

November 2024 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

We had a very busy November in school, and the children have had a fantastic time. Year R have been enjoying their Julia Donaldson caves and stories. Year 1 have been making amazing puppet theatres and working interdependently, whilst Year 2 have become geographers and compared and contrasted our country with New Zealand. We have also had a brilliant Immersion day of Maths led by Mrs Moth-we had lots of BWIS Record Breakers that day, with our whole school community measuring, counting and having lots of first hand practical experiences. The display of their learning will be in our lobby area this week, so come and have a look.

We have had lots of parents come in for Parents Evening, our Year R Phonics talk and Class outcomes. We have also been showing our 2025 Year R applicants around school too. Everyone has commented about the positive atmosphere, the excellent behaviour and how happy our children are in their learning. All staff members work very hard to make sure the children have the happiest 3 years during their time with us, from running clubs, to carefully planning the curriculum so that all children are included, whilst stretching children who need more challenge. All our learners' needs are being met, and there is no time to waste! As I write this, the Year 1

and 2 children have just seen the stage for the first time, ready for our Nativity performances at Christmas time, where we hope to see you all. We are also looking forward to seeing the grandparents at the church on Monday 16th December. Sadly we cannot accommodate parents at this event, as this service is full to the rafters.

Our brilliant PTA, led by Claire Rawlings, have been very busy all November, organising and running the Year 1 and 2 disco, getting raffle prizes for our grand draw, and organising a band of volunteers ready for our Christmas Bazaar day. The big Christmas tree is coming today, and everyone at BWIS is very grateful for all their hard work. THANKYOU!

We took part in Children in Need again this year and had a fun day coming to school however we wanted to. The children were very excited to see a dinosaur at the front of the school on their way in, and it was a little bit of fun for them all. We raised a grand total of £379.89. Thank you to everyone who contributed!

Lastly, our quick snow morning was very exciting for our children, many of whom could not remember seeing snow. In the unlikely event we will have to close due to bad weather, we will use all our communication methods to let you know: email, website, PTA social media page and the Hampshire County School Closure page. We will make the decision either the evening before (if bad weather is forecast), by 7.30am in the morning and all decisions will be made by both us and the junior school.

Our fabulous LSA's have been magically transforming our school into a Christmas Wonderland today. It is indeed beginning to look a lot like Christmas! To everyone who is joining in with 'Whamageddon' this December-I wish you good luck!

Best wishes

Mrs Riches

Headteacher



1 - We had great fun on Children in Need Day!

After School Clubs

Please note the after school activities will not be running week commencing 16th December. (Tae Kwon Do, football, dance kidz and Roynon Dance)

CM wraparound care club will still be running as normal.

Christmas



Post Box

From Monday 2nd December there will be a post box out in reception

Children can send each other cards, please ensure full name and class details are on the envelope.

Christmas Bazaar Shopping Day Tuesday 10th December



Children can shop for up to 6 people and bring presents home wrapped. All presents cost £3.50 and a shopping list will be sent home shortly. Please send children into school with money in a

named purse, shopping list and carrier bag on the day. Parent helpers are required, so please let the office know if you can help out. If you have any wrapping paper that you would like to donate, we would be extremely grateful .

Christmas Performances

The children have been working hard on their Christmas performances. Year R 'First Nativity' is on Tuesday 17th December at 9.30am.

Year 1 and 2 performances of 'The Grumpy Elf' are on Friday 13th December at 9.30am and Monday 16th December at 1.45pm

Please note due to very tight numbers in the hall babies/children on laps are not allowed but a creche is being run for the morning performances only. Please book spaces for the creche with the school office.

A collection will be held at the end of each performance, this will be split between a fund for replenishing school costumes and our chosen children's charity which this year is Starlight Children's Foundation.

More details can be found out about them below:

https://www.starlight.org.uk/

Christmas Party and Lunch - Wednesday 18th December





We will be having a special Christmas lunch and party. Perhaps with a special visitor! Children can come into school in non-school uniform party clothes. Please can the children wear sensible shoes and bring a coat as they will be outside for play.

Lunch options this day are turkey or veggie roast only with NO pasta or jacket potato options.

Please pre-order lunch via link below by Thursday 5th December:

https://forms.gle/zf9Na5u8c2MXNime9

Grandparents Service at St Peters Church

On Monday 16th December we have a special service at St Peters Church starting at 10am for grandparents only. The PTA will provide tea and coffee afterwards.

Please note this is for grandparents and not parents. However, we will require volunteers to help walk children down safely so please see your class teacher if you can help.

PTA Christmas Raffle

Tickets have been sent home in book bags for the PTA raffle. Please check out their facebook page to see the great prizes. Please return all money and tickets by the 13th December.

Christmas Jumper Day

On Friday 20th December we will have a Christmas jumper day and donations will be collected for Starlight Children's Foundation. Children can dress up in festive outfits or make their own with tinsel or sparkles. Find out all about the charity here: Starlight Children's Charity[1]

PTA Update



We have many exciting events to prepare for this coming year - watch this space!

The children had a fantastic time at the Crazy M disco for Year 1 & 2 last Friday - it was lovely watching them having so much fun! Many thanks to our lovely volunteers for helping, and to the wonderful teachers for looking after the children.

We are currently preparing for a jam packed couple of weeks leading up to Christmas!

Local businesses have been very kind donating some amazing prizes for the Christmas Raffle, and Mrs Riches has very kindly purchased some great gifts ready for the children to choose at

[1] https://www.starlight.org.uk/

the Christmas Bazaar. We have had some lovely volunteers signing up for our Christmas events, but would be very grateful for more volunteers for the following events if possible please:

- Christmas Shopping Bazaar - Tuesday 10th December morning and afternoon sessions; this involves taking 2-3 children around the school hall helping them choose presents, and then helping with wrapping the presents.
- Grandparents Service at St Peter's Church - Monday 16th December; to help with teas and coffees after the service.

If you are able to offer any time to help with the above, please contact us at bwispta@gmail.com[2] or click on the link to our WhatsApp volunteers group -

https://chat.whatsapp.com/EtuFFmioYIJC1YRIdpd5df

Best Wishes

BWIS PTA

Governor Update

We hope everyone had an enjoyable summer and are now settled in to the school routine and looking forward to the year ahead. All the governors would like to extend a special warm welcome to all new Year R children, parents and carers and wish everyone an enjoyable three years with us. As a governing body, we have a full meeting every term, where we monitor the school budget, health and safety issues, the school's strategic plan, safeguarding and lots more. We also visit the school to talk to the staff and children to see the school in action. You can find out more about who we are and what we get up to on the school website. We currently have vacancies for co-opted governors. If you are interested in getting involved or know anyone who may be interested in becoming a governor please ask them to contact the school office.

October and November has been a busy period for school governors. At the end of October we held our second governing board of the academic year where we welcomed new governors Steven Vidovic and Henry Fynn to their first governor's meeting as Parent and Co-opted Governor respectively. Being the mid-point of the financial year, this meeting had specific focus on matters relating to school budget, but we also reported back and approved various school policy updates. Mrs Riches provided her Headteacher's school update, and we discussed the review and refresh of the School Vision and emerging Strategic Plan for the next few years. The new plan will retain focus around our core learning values but will also address the current government key priorities on Oracy and Sustainability. We look forward to sharing more

[2] mailto:bwispta@gmail.com

information on the plan with you in the coming months. Our next meeting at the end of November will discuss the curriculum and these plans further as well as hearing updates from the School Council.

In addition to the full board meeting and other governor committees, governors have also been in school for the termly health and safety walkover and the Maths Challenge Day on 14th November. It was fantastic to see the excitement and enthusiasm of all the children researching animal facts, creating dog ears, whale hearts and wing spans (!), catching basketballs and using a range of techniques for counting, measuring, recording and comparing data. A special thank you to Mrs Moth for organising such an engaging day of activities. Finally, it was also great to see a good turnout from parents for the Year R phonics talk.

Finally, another reminder that there are still some vacancies for co-opted governors on the board so if you know anyone who would like to get involved and is not a parent of a child at the school, please do get in touch with the school office for more information.

Best Wishes

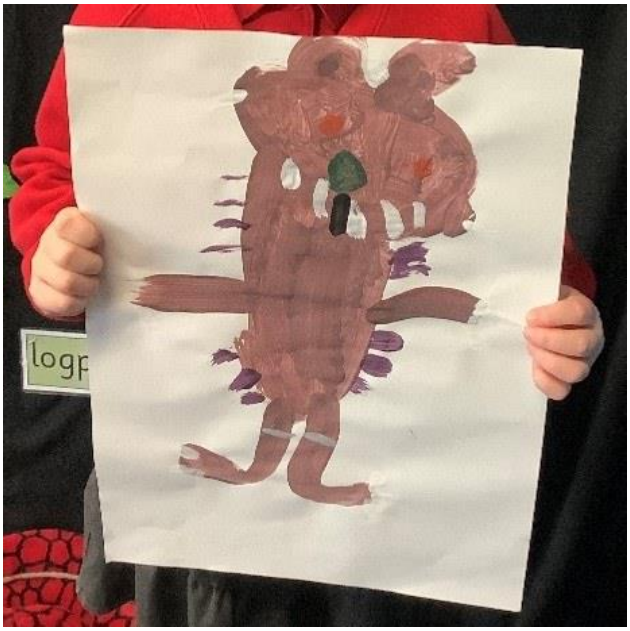
BWIS Governing Body

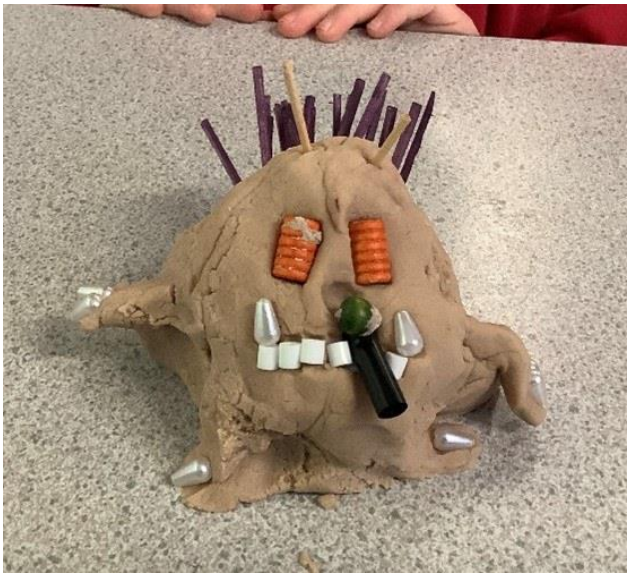
What Have We Been Learning About? Year Group Updates for November

Year R

Year R have just finished their 'Step into a Story' project. The children have enjoyed listening to stories by Julia Donaldson and the teachers have thoroughly enjoyed receiving the children's videos telling them about their favourite book on Tapestry. Do you have a favourite Julia Donaldson story?

Each week a character left us clues with a challenge for the children to solve. We have been busy rhyming, creating Gruffalo models and helping the Gruffalo see in his dark cave.









Year 1

Year 1 have just come to the end of their Pick A Puppet project and what a wonderful outcome we had! The children have spent the last few weeks designing, creating, evaluating and improving their puppets. The different characters looked fabulous and stood the test of time due some excellent strengthening choices, i.e using lolly sticks or card to make the puppets stronger. They then rehearsed their show in groups ready to present to the class. We were all proud of their final performances! Straight after we began our Angels project. We have been discovering our own and others' beliefs about angels. We will be creating individual angel sculptures in the coming weeks ready to display on the ramp during our Christmas performance. Keep an eye out for them!


Welcome to
Otter Class
The Three
Billy Goats Gruff



Year 2

Year 2 have absolutely loved our project 'New Zealand'! We have been busy learning about maps and how they work, locating the UK and New Zealand. We have also started to learn about coordinates and North, East, South and West. The children have really enjoyed learning this directional language and exploring maps and globes. In Art, we have created clay tiles taking inspiration from the silver fern that is native to New Zealand. The children were amazed to use real leaves to create prints in the tile and were brilliant when learning new artistic skills. During our English lessons, the children have impressed us with their geographical vocabulary when describing areas of New Zealand and have produced stunning posters about a region in New Zealand called Bay of Plenty. We have also just finished writing poems about volcanoes and riddles about different things in New Zealand. The children had the chance to really let their imagination flow! The results are fabulous!





Dates for your Diary

- Monday 2nd December - Christmas Post box out in reception, Year 2 Outcome at 2:30pm

- Wednesday 4th December - PTA Pre-loved Christmas jumper sale, after school in the turning circle
- Monday 9th December - Rock Steady concert at 2.30pm (parents of children who attend Rock Steady)
- Tuesday 10th December - Christmas Shopping bazaar
- Thursday 12th December - PTA Pre-loved Christmas jumper sale, after school in the turning circle
- Friday 13th December - Christmas Performance Year 1 & 2 at 9.30am
- Monday 16th December - Grandparents service at St Peters Church at 10.00am - *CHANGE OF DATE*
- Monday 16th December - Christmas Performance Year 1 & 2 at 1.45 pm - *CHANGE OF TIME*
- Tuesday 17th December - Christmas Performance Year R at 9.30am
- Wednesday 18th December - Christmas lunch & party, non school uniform day
- Friday 20th December - Christmas jumper day, non school uniform day
- Friday 20th December - Last day of term, school finishes at 3.10pm
- Monday 6th January - First day of Spring Term, school starts at 9.00am (classroom doors open at 8.50am)





Contact Us

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Visit us on the web at www.bwis.org.uk[3]



[3] https://www.bwis.org.uk/