

**Dartmoor
Multi Academy
Trust**

...everyone in our Trust.



Boasley Cross Primary School – Respectful, Resourceful, Resilient

08/12/2023

Dear Parents/Carers

Believe it or not, this will be the last newsletter before we break up for the Christmas holidays. I feel as though I write the same thing on every newsletter.... it's certainly been a busy couple of weeks!!! I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support over the last term. We are all so proud to work at Boasley Cross. The children really are an asset to the school and the community. Enjoy reading about the various things we have been getting up to. We look forward to lots more in the New Year. I know I will see most of you at the gate before we break up but, just in case I don't, have a restful, happy and peaceful new year and we all look forward to seeing you on Wednesday 3rd January.

Mrs Hosking



Stars of the Week

Week ending 1st December:

Oketor Star Learner: Henrietta for staying really focused on her learning and achieving great things.

Littlemoor Star Learner: Olivia for her increasing independence and use of resources in the classroom environment to support her learning.

Week ending: 8th December:

Oketor Star Learner: Ruby for great progress with spellings.

Littlemoor Star Learners: Lucy for her phonics understanding and her ability to independently implement phonics knowledge across other areas 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 will be 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'!

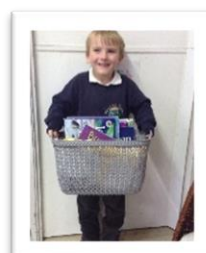
30th November:



Lucy



Henrietta



Seth

7th December:



Freya

Attendance

I'm so glad the children seem to have kept their coughs and colds at bay for the most part. We really appreciate your support in ensuring the children arrive on time and are prepared for the day.

Whole School Attendance

98.47%

Spotlight on Littlemoor



This week in Littlemoor, the preschool and EYFS children have been exploring different activities to extend their play and interests. We know a lot of our children enjoy playing with the train track so why not create a Christmas train! The children loved it! They developed this play enhancement into creating their own winter village. The children then looked at working together to build Father Christmas a chimney for Littlemoor! They loved this challenge. At first it started with the small bricks, then the larger bricks outside on the decking. The children even created him a fireplace. It has been lovely to see how the children have grasped each opportunity and changed to include their own ideas.

Parents Forum

Thank you to all the parents who were able to come to school for the first Parents' Forum of the year. We had a good discussion about several things, from reading books to community groups. It was brilliant to have some input from everyone who was able to attend. One of the items we talked about was drinks available to children in class. We know how important it is to stay hydrated during the school day, but we are also conscious of the impact that drinking squash has on our teeth when it is consumed little and often. We will be encouraging, rather than insisting, that children have just water in the bottle they bring into class and to have squash, if they would like some, in a bottle for lunch and break times. If bringing two bottles causes a problem, we have plenty of cups available at school.



Book and Biscuit



Everyone is welcome to join us on the last day of term (15th December) at 2.30, for 'Book and Biscuit', followed by Awards Assembly. I will be talking to children who take instrumental lessons to see if there are any pieces they would like to share in the assembly and we'll also enjoy a performance by the recorder club.



Panto Trip

Don't forget that next Wednesday is the trip to the pantomime. Littlemoor will be going in the morning and Oketor in the afternoon. School packed lunches will be provided for everyone in Littlemoor and anyone who has ordered or is entitled to free school meals in Oketor. As Okehampton College kitchen will be unable to provide hot food on this day, all other children will need home packed lunches. Children from Northlew will be joining us to ease the logistics with transport. **Don't forget, Oketor children will not be returning until 5.30pm.**

Carol Singing at Waitrose

Eight children from Oketor enjoyed entertaining shoppers outside Waitrose on Tuesday when they joined other children from the Moorland Hub and sang a selection of well-known carols. Their beautiful singing was appreciated by everyone and they raised more than £100, which will be split between the five schools. Thank you to everyone who came along to support.



Clubs for Next Term

We are trying our best to organise clubs for next term and these should be finalised before the end of next week. Mrs Davey will send out information once everything has been confirmed and provide details of how to consent.

Forest School

On Monday, children from both classes will be taking part in Christmas Forest School. We are hugely grateful to Ali Heard, who has planned activities for the children, and will be joining us on the day. Children don't need to wear uniform but can come dressed in forest school clothing. Oketor will have PE in the afternoon so, please send in their kit and they will be given time to change before the session.

Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Dinner



Next Thursday, it's the school Christmas dinner and also 'Christmas Jumper day'. We invite children to bring in a donation of £1 for Save the Children and wear a Christmas jumper, with their usual school uniform on the bottom half. Please help us to raise some money for this great charity.

Our Christmas play – 'Straw and Order'

On Wednesday, we were so pleased to see the chapel full both performances to watch the children perform 'Straw and Order'. We really hope you enjoyed it – we certainly had a lot of fun rehearsing! Thank you for helping out with costumes and encouraging children to learn lines. It was certainly all very worthwhile. Thanks also to FOBSCS who provided refreshments after each performance. As always, we are so grateful to you for your enthusiasm and commitment.



Next Week

11 th December	Christmas Forest School PE after school Club
12 th December	Recorder Club
13 th December	Pantomime Trips KS1: Barnfield Theatre, Exeter. Leave school at 9am; return at 12.30. KS2: Northcott Theatre. Leave school at 1pm; return at 5.30pm No Martial Arts after school Club
14 th December	Christmas Jumper Day Christmas Dinner Singing at Lakeside (4 children from each class)
15 th December	Book and Biscuit followed by Celebration assembly: 2.30 Break up for Christmas Holidays No Immersion Lego Robots after school Club Last day of term

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

Forthcoming Events

January

2 nd January	Inset Day
3 rd January	Pupils Return to School
9 th January	Okehampton College talk for Y5/6 (at Boasley)

Mrs N Hosking

Lead Teacher

nhosking@boasleyprimary.org.uk

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FOBCS

What an end to the year! FOBCS would like to thank everyone who has helped with fundraising in anyway over the last few months. As you will all be aware, Mr Hill has tasked FOBCS with fundraising to replace the playground equipment. The fundraising total is £15,000. We are delighted to be able to say that due to past fundraising efforts and this year's efforts so far, we are approximately 1/3 of the way to our target! We still have a long way to go, but we will be able to hit the ground running in 2024, with your continued help and support!



Further to our letter earlier this week, we are happy to confirm that Mrs Drew-Hill will be joining the Moorland Hub as Assistant SENCO in the new term:

" My name is Becky Drew-Hill and I am excited to join DMAT Moorland Hub as the new Assistant SENDCo. Since becoming a teacher (a long time ago!), I have been lucky to teach in large city schools and small village schools both in this country and abroad. I've taught all ages from 3 - 18 but I particularly love teaching primary aged children, so I'm really looking forward to joining the Moorland Hub and working across different schools. When I'm not in school, I'm always on the move and I can usually be found exploring Dartmoor, catching a wave at the beach or travelling to exciting places. Please introduce yourself when you see me and tell me all about yourself.

Kind regards,

Becky Drew-Hill"

DCC Autism and Us Parent Support Programme

Support for parents/carers of Devon's primary and secondary children who are either on the autism waiting list or who have received a diagnosis of autism.

Our free Autism and Us programme and themed workshops are for parents/carers of Devon primary and secondary school children, pre or post-diagnosis. We offer access for families of children and young people who are currently on the autism assessment pathway, as well as families of children and young people who have received an autism diagnosis.

Autism and Us parent programme (four week course)

Attending the Autism and Us parent programme gives you an opportunity to develop your understanding of autism and look at practical solutions to managing and supporting your child's presenting needs.

The programme is made up of four weekly 'live online' sessions (each approximately two hours long) related to the following topics or themes:

Spring term 2024 workshops

Date and time	Topic
Monday 5 February 2024 10am to 12pm	Introducing Devon Information Advice and Support and Parent Carer Forum Devon This workshop will introduce the Devon Information Advice and Support (DIAS): who we are and what we do. We will look at how you and your child or young person can engage with the decisions that impact you, including how to get best out of conversations and meetings about your child's support, how to share your views and those of your child, and understanding your options and legal rights. We will take you through our information and resources that may be relevant for you and your child or young person and talk through how and when it might be most helpful to link with our service. You will also be able to find out more about Parent Carer Forum Devon, how we work and how you can get involved.
Wednesday 7 February	Autism and girls This workshop seek to explore the background of the diagnosis of autism in girls and why historically the female / male ratio has been significantly lower. We explore the key characteristics of girls with autism including areas such

Date and time	Topic
9.30am to 12pm	as possible masking, communication, social understanding and associated vulnerability. Subsequently we seek to highlight key approaches / strategies which aim to help to support autistic girls within the home / family context.
Monday 26 February 10am to 12pm	Autism – communication (verbal – support strategies) This workshop explores communication strengths and differences and how these may impact on daily life for verbal children and young people and families. It will support in exploring strategies to support child and young people around the following areas: how adult use of language can support and provide structure, self-advocating through communication, how visuals can support communication and sharing communication needs with the wider family/support network.
Wednesday 28 February 10am to 12pm	Autism and demand avoidance This workshop seeks to explore the key characteristics of the extreme demand avoidance profile while outlining the diagnostic background and how these fits into the strengths and needs of autistic children and young people. Subsequently it explores the characteristics of this profile and how it may manifest through a child's behaviour. A range of strategies / approaches are highlighted with the aim of supporting children and young people in the home with an emphasis on an individualised approach which allows for the prioritising of goals to support family life.
Tuesday 5 March 10am to 12pm	Autism – communication (pre or non-verbal – support strategies) This workshop will consider both language and communication and what is meant by a Total Communication approach. We will also consider practical strategies to support pre and non-verbal children and young people communicate through a focus on means, reasons and opportunity. Please note, this workshop is not appropriate for supporting children who are experiencing situational mutism.
Wednesday 13 March 10am to 12pm	Autism – vulnerability and online safety This workshop will explore some of the vulnerabilities that ALL children and young people may experience growing up. But this workshop will specifically shine a lens on how a child or young person with autism's profile may lead them to respond in different ways through their own developmental journeys. A range of approaches, strategies and supportive links will also be offered to support family life.
Monday 18 March 10am to 12pm	Autism – managing stress and anxiety This workshop will explore our understanding of anxiety and how autistic children and young people may experience and express their own anxiety. The workshop will also consider and provide how we can support and reduce their anxiety within the home / family context through a range of approaches and strategies.
Tuesday 26 March 09.30am to 12pm	Autism – sensory processing and integration This workshop will explore the 8 senses, sensory integration and how this may affect how autistic children and young people respond to the environment and sensations they are feeling. It aims to raise awareness of sensory processing differences that may impact on an autistic person's life and provide a range of approaches and strategies to support through sensory regulation approaches within the home / family context.

Booking a place on the Autism and Us parent support programme

To book your place on the programme or workshops, or to express your interest in future programmes, please send an email to educationlearnersupport@devon.gov.uk

Dear Parents,

Looking ahead to the Christmas holidays there are a number of activities taking place in the surrounding area, with multi skills & Football camps taking place for just £2.50 an hour. For more details, please see below.

Hatherleigh Primary School - Multi Skills

Tuesday 19th December

9AM - 3PM (Registration opens 8:45 am)

All 5-14 year olds welcome.

£15 for the day.

Bow Primary School - Football

Wednesday 20th December & Thursday
21st December

9AM - 3PM (Registration opens 8:45 am)

All 5-14 year olds welcome.

£15 for the day.

Hatherleigh Primary School - Football

Friday 22nd December

9AM - 3PM (Registration opens 8:45 am)

All 5-14 year olds welcome.

£15 for the day.

Our football & multi skills camps consist of skill-based sessions in the morning & plenty of game play in the afternoon! Groups will be split both age & ability to keep all challenged and engaged. Because of this, your child will have the opportunity to learn and practice all aspects of football & multi sports in a safe & enjoyable environment.

All BWC coaches hold relevant qualifications which include a DBS, coaching qualifications and first aid.

To sign your child up to one of these fantastic provisions, please [email craig.penberthy@brendenworthcricket.com](mailto:craig.penberthy@brendenworthcricket.com). As this is a first come, first serve camp, be quick to avoid disappointment.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. We look forward to seeing you on our courses!

Kind regards,

Craig Penberthy

Head of Holiday Provision

On behalf of

Brenden Worth Cricket Academy

brendenworthcricket.com

