning all about armistice and why we wear poppies. Classes will also be making their own poppies, which will come together to be proudly displayed in our hall.

### **Home Learning Support for Pupils with SEN**

Durham County SEN department have provided the following link for us to share to help home learning for pupils with additional needs. We hope you find the websites helpful as we continue our focus on the remote learning offer we provide:

<http://www.bournmoor.durham.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/50/2020/11/SEND-weblinks-for-home-learning.pdf>

### **EYFS Classroom News**

In EYFS, we have a very busy half term ahead of us! Our topic is 'Let's Celebrate!' and we will be learning about both religious and non-religious celebrations such as Diwali, birthdays, weddings, Christmas and Bonfire Night. We will be reading a variety of stories linked to these and learning about how different people celebrate them. We have started the half term by focussing on 'Bonfire Night' and 'Diwali' where we are going to be doing lots of creative activities such as marble painting firework pictures and making diva lamps. This month, we are also going to be celebrating 'World Nursery Rhyme Week' where we will focus on one nursery rhyme each day and do lots of fun activities. Don't forget, we use the 'Tapestry Online Learning Journal' which is a fantastic way of communicating between home and school. Not only can you see observations of your child's learning at school, but you can also upload comments, photographs and videos of what they have been up to at home. This can include homework tasks and significant achievements such as awards that the children might usually bring in to share in an assembly. Since returning to school in September, we have received some very positive feedback from parents who access it regularly. If you do not have an account set up, please contact the school office.

### **Year 1 Classroom News**

Year 1 have settled in amazingly well and are really impressing staff with their independence. They are doing very well with a range of structured lessons and unstructured work-based activities. We have been looking at a number of topics this half term in History, they have been learning all about The Great Fire of London. They carried out a range of activities, including building London, comparing objects used in 1666 and 2020, asking what would be different if the fire had happened today and finally a fire safety poster for to follow. In our class, the children love maths! They have completed topics such as place value and addition and subtraction. They have responded very well to using concrete tools to aid their work and often comment how much they like practical and written lessons. We have moved onto Phase 3 phonics sounds in class and the children are working extremely hard to put those sounds into words then the words into sentences. In English, they have been looking at a range of fairy tales, particularly Cinderella. They have completed a range of activities, including drama, art and writing. The children are doing particularly well at writing sentences and using adjectives.

### **Year 2 Classroom News**

Year Two have had a busy and brilliant start to the year. They have become scientists as they explored the school grounds to observe microhabitats. Using their scientific knowledge, pupils were able to plan, make and review their own bug hotels. An excellent example of why our school is a proud owner of the PSQM award. Additionally, Year Two have time travelled to Stuart England to learn all about Guy Fawkes and The Gunpowder Plot. They are true historians as they can explain exactly what happened and the consequences of Guy Fawkes' actions. Furthermore, the children have shown that they are all budding authors as they wrote some very spooky stories which scared Mrs Kershaw! Well done Year 2.

### **Year 3 and 4 Classroom News**

Year 3 and 4 have had an extremely busy time since returning to school in September. In Science the children have investigated various aspects of 'Light' and have demonstrated some amazing science skills including making predictions, measuring and collecting data, and drawing their own conclusions. We are also enjoying reading our class novel 'The Twits' by Roald Dahl in our English lessons. The children showed off their fabulous acting skills, recreating scenes from the story in drama sessions. The children are finding our topic on the ancient Greeks really interesting and recognise how this ancient civilisation has significance for our lives today including democracy, the Olympic Games and the theatre. It is great to have the children back in class and enjoying their learning.

### **Year 5 and 6 Classroom News**

Year 5 and Year 6 would like to welcome you, once again, to Barvember. Each year in November, White Rose Maths creates a selection of daily maths problems for children to solve using the bar model approach. Each day, Year 5 and Year 6 work through these in class prior to their regular maths lesson. We discuss the range of approaches and its really interesting to see the different techniques used. Each day we will release the "Barvember Challenge" on our twitter page. This is a higher-level challenge for KS2 children and may well challenge some parents – check our twitter page and tweet your solutions. Follow us @bournmoorps.

**PLEASE NOTE WE ARE CLOSED TO PUPILS ON FRIDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER FOR OUR STAFF TRAINING DAY**

Yours sincerely, *Mrs Laura Snowden* (Headteacher)