



BEARWOOD NEWS

Dear Families

Friday 10th November 2023

Autumn has most definitely arrived. Thank you for ensuring your children are appropriately dressed for the weather, and that they remember to bring in their coats.

For the parents who attended one of our Therapeutic Thinking workshops this week, I hope you found it to be very informative and helpful. Thank you to Miss Parry for delivering them.

Two of our Year Six girls - Jasgeet and Gopika, delivered an excellent, highly informative assembly on Diwali. Happy Diwali to all our families who will be celebrating it this weekend.

Today, we had our special Remembrance assembly. Thank you to all the families who have purchased Royal British Legion merchandise, including poppies. We will be selling the paper poppies at the KS2 gate at home time. Remembrance Day is tomorrow, and Remembrance Sunday will be this Sunday.

Next week is Anti-Bullying Week. It will be launched with Odd Socks Day. Children can wear odd socks to show we are all different, but all equal. No donations are required for this. On Friday, it will be Children in Need. The children can come to school on Friday dressed in something spotty in exchange for a small monetary donation for this important charity.

Do have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes, Funmi Alder

Value for the term –

Compassion



Compassion is to look
beyond your own pain, to
see the pain of others.

Yasmin Mogahed

Teaching at Bearwood

We had a very important visit from the Local Authority Strategic Education Partner, who has been an Ofsted inspector, and a very experienced and successful headteacher of a number of schools. He carried out a learning walk of all the classes, and has produced a report. Here are some of the things he said about our school:

In the early years...Children were keen to talk about what they were learning and how this linked to their current topic. There were many aids to support, embed and link learning experiences such as weighing scales and potion making equipment.

The provision in the early years was interesting, varied and purposeful as such it enabled children to initiate learning and promote imaginative learning experiences. Children were able to move freely and safely from one space to the next as a result of well-established routines. Children were able to explore their ideas and interests in depth therefore developing their concentration skills.

In one (KS1) class ...there was an absolute buzz in learning where children were finding number bonds to 100. Children who completed this activity knew exactly what to do when they finished their work - engage in problem-solving and reasoning learning. This is most likely due to the well-developed routines established in the class as well as the teacher being precise with pupil assessment. Children worked well in pairs supporting each other through the use of mini white boards hence developing their speaking and listening skills as well as teaching others what they have learned.

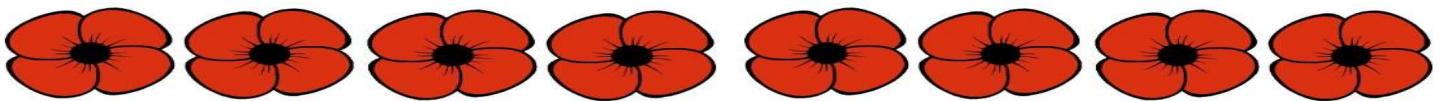
Children in one KS2 class were ordering and comparing fractions, there was clear evidence of strong progress as a result of excellent teacher subject knowledge. The teacher encouraged children to use correct mathematical language - quarters not fourths. The teacher clearly explained to pupils what strategies they may wish to use when ordering fractions, taking into account pupil contribution and ideas. To embed and consolidate learning the teacher shared with pupils a cake analogy and how the size of fractions would look on a bar model. This was helpful and supportive in meeting the needs of pupils with differing abilities and styles. Children were keen to engage in learning and demonstrated excellent learning attitudes.

In conclusion, children demonstrated positive attitudes to learning as a result of the excellent relationships they have with staff and peers. Children are inquisitive and keen to learn. There is clear evidence of strong practice throughout the school where there is excellent teacher subject knowledge, a range of purposeful, interesting and meaningful activities catering for the individual needs, and good use of support staff in enabling learning.

The Senior Leadership Team have also observed all teachers, and have found that teaching in all classes is at least 'Good', with a significant proportion being very strong - and some 'Outstanding'. Teaching and learning at Bearwood is the strongest it has ever been. It is also important to know that there is no correlation between years of experience and the level of teaching - meaning our newer teachers are just as strong. Bearwood is in an excellent place now, and it is important that we all believe that.

School Uniform Expectations and Long Hair

We would like to again thank all our families who support the school in ensuring that children adhere to our school uniform policy. How children dress helps to prepare them for secondary school and the world of work. In addition to wearing correct uniform, we also have an expectation for children with long hair. If your child's hair is longer than the shoulder, please can you ensure it is tied back. This is particularly for health and safety reasons. All teachers have agreed that this policy should be reinforced. Please do ensure that if your child has long hair, that from Monday, they have it fully tied back. This can be pulled back in one or two bunches or plaited.



Remembrance Assembly.

A huge well done to Gopika and Jasgeet in year 6 who played 'the last post' in our Remembrance Assembly this morning.

Please note we will be selling paper poppies on the KS2 school gate this afternoon. So please bring some change if you wish to purchase one. All proceeds go towards 'The Royal British Legion.'

Office Notices

Growth Mindset Awards

Rabbit – Dana
Otter – Tanwir
Beaver – Bella
Red Kite – Mason
Fox - Savannah
Dormouse – Dylan
Red Squirrel – Tony-Lee
Hedgehog – Damon
Pine Marten – Zak

Sports Star Awards

Rabbit – Wilf
Otter – Lucien
Beaver – Jackson
Red Kite – Somto
Fox - Freya
Dormouse – Aadya
Red Squirrel – Sean
Hedgehog – Cobie
Pine Marten – Richard



This week's winners of TTRS 'Battle of the Bands'

LKS2 – Y4 Boys (316 Points) + Y4 Girls (301 Points)

UKS2 – Hedgehog Class (113 Points)



Gopika from Pine Marten sang Back to December by Taylor Swift. She was phenomenal!



Mrs Haden's Performer of the Week!

Olivia and Isla-Rose in Year 2 were absolute super-stars and sang a Taylor Swift song in both KS1 and KS2 singing assemblies this week.

They did a fantastic job!

IMPORTANT

dates to remember

- Mon 13th November – Wear your Odd Socks Day!
- W/C 13th November – Anti-Bullying Week
- W/C 13th November – Year 6 Bikeability
- Fri 17th November – Children in Need (Wear Spots for £1)
- Mon 20th November – 1:30pm – Prospective Reception Parents' Afternoon
- Tues 21st November – 9:30am – Prospective Reception Parents' Morning
- Thurs 23rd November – 5pm – Prospective Reception Parents' Evening
- Fri 24th November – 9am – Prospective Parents' Tour
- W/C 27th November – Maths Week
- Sat 2nd December – Christmas Fair
- Wed 6th December – EYFS Nativity Play to Parents
- Thurs 7th December – Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch
- Fri 8th December – 9am – Prospective Parents Tour
- Tues 12th December – 2pm – KS1 Christmas Play to Parents
- Thurs 14th December – 9.30am – KS1 Christmas Play to Parents
- Thurs 14th December – pm – Class Christmas Parties
- Fri 15th December – Attendance Medals Assembly
- Fri 15th December – Last day of Autumn Term – 2pm finish
- Tues 2nd January – INSET
- Wed 3rd January – Children Return
- Wed 17th January – 9am Year 1 Parents' Phonics Workshop
- Thurs 18th January – 9am – Pine Marten Class Assembly
- Thurs 25th January – 9am – Hedgehog Class Assembly
- Fri 26th January – 9am – Prospective Parents' Tour
- Thurs 1st February – 9am – Red Squirrel Class Assembly
- Tues 6th February – Safer Internet Day – Parents' Workshop – 9am+5pm
- Thurs 8th February – 9am – Dormouse Class Assembly
- Mon 12th February to Fri 16th February – Spring Half Term
- Mon 19TH February – Children Return

Superstar!



Lucien in year 2 qualified to compete in level 1 gymnastics
and

Damien in Nursery finished his level 1 Ninja training.

Well done Lucien and Damien!

Would you like your child to star
in our next newsletter? Please
email a photo and a brief
description into the school office.

Weekly Updates!

For pictures and information on what each class has been doing this week or enrichment activities that have taken place please click on the year group below or visit the school gallery.

[Nursery](#)

[Reception](#)

[Year 1](#)

[Year 2](#)

[Years 3 and 4](#)

[Years 5 and 6](#)

[School Gallery](#)



School success starts
with attendance

Weekly Attendance

RJ Koda –94.9%

RM Orsa –100% Winners 🏆

Rabbit –99.4%

Otter – 98%

Beaver –96.7%

Red Kite –97.4%

Dormouse –98.5%

Fox –97.8%

Red Squirrel –96.7%

Hedgehog –94.4%

Pine Marten –97.8%



Please ensure you call or email each day your child is absent.

We spend a lot of time calling parents that have not called in to report an absence. Please ensure you report an absence before 9am.



Odd Socks on Monday!

Wear your odd socks on Monday 13th November with your school uniform.

What is Odd Socks Day? Odd Socks Day marks the start of Anti-Bullying Week.



Non-Uniform Day – Friday 17th November 2023

Children can wear Non-Uniform on Friday 17th November for a small monetary contribution. Staff will be on the school gates with buckets during Friday drop off. This year the theme is 'Spots'.



Bikeability – UKS2

The children who have signed up for Bikeability, please ensure they bring in their roadworthy bike and helmet on Monday 13th November and Tuesday 14th November. Children can wear their school uniform with Navy Joggers and trainers.



Outstanding payments!

Please ensure any outstanding payments on Arbor cleared over the weekend.

Thank you!

Get help with the cost of living

The [Household Support Fund](#) can help you pay for food, energy, bills and other essentials. It's open to:

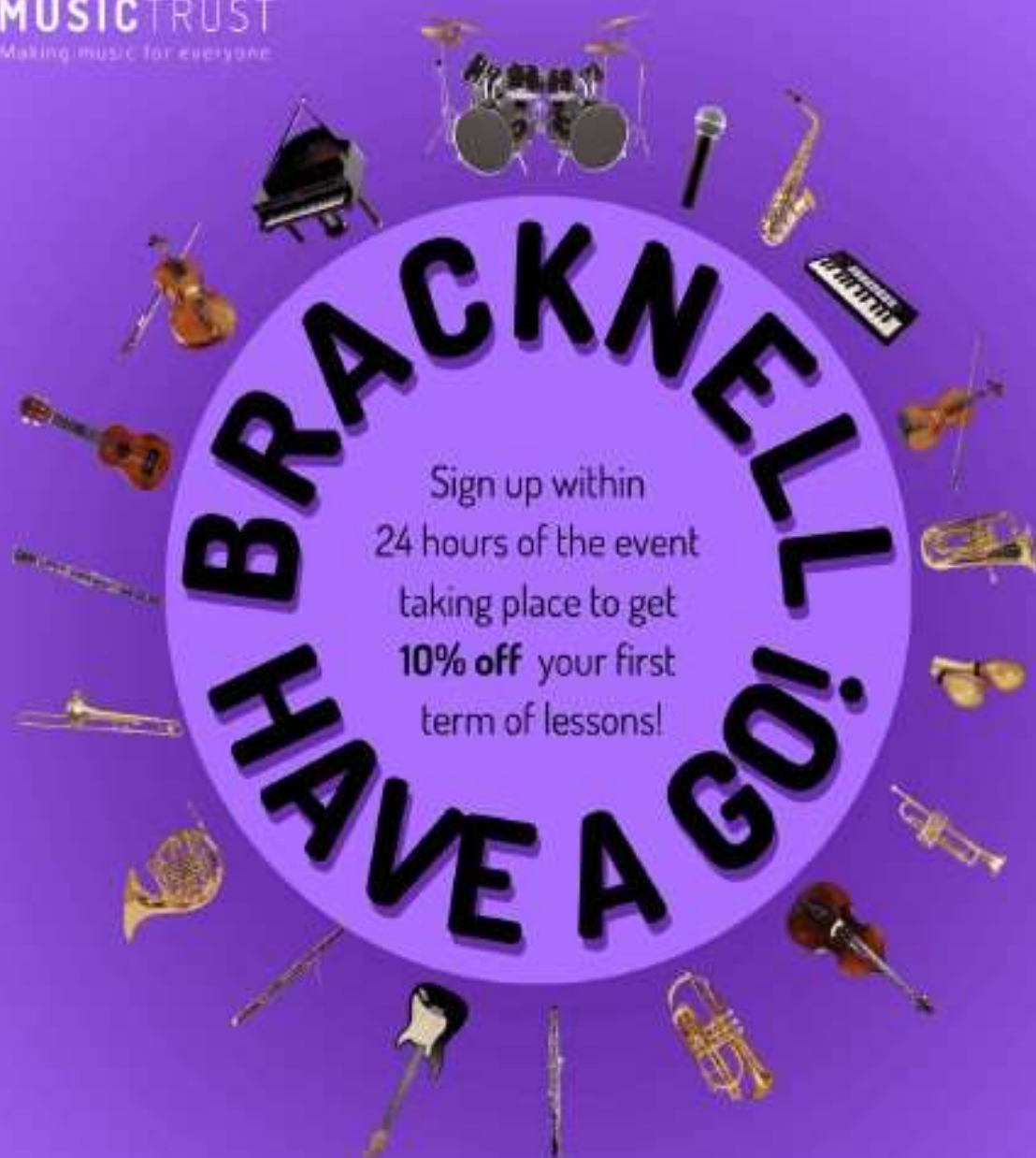
- Families where [children receive means-tested free school meals can get £20 per week](#) during the school holidays until Easter 2024
- [Anyone struggling to pay bills or buy food can apply for £240 or £120](#) depending on the size of their household

If you've already applied for the Household Support Fund you do not need to apply again.

Other cost of living help options

There's a range of help and support options you can use to help you this winter:

- Check the [cost of living help hub](#), including our guides
 - [Help for people with children](#)
 - [Help for single people](#)
 - [Help for pensioners](#)
 - [Help if you're in an emergency](#)
- SHARE Wokingham offers fresh produce, like bread and vegetables, for those who need it. These are surplus stock from local supermarkets. More than 2,000 people use it each week and it has saved more than 1,000 tonnes in food waste since it was launched a few years ago. [View the food map](#) to see SHARE's 15 locations and find your nearest.
- Follow these [top tips for households](#) on how to lower your energy bills this winter. Or you can try:
 - The [council's new home energy advice](#) service to see how to lower your bills
 - See if you're eligible [Great British Insulation Scheme](#) is offering free or cheaper insulation to reduce your home's energy bills
 - [Check if your home is eligible](#) for a Heat Pump Grant a part of the Boiler Upgrade Scheme – up to £7,500 on offer towards the costs
- We're encouraging people to [register with power, water and gas suppliers](#) if they are potentially vulnerable this winter. These are known as priority services, which mean you get help faster if you are cut off or additional warnings if there are outages like loss of water pressure or power cuts
- The [Winter Warmers scheme](#) can help you get free items, if you're struggling with the cost of living. This includes things like air fryers, slow cookers, heated airers and more. These will lower your energy usage and bills
- Contact Citizens Advice, Wokingham, to find the most appropriate support for your situation. Use the [online referral form](#) or call [0808 278 7958](#), Monday to Friday.



Come and try all our instruments for FREE!
Just turn up on Saturday 18th November
1.30pm-3.30pm at our
Bracknell Music Centre, Ranelagh School
Ranelagh Drive, Bracknell RG12 9DA
admissions@berksmusictrust.org.uk

Bearwood PTA



COME
ALONG TO
OUR AGM

Monday
27th November

8pm Zoom Meeting

EVERYONE'S WELCOME!
LOG ON AND SEE WHAT WE'VE BEEN DOING

Any questions please contact Becky Barker at
PTA@bearwood-pri.wokingham.sch.uk

Parentkind
Member Association

Donations wanted!

EYFS are in need of more resources! Do you have any of these that you don't need any more? We'd love them in our Nursery and Reception classes!

- Your **recycling!** Boxes, cardboard, tubes, plastic tubs...we make lots of creations out of them!
- Paper, envelopes, stationary** of all shapes, sizes, colours and condition, we love to draw!
- Craft resources** such as paper plates, pipe cleaners, pom poms, sequins...anything crafty!
- Toys** for 5 year olds (please no board games or puzzles!) such as magnetic tiles, k-nex.
- Do you have any **wooden pallets? Logs? Cable drums? Tyres?** We'd love them too!

Anything we don't use will be added to our sale table! Thank you so much for your donations!

EYFS garden sale!

When? Every Thursday

**Where? in the KS1 playground,
next to EYFS gate.**

**Why? to help us raise money to
buy more amazing resources**

We have too many of some things,
things that are a little young for us,
or some resources that are best in a
home environment as they are not
easy to share!

We would love for you to stop by and
make a purchase to help us reach
our goal!

**Thursday 7th
December £40.50**

**To book please log
on to your Arbor
School Shop!**

Bearwood PTA Christmas wreath workshop



**JOIN US
FOR
FESTIVE
FUN**



Bearwood PTA

Bearwood Christmas Fete

School Hall, Saturday 2nd December, 12-3pm

Free Entry, Crafts, Refreshments, Games, Facepainting and
a visit from Santa himself!!

Come along for some festive fun and support our school.

Parentkind
Member Association