

Dartmoor
Multi Academy
Trust

...everyone in our Trust.



Boasley Cross Primary School – Respectful, Resourceful, Resilient

02/02/2024

Dear Parents / Carers

It's been another busy couple of weeks at Boasley. The children continue with their usual enthusiasm every day and are a pleasure to work alongside.

I would like to say a huge thank you to the FOBCS members who are working so hard to raise funds for the play equipment. We are very close to reaching a point where we can place an order for part of the new equipment, which is a great achievement.

We enjoyed another successful 'Stay and Play' session on Wednesday. These are proving to be very popular with parents and children alike. Thanks to Miss Smaridge who comes up with the ideas and to Mrs Turner who is always on hand with cups of tea!

Please read on to find out about lots of other things which will be taking place soon. All the best for a great weekend.

Mrs Hosking



Stars of the Week

Week ending: 26th January:

Oketor Star Learner: Henrietta: for great independence in maths with Mrs Ogborne.



Littlemoor Star Learner: Liv has been engaged with her reading both in school and home which has shown her ability to read a lot of words by sight and has made great progress.



Week ending: 2nd February:

Littlemoor Star Learner: Kai for his can-do attitude and determination in phonics. Keep up the good work Kai!



Oketor Star Learners: Tilly and Oscar for accurate and confident learning in maths this week.

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 during Celebration Assembly. The winner from Littlemoor receives the 'Book Basket' for the weekend and the Oketor winner has the chance to choose something from the 'Box of Joy'!



26th January
Alice and Pippa



2nd February
Seth and Maddie



Attendance

Despite the damp and somewhat chilly weather, the children have soldiered on. We are so proud of the attendance figures for Boasley Cross. Thank you for your support with that.

Whole School Attendance

99.61%

Drum Workshops

We all really enjoyed learning Samba rhythms with Kari when she joined us last week. Everyone had a chance to play a range of different drums and other percussion instruments. The children listened carefully and joined in enthusiastically, quickly catching on to the different rhythms they were introduced to.

We have more drumming to look forward to when we join Northlew on March 11th for the African Drumming workshop. We would really appreciate offers of help with transport at lunchtime on the day. Please let us know if you can collect children at 1.10 to transport them to Northlew.

All the children from Reception to Y6 will be involved in a workshop on that afternoon and sharing with another school allows the children access to a greater range of activities. The Music Education Grant covers the cost for all the Moorland Hub schools to have access to the workshops during that day. There will be more musical opportunities to enjoy in the summer term.

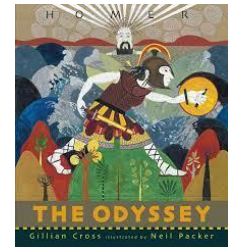


Spotlight on Oketor:



Oketor have been loving the texts we are using for Book Club and English at the moment. We are reading 'The Explorer, by Katherine Rundell in book club. We are following a great story but also learning a lot about survival in the rainforest at the same time. We're not sure about the idea of toasting tarantulas! Freya commented today about how she would like to meet the children in the book so she could ask them all about the adventure they had.

In English, to support our Ancient Greek topic in History, we have been reading The Odyssey. Once again, the children have become completely absorbed in the text and have followed every twist and turn. Next week they will be writing their own Greek Myth, incorporating ideas from the text we have shared – including some of the gruesome mythical creatures Odysseus encountered.



Willow

The willow tunnel and dome on the field have been left to their own devices for a few years and are somewhat overgrown! Last weekend, we made a start on beginning to bring it back under control but there is still plenty to do. If you are able to spare any time to help with this, my friend, Sarah, who has experience in projects like this, will be happy to work with you on Friday 9th February from 1.30 – 3.30. She is giving her time free of charge, so it would be great if we can pull together so the children have some more pleasing willow structures to play in this summer.

Wellbeing day

On Monday next week, we will be celebrating Mental Health and Wellbeing week by spending the morning with the children engaged in a number of forest school activities followed, in the afternoon, by the whole school treat, due to the fact they have reached the top of the behaviour thermometer. The children have expressed their opinions about

the format for the afternoon and we have accommodated as many of these as possible. Children will be able to dress in their own clothes and we invite pupils to bring a voluntary contribution of £1 for the 'Place2be' charity which supports children's mental health. As most of the morning activities will take place in the forest school area, it may be advisable to send in waterproof trousers and boots (especially if the weather is not looking good).

Secret Gardener

When I arrived at school on Thursday morning, I noticed the pots had been cleared out and replenished with new plants. Thank you, Mrs Turner, this is greatly appreciated! The EYFS children have also been planting bulbs and, much to Mrs Lethbridge's delight, they are coming up. You will spot them around the front of the school too.

Maths Support

The Maths materials we subscribe to has a wealth of support materials which are free to access. Try clicking on the links below to explore them. Children should also all be familiar with either Times Table Rock Stars or Numbots. Remember, these can be accessed at home as well as within school time.

1. One-Minute maths [1-minute maths app | White Rose Maths \(whiteroseeducation.com\)](#) We encourage you all to download this app and use it as much as possible to support rapid recall of number facts.
2. Times Tables Rock Stars – all children have access to TTRS. Use it whenever you can to build up fluency with these key facts.
3. Home learning videos. [Maths home learning | Home learning | White Rose Maths \(whiteroseeducation.com\)](#) White Rose still has a full suite of home learning videos which were made available during Covid. These are freely available on their website and are between 5 – 10 minutes.

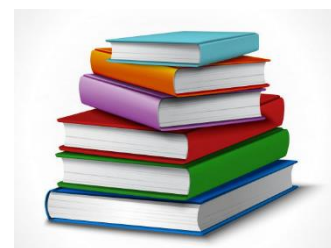
Cool Milk



We have made progress with arranging the delivery of milk under the 'Cool Milk' scheme for children in Pre School and Early Years. This is available to children, free of charge until they reach 5 years old. Milk can also be supplied to children over 5 years old at a cost of around £14 per term. Thank you to those who have already returned registration forms. Please ask if you would like your child to be included if they are over 5 years old. Deliveries should be starting after half term.

Books for sale

We have some guided reading texts which we will no longer be using at school. We have made 'book bundles' with 10 books in each set and just ask for a donation of £1 for a bundle. All proceeds will go towards the FOBCs fundraising campaign for the play equipment. The bundles are available from Monday onwards.



Assembly

SCHOOL ASSEMBLY



Rev Adrian Brook came into school yesterday to lead our assembly. He spoke to the children about being respectful by telling them a true story from his childhood. The children all listened carefully and were keen to make comments and ask questions. We look forward to him visiting again during next half term.

Uniform

A polite reminder to everyone about school uniform. Here is the extract from the prospectus just to remind everyone. Can we also ask that, on PE days, children wear navy or black shorts, jogging bottoms or leggings and a plain white T shirt (or one with the school emblem on).

"The School Uniform consists of navy-blue sweatshirt, white polo shirt (with fleece jacket in cold weather) with Boasley Primary School logo, for all the children. Girls should wear black or grey skirts or trousers and boys wear black or grey trousers. Children should wear sensible flat-heeled black shoes, not open-toed, to ensure good protection for feet and to avoid accidents while playing."

The Next 2 Weeks

Monday 5 th Feb	Mental Health & Wellbeing day Super Sixes SATS club 3.30 – 4.30pm
Tuesday 6 th Feb	Dance Club 3.30 – 4.30pm
Wednesday 7 th Feb	Book and Biscuit 8.45 – 9.05am / Celebration Assembly 9.05 – 9.25am Wildlife Champions session 11am Lunchtime Lego Club Martial Arts club 3.30-4.30pm OCRA Cross Country for those taking part 4.00 – 5.00pm (parents transporting) now at Simmons Park
Friday 9 th Feb	Willow working party: 1.30 – 3.30pm OCRA PE club 3.30 – 4.30pm Break up for Half Term

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

Forthcoming Events

February

21 st	Parent Consultations
26 th	Maths Parent Information Meeting: 2.45pm
28 th	Stay and Play 8.45 – 10.00am

March




4 th	OCRA Cross Country for those taking part 4.00 – 5.00pm (parents transporting) Simmons Park
6 th	Parents Forum
7 th	World Book Day
8 th	Devon Cricket Day
11 th	African Drumming Workshop (pm) at Northlew
12 th	NO DANCE CLUB due to staff training
20 th	Stay and Play 8.45 – 10.00am Easter Concert 2.30pm in the hall
21 st	Soup and Sweet (in the Chapel) Y6 to help out
27 th	OCRA Cross Country for those taking part 4.00 – 5.30pm (parents transporting) Chagford Cricket Club

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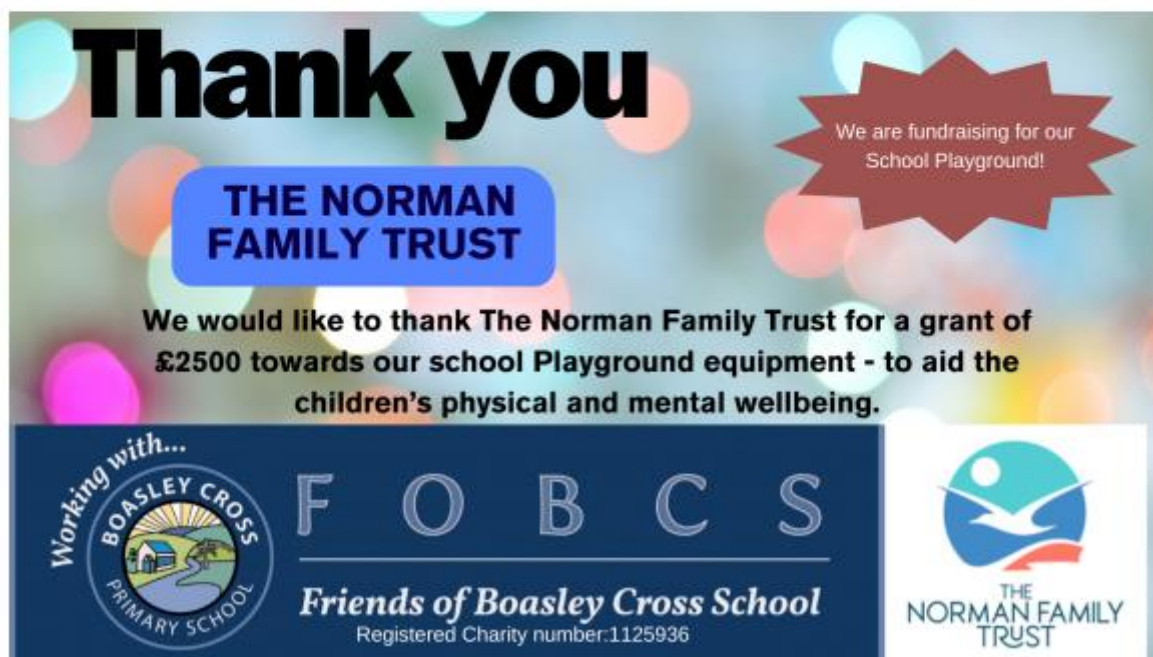
FOBCS has had a busy few weeks planning events & making requests for donations for the Playground Fund. With help from a substantial grant for the Norman Family Charitable Trust, we are now in a position where we are able to provide approximately half of our £15,000 fundraising target to enable the school to implement a first phase build. We are now digging deep with our fundraising efforts to raise enough to reach the £15,000 target. We thank you all for your help so far, but please see below on ways that you can continue to help!

Ways to help!

Share our Go Fund me page	Collect for Bags 2 School	Support our Easter Bingo	Help us with Online Auction donations	Soup and Cheese - Sourton Parish Hall
 <p>We now have a Go fund me page where people can donate. Please share it far and wide...every £ helps!</p>	 <p>Collection: Bus shelter 27th Feb by 9am</p>	 <p>Save the Date: Saturday 23rd March 5.30pm</p>	<p>Friends of Boasley Cross School Playground Fundraiser 2024 (jumblebee.co.uk)</p> <p>1st - 8th May we will be holding an online auction (see below)</p>	<p>Sourton Church has offered to donate profits of their soup and cheese lunch of Sunday 10th March to us. Please do support this event if you can!</p>

Online Auction

From 1st - 8th May we will be running an Online Silent Auction. We are in the process of gathering items to auction and would be very grateful if you could consider any contacts that you have that may be able to make a donation. It may be a voucher for something, a service that could be offered (ie lessons to learn a skill that you could teach) or an item that we could offer people to bid on etc. We will be adding lots to the auction website over the next few weeks so you can see the type of things we will be auctioning. Please do help us to promote this over the next few weeks. No lots are up yet, but the website is: [Friends of Boasley Cross School Playground Fundraiser 2024 \(jumblebee.co.uk\)](https://www.jumblebee.co.uk) We are trying hard to get a wide variety of lots to appeal to lots of people!



Thank you

We are fundraising for our School Playground!

THE NORMAN FAMILY TRUST

We would like to thank The Norman Family Trust for a grant of £2500 towards our school Playground equipment - to aid the children's physical and mental wellbeing.

Working with... **BOASLEY CROSS PRIMARY SCHOOL**

F O B C S

Friends of Boasley Cross School
Registered Charity number:1125936

THE NORMAN FAMILY TRUST



Federation of Children's Book Groups - Children's Book Award Voting

The 5 schools in the Moorland hub have been taking part in the Shortlisting voting of the 'Books for Young Children' Category of the National Children's Book Awards, run by the Federation of Children's Book Groups (FCBG). This is the only national book award that is voted for entirely by children – start to finish and has been running for over 40 years! The shortlisting voting has just come to a close and between the 5 schools we have submitted over 800 votes via our local group – Plymouth CBG. Thank you so much to the younger children within our schools for engaging in the voting. The next round of voting will start soon, once the Top 10 books (across 3 categories) are announced. This is a really fabulous opportunity for our small schools to be involved with and we hope to engage with the testing of some of the older categories in the future.

If you want to learn more about the FCBG and The Children's Book Award – information can be found on the FCBG website [CBA Home – The Federation of Children's Book Groups \(fcbg.org.uk\)](https://www.fcbg.org.uk)

