



# Boscastle Community Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Sara Haden

Autumn Newsletter 2024 – Number 1

06 September 2024

Dear Parents

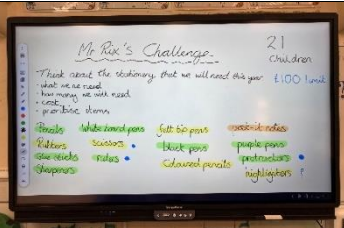
## Welcome back!

It was lovely to welcome the children into school on Wednesday, with so many of them keen to be back into the routine of school and ready to get going with this academic year.

Our new reception children have come in through the gate with big smiles; they've had a busy few days and are already settling well into Class 1.



We're also delighted to welcome Miss Parkes to the staff team, Class 2 have been excited by their lessons and all the children enjoyed dance and yoga with Miss Parkes this afternoon.



## Summer Works

During the summer break Promethean Active Panel boards have been installed in Class 2 and 3 to replace the very old, outdated whiteboards. The children (and staff) are enjoying exploring the numerous capabilities which will facilitate teaching and learning across the school. We can mirror the children's I-pads to share work as well as accessing the internet and use the screen interactively.



In Class 2, we removed the carpet (& the plywood underneath!) to reveal the original wooden floor which has been sanded and is looking amazing.

The small room by Class 3 has also been refurbished and is now being used as a meeting room for parents and visitors, as well as a quiet room for children to use and a work room for staff.



## Attendance

**Our attendance figure for the last academic year (2023/24) was 92.0% compared to the national average of 94.5% for primary schools across the UK.**

Unfortunately, this was a decrease on the previous year's attendance, when we reached 93.9%, and is significantly lower than the national average. The Education Welfare Officer (EWO) visited at the end of the summer term and judged our attendance to be 'of concern'. In order to improve on our attendance this year it is essential that parents ensure children are in school every day. We're also looking to increase our support for families where children's attendance rate has fallen into the 'persistent absence' category i.e. below 90%, and we will be meeting with those parents over the next few weeks.

## Attendance Matters



Every Day Counts....

It's brilliant to see all our children here at school for the start of this academic year which is so important in enabling them to re-establish relationships within their classes and across the school, and to be excited and engaged in their learning, right from the start. Let's keep this going!

## This term's class topics ....

### Class 1



#### Exploring Autumn

This project teaches children about the natural changes that happen during the season of autumn, including how the weather changes, why trees lose their leaves and how wild animals prepare for winter.

#### Me & My Community

This project supports children with settling into the new rules and routines of school and encourages them to make new friends and feel confident in their class. It teaches children about being helpful, kind and thoughtful at home and at school. This project also teaches children how they are unique and special, the importance of friendship and how people in their family, school and local community are important and can help them.



### Class 2

#### Invasion



In the Invasion project, your child will explore the effects of the Roman withdrawal and the chronology and geography of subsequent invasions. They will study the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings in detail, examining their reasons for invading, their settlements and their everyday life. Your child will also look at monasteries and the Anglo-Saxon legacy. They will consider how we know about life in this period and investigate the Sutton Hoo ship burial. They will learn about Athelstan, an Anglo-Saxon king, and what happened after his death, before ending the project by learning about the Norman invasion of 1066.

To Kick start our topic we replicated the size of a real Viking long boat and made our own ships using natural resources during Wild Tribe!

### Class 3 – Groundbreaking Greeks

In the Groundbreaking Greeks project, your child will learn about different periods of Greek history, exploring the earliest civilisations, the devastation of the Dark Age and the breakthroughs and developments of the Archaic and Classical periods. They will understand how the geography of Greece affected the development of city states and explore Athens, learning about the structure of the government and society. They will get to know some of the most significant Athenians and understand why Greek art, culture, architecture, philosophy, medicine and mathematics were so significant. Your child will learn about the leadership of Alexander the Great and discover how ancient Greece became part of the Roman Empire after the Hellenistic period. They will explore how the Romans respected and developed Greek ideas, making them their own and spreading them throughout the Roman Empire. To end the project, your child will decide which was the ancient Greeks' greatest idea, and explore how the legacy of ancient Greece affects their lives today.



## Autumn Term Clubs

The following clubs will be running from Mon 16 Sept – we're moving to a new club booking system which will be shared with you as soon as Jeanette has completed training early next week.

Day	Time	Club	Year	Staff	Room
Monday	15.15 – 16.15	Robotics – First Lego League	Y5 & Y6	Mrs Haden	Class 2
Tuesday	15.15 – 16.30	Football	Y3 – Y6	Mr Rix	Playground/ Sports Hall
Wednesday	15.15 – 16.15	Art	Rec - Y6	Mrs Hart	Class 1
Thursday	15.15 – 16.15	Lego	Rec - Y6	Mrs Miller & Paola	Class 1

**We please ask that you or your child let staff know if they're unable to attend a club which they're signed up for, to make sure we're clear on pick up arrangements and all children are safe. Also we expect children to commit to clubs they join rather than dip in and out as and when they feel like attending.**



### Piano Lessons

We can now offer piano lessons with Kate Tidball, who works for the Cornwall Music Service Trust, and who has worked with us previously on drumming workshops.

Children will be able to use our digital piano here at school.

Please use the link for booking [Cornwall Music Service Trust \(cmst.co.uk\)](http://cmst.co.uk)

Children in receipt of means tested free school meals will be eligible for a subsidy.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date	Who	Details	Additional Information
19.09.24	Year 6	St Endellion Book Festival	Letters to be sent home.
11.10.24	New reception intake (Sept 2025)	Open morning for children due to start school in Sept 2025.	We look forward to welcoming prospective children and their parents to come in and meet staff, have a tour of the school to find out what we do here at Boscastle. Please tell anyone you know who may be interested.
21.10.24	Whole school	Work share afternoon	From 14.45 – 15.15. Parents are invited to come into classes to take a look at what we've been up to this term.
22.10.24 – 24.10.24	Whole school	Parent meeting week	Booking options will be sent to parents
<b>25.10.24</b>	<b>Whole school</b>	<b>INSET – School Closed</b>	
<b>28.10.24 – 01.11.24</b>	<b>Whole school</b>	<b>Half Term</b>	
09.11.24	Whole school	Boscastle Sea Shanty Festival at The Cobweb from 11.30	We're looking forward to opening the festival again this year and performing a selection of shanties. All families welcome.
25.11.24	Whole school	Tempest photos	Individual and family photos (including siblings not yet at school). Please contact Jeanette to book a slot for family photos i.e. children who are not at school.
28.11.24	Whole school	Wreath making workshop afternoon with Parents 14.45 – 15.15	In the Sports Hall – please bring greenery, decorations etc. School can supply willow and tools.
06.12.24	Whole school	Lantern Walk	We're planning to do an early evening lantern walk from school to the harbour. More details to follow.
13.12.24	Whole school	Pantomime Trip at Hall For Cornwall	After the success of our trip last Christmas we're heading down to Truro again for Jack & the Beanstalk.
20.12.24	Whole School	Carol Service at Forrabury Church 14.00 – 15.00	Everyone welcome to join us.
20.12.24	<b>Whole School</b>	<b>Last Day of Autumn Term 2024</b>	

Kind regards

Sara Haden Headteacher