

**Dartmoor  
Multi Academy  
Trust**

...everyone in our Trust.



**Boasley Cross Primary School – Respectful, Resourceful, Resilient**  
**20/10/2023**

Dear Parents / Carers,

This is the first newsletter since the half term break. I hope you all had a restful week, although I know I have seen many of you in person already since returning. It has been great to have everyone back at school with their usual enthusiasm and energy and it is a pleasure to work with the children every day.

We have started rehearsing songs and reading through the script for our Christmas play. Please encourage your child/ren to learn lines, if they have some to learn, when they are at home. We will be sorting out costumes in the next week or so and will send home a note requesting any extra bits and pieces your child/ren may need.

I'm sure you will have seen the beautiful 'Poppy Art' displayed in school. Mrs Ogborne has been working with the children to talk about Remembrance Day and on Monday, we welcome her sister, Major Ruth Gilbert, who will visit both classes and deepen the children's understanding of the reason why we mark this occasion.

Our School Council are planning for Children in Need on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November; please see further details in the newsletter.

As the weather is rather unsettled, please could you remind your children to bring their coats every day – we want them to benefit from being able to go outside when possible during break times, so coats are essential.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Hosking



**Stars of the Week**

**Week ending: 3<sup>rd</sup> November:**

**Oketor Star learner: Isla:** for always settling quickly to her learning and listening to advice to edit and improve.

**Littlemoor Star learner: Charlotte** for her creativity and great focused learning during Geography She even went on to find her own facts about our earth.



### Week ending 10<sup>th</sup> November:

**Oke Tor Star Learner: Maddie** for great mathematical skills this week. She has been able to discuss the methods she has used and prove how she knows the answer is correct.

**Littlemoor Star Learner: Lottie** for her ability to show 100% in every aspect of her learning.



### Reading Basket / Box of Joy

All the children are encouraged to read at home at least five times during the week. Everyone who has 5 signatures in their reading record book is entered into a draw which takes place in Celebration assembly. The winner from Littlemoor receives the 'Book Basket' for the weekend and the Oke Tor winner has the chance to choose something from the 'Box of Joy'!



**3<sup>rd</sup> November: Kaian**

**Tilly**

**10<sup>th</sup> November: Maddie**

**Liv**

### Attendance

Earlier this week I had a meeting with our attendance officer. The meeting was very short since our figures are so good! Thank you all for your efforts with this.



**Whole School  
Attendance**

**99.31%**

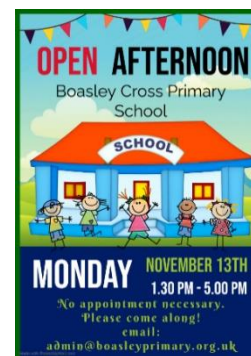
### Spotlight on Littlemoor

Our geography topic in Littlemoor this term is our earth and our local environment. We have begun the topic by discovering interesting facts about our planet. The children have created their own paper plate earths and using their ICT skills have researched fascinating facts. See below the children's creations;



## Open Afternoon

On Monday afternoon (13<sup>th</sup>), we are holding an Open Afternoon from 1.30pm until 5pm. This gives parents of children who will be starting school next September a chance to visit, look around the school and ask any questions they might have to help them make their choice. Please spread the word with any families you know who have children approaching school age. We would love for them to come and visit our school.



## Wildlife Champions

The Wildlife Champions met before half term and came up with ideas for things we could put in place in our outside area. One idea was to encourage birds into the grounds. They wondered if anyone might have some unused bird feeders we could use. If you do, please let us know. Many thanks.

## Children in Need



Next Friday (17<sup>th</sup> November) is 'Children in Need' day. The members of school Council have decided to organise the following events to take place on that day:

- Wear your own clothes for a donation of £1
- Bake sale at break time. We would welcome contributions of cakes please. All items will be 20p.
- Colouring Competition. 50p to enter. Prizes for best pictures in Littlemoor and Oke

Tor. Colourings will be available for children who would like to take part to take home from next Monday.

## **Information from our SENDCo, Mrs Pickett Jones**

**DiAS (Devon, Information, Advice and Support) supports children and young people aged 0-25 with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), and their parents and carers.**

These are the important things to know about our service:

- **It's confidential.** We don't share anything you tell us, unless it's a safeguarding issue or you have given us permission.
- **It's impartial.** We aim to give you information about the options available, then it's up to you to make the decisions. We won't promote one option over another, unless there's no alternative. Although we are part of Devon County Council, we are separate from their other SEND services and departments. You can find out more by reading our [impartiality policy](#).
- **It's free of charge.**
- **We talk directly to parents, carers, guardians, children and young people.** We can also talk to professionals if parents or young people give their permission.
- **Anyone can access it.** If you have communication difficulties or English as a second language, we will always do our best to arrange the right support. Our webpages can all be translated into languages other than English, using [Reachdeck](#). We can also produce information in large print if you need it. Please contact us if you need information in other formats or need more help.
- **It's based on the law.** All DiAS staff who work directly with parent carers, children and young people have training about the legal areas of SEND support, EHC Plans and issues such as exclusion.
- **It operates on a first come first served basis** unless you need to speak to us urgently because of a serious issue or short legal timescale.
- **It's for anyone living in Devon.** If you live in Torbay or Plymouth there are [Information Advice and Support services](#) for your area.



We are offering 3 free training sessions this term:

Listening to your child's views

10 – 11.30am, Tuesday 21 November 2023

Demystifying SEND

10 – 11.30am, Tuesday 28 November 2023

Education Health and Care (EHC) plan reviews

1pm – 2.30pm, Monday 4 December 2023

See our website to book a place

### **Cross Country**

Yesterday, 8 members of Oketor travelled to Castle Drogo to take part in the Cross-Country event. All the children joined in with the race with great enthusiasm and determination. Thanks to all the parents who supported us by transporting children to the bus and then back to school. Without this, it would be very difficult for our children to take part in events like this.



## The Next Two Weeks

13 <sup>th</sup> November	Open Afternoon 2pm – 5pm PE After School Club 3.30 - 4.30
14 <sup>th</sup>	Recorder Club 3.30 - 4.30
15 <sup>th</sup>	Youth Mental Health Assembly Lunchtime Lego Club Martial Arts club 3.30 – 4.30
16 <sup>th</sup>	Lunch time Board Games Club
17 <sup>th</sup>	'Children in Need' day Immersion Club 3.30 – 4.30
20 <sup>th</sup>	OCRA after school club 3.30 - 4.30
21 <sup>st</sup>	Recorder Club 3.30 – 4.30
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Lunchtime Lego Club Martial Arts 3.30 – 4.30
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Lunch time Board Games Club
24 <sup>th</sup>	

\*Your child must be booked into after-school clubs via School Gateway in order to take part

## Forthcoming Events

November	
28 <sup>th</sup>	Flu vaccinations R-Y6 Visual Screenings R
29 <sup>th</sup>	Stay and Play 8.45 – 10.00
December	
6 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Play 2.15 and 6pm
8 <sup>th</sup>	Wildlife Champions workshop 1.30 – 3.00
13 <sup>th</sup>	Pantomime Trips – letter to follow next week. KS1: Barnfield Theatre, Exeter. Leave school at 9am; return at 12.30 KS2: Northcott Theatre. Leave school at 1pm; return at 5.30
14 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Jumper Day Christmas Dinner
15 <sup>th</sup>	Break up for Christmas Holidays

Mrs N Hosking

Lead Teacher

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Dear Parents

Following our latest FOBCS meeting, the committee has agreed to undertake fundraising for new outdoor play equipment. The existing equipment at Boasley has now been officially condemned, having reached the end of its life in school and therefore our only option is to replace the equipment. We believe that this equipment is vital for our children's health and wellbeing and therefore we will be putting our combined efforts in trying to raise enough funds to achieve this. The fundraising total is approximately £15,000 to achieve something along similar lines to what we already have. Mr Hill has requested that the equipment is produced from composite plastic to ensure that it has a longer lifespan than timber. Due to our exposed location, this seems very sensible. It does mean that the fundraising target is a little larger to accommodate slightly more expensive materials. Our school community is always helpful and generous in supporting FOBCS events in different ways, but this year we are asking you to help us in any way possible. The committee is currently in the process of looking at grant applications and asking the wider community for support. We will continue with our normal events, such as refreshments and raffles after events, Bags 2 School and an Easter Bingo, but we are proposing some additional events such as an online auction later in the year. We are in the process of writing to the wider community for support and if you know of anyone (individual, family, organisation or business) who you feel may be able to help us in one way or another, please do speak to me initially. We are keen not to bombard people with multiple requests for help, so I am acting as a central point to collate things. We are in the process of setting up a funding page and will share the details with you as soon as it is up and running so you are able to share for smaller donations.

We are open to any suggestions/ help that you are able to offer! The first request will be to provide raffle prizes for the Christmas raffles we will be running at our Christmas play's this year. We will send out details of who to pass donations to and when by very shortly!

Since my time at Boasley as a parent, I have always been bowled over by how active FOBCS are and how generous everyone is in various ways to our school community, so I am confident that this amount is achievable and that our children will once again be able to enjoy the benefit of a superb outdoor play area.

If you wish to discuss this fundraising or have any helpful ideas or suggestions, please feel free to either catch me at school or pop me an email so we can catch up.

Kind regards

Sara Sumner

Chair, FOBCS

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