

# Bow Community Primary School

# The Bow Times

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## Welcome ...

...to the start of the 2020-2021 academic year. It is a start like no other that we have ever experienced and already there are lots of things that we have learnt, shifted and amended. Over the next few pages, we will outline some of the things that the children have been up to – and they are doing brilliantly – and some communications for parents.

## New Reception Pupils ...

Well done to all the parents of the new pupils in Foxcubs, who handed over their children on day 1. I have to say, the children were amazing, considering that they have had no opportunities to visit the school and familiarise themselves with the building, staff and layout, there were far fewer tears from the pupils than we would normally experience. By day 2, the children who were teary on day 1 (only 2 of them), were not teary at all, but were seen running round outside, in and out of the willow.

## Year 6 Pupils...

Just in case you didn't know... our year 6 pupils are allowed to walk home, without being accompanied by their parents or an adult. However, we do need parents to contact the school and let us know if this is the case. You can do this by contacting [admin@bowcps.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@bowcps.devon.sch.uk) and letting us know if you wish your child to do this. Many thanks.

## Learning Leaves ...

### Week ending Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September

This week, learning leaves were awarded to Willow, Caleb, Alexia, Jake, Archie, Jessica, Elliot, Jessica, Bella and Bertie.



## **A message to the staff ...**

The governors had their first Full Governing Body meeting of the new academic year – via Zoom, something that has been working well during this period. They would like to convey to the staff, their utmost thanks for the hard work, commitment and dedication to the school that all members of staff are displaying. They recognise how difficult the situation is and appreciate everything that everyone is doing!

## **NHS – How to recognise coronavirus symptoms in your child ...**

Please see the NHS information at the bottom of this edition.

This has come straight from the DfE – if there are any updates or amendments, we will let you know.

## **Snacks ...**

One of the difficulties that has emerged since we have come back to school lies with the humble fruit – the orange. Our younger pupils come to school with an orange as a snack. In the past, we would have been able to stand in the playground and happily help ‘start’ an orange and help peel this for any child. Unfortunately, we can no longer do this, as we may have 5 or 6 different children requiring help with peeling an orange and staff would therefore be going from one orange to another with no handwashing in between.

If you wish your child to still bring an orange to school, could you please teach them at home how to peel an orange, or start their orange off for them, or even cut it into segments and send it in in a plastic box.

Who would’ve thought that the humble orange would cause such a fuss...!

## **Virtual Class Assemblies ...**

We would normally already be well on our way to organising and planning Harvest Festival Assembly and class assemblies for the autumn term. We will still be doing this, but of course, there will be no audience participation.

Instead, we plan to film our sessions and put them out onto the website, so that they can be viewed by parents and relatives. Of course it is not the same as a live assembly but all assemblies are having to take place via zoom during these current circumstances.

## Governors ... We need YOU!! ...

Bow Community Primary School is a small village school that relies on members of the community making a contribution, so that the school can remain as a small village school. Schools are 'governed' by ordinary people, who would like to make a contribution, supporting the young people of the village. Our governing body is made up of people from wide and varied backgrounds, but they all have one thing in common – they want to support young people! We are currently looking for volunteers who would be interested in joining the board of governors, to provide challenge to the Head and make a difference.

You would need:

- To have some time available each half term, to visit the school (approximately 2 hours in a term) – COVID restrictions currently apply – whereby you meet staff and talk about an area that is your responsibility
- To be able to join a full governing body meeting, once every 6 weeks on an evening – a Tuesday evening
- Join a committee meeting once every 12 weeks – either on a Tuesday evening or a Friday afternoon

The meetings last up to, but no longer than 2 hours.

This term we have conducted all our governor meetings via Zoom. For the next academic year, we plan to have a blended format - some on a face to face basis and some by zoom.

If you feel that you could support the school and its young people, then we would love to hear from you. Please contact the clerk to governors by emailing: [clerk@bowcps.devon.sch.uk](mailto:clerk@bowcps.devon.sch.uk)

## Parents' Evenings ...

You should have received a letter about the forthcoming parent evening dates (12<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> October). Please return one form per child, as this will help us when trying to organize your preferences for each child.

Do not hesitate, return your form as soon as possible – you will receive an appointment confirmation slip as soon as we can. If you have not received a confirmation slip by 7th October, please do contact the office.

## And Finally ...

A big 'thank you' to parents who are really working hard to stay to their drop off and collection times. We realise that this is not easy, however in doing this, it makes the job at our end run smoothly. We recognise that these are difficult times for everyone, if you do need to contact us, please do so. Until next time.

Many thanks and best wishes

Lesley Hodgson

## Check if you or your child has coronavirus symptoms

If you have any of the main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), get a test as soon as possible. Stay at home until you get the result.

### Main symptoms

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Most people with coronavirus have at least 1 of these symptoms.

### What to do if you have symptoms

If you have any of the main symptoms of coronavirus:

1. **Get a test** to check if you have coronavirus as soon as possible.
2. **Stay at home** and do not have visitors until you get your test result – only leave your home to have a test.

Anyone you live with, and anyone in your support bubble, must also stay at home until you get your result. Get a test to check if you have coronavirus

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/>

### What is a support bubble?

A support bubble is where someone who lives alone (or just with children) can meet people from 1 other household.

Find out more about making a support bubble with another household on GOV.UK

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/making-a-support-bubble-with-another-household>

Urgent advice: Use the NHS 111 online coronavirus service if:

- you're worried about your symptoms
- you're not sure what to do

Call 111 if you cannot get help online. Do not go to places like a GP surgery, hospital or pharmacy.

## **Babies and children**

Call 111 if you're worried about a baby or child under 5.

If your child seems very unwell, is getting worse or you think there's something seriously wrong, call 999.

Do not delay getting help if you're worried. Trust your instincts. Get more advice about coronavirus in children.

Check if you or your child has coronavirus symptoms -

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/coronavirus-in-children/>

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