



THE BATT C.E. SCHOOL



THE BATT CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Newsletter No. 07

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you all had an enjoyable Half Term holiday last week.

Cross Country Success

Huge congratulations to William and Katie for both finishing first in their respective West Oxfordshire Schools' Cross Country race just before Half Term. This is a great achievement as there were approximately 150 children in both the boys' and girls' races. Well done also to Emily for finishing 6th in the Upper Junior girls' race. We entered teams in all four races with our Lower Junior girls finishing a very good 5th out of 25 schools, the Lower Junior boys finishing 12th and the Upper Junior boys finished 6th overall. The Upper Junior girls, partly because of Katie's and Emily's performances, came away with the winners' trophy – an excellent achievement. Congratulations to all our athletes.

Witney Schools' Hockey

Our A team took part in the Witney Schools' Hockey tournament at Wood Green on Wednesday. Having won one and drawn one in the group stage, the team went on to play in the group winners' pool. Unfortunately they lost narrowly to both The Blake and Aston and Cote, finishing a very creditable third overall, playing some wonderful hockey in the process.

Remembrance Commemoration

You will recall that we asked children to bring in photographs and artefacts from the World Wars. Having photographed the children and artefacts etc, we then stuck them to a wooden cut-out soldier, provided by the Town Council. We are really pleased with how it has turned out and I would like to thank Ashley Smart, Sharon Bark, Ruth Sheppard and Sue Payne for all their hard work towards this project. Our soldier will be placed, along with those from other schools, somewhere between the War Memorial and The Leys in the coming weeks. In addition to the soldier, every child in our school has made a poppy that will be displayed somewhere between the Corn Exchange and St. Mary's Church. You may recall that we created a wonderful mosaic to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War and this will be on display, alongside mosaics from other schools, in the Corn Exchange from 10th November onwards. I understand there will be activities for families to enjoy on The Leys during the afternoon of Sunday 11th November. As soon as I have further details of this, I will let you know.

The Batt Cookbook

I have been disappointed with the response to our cookbook. So far we have had about 25 recipes submitted. I think the children will really enjoy having their recipe published in a book, with a photograph of them appearing too. You can submit any recipe – it doesn't have to be a healthy one! We have seen a preview of the book and it looks really great. Please visit the website www.thecookbookinitiative.com and use the login code h263195c44 to start submitting your delicious recipe. If you have any difficulty with this, please simply email your recipe to the school office. The closing date for submitting a recipe is Thursday 8th November.



Maths at Home

One of our priorities for improvement this year is Maths and we would very much like your help with this. Two absolutely crucial Maths skills the children need in life is telling the time and knowing their times tables. Helping your child with these will be a huge help to them as they work through their Maths curriculum. Supporting the children to learn their times tables is particularly important. We find that the children who know their times tables generally progress at a faster rate in Maths, mainly because they are not slowed down by having to work out multiplication facts. There are lots of apps and other software available to children to help them to learn both multiplication and division facts, including Doodle Maths and Hit the Button. For more examples of resources to support Maths learning, please go to the Learning at Home section under the For Parents tab on our website.

Photographs

You will have received a letter about the photographers coming to school next Thursday to take individual and family photographs. As the letter stated, the children will have their photographs taken with their siblings only unless requested otherwise. We have lots of slots available after school for family portraits - this always makes a lovely Christmas present! Please either return the slip at the bottom of the letter, or contact the office.

Gin Tasting

There are still a few tickets available for this evening's BSA Gin Tasting at Majestic Wine, Witney. Please call in to the office for further details.

German Club

As we have had a limited response to the Year 4 and Year 6 German clubs, we have decided to invite Year 5 children to attend as well, and to hold it for one session per week instead of two. This will take place every Tuesday after school and will be led by the excellent Jacqueline Mainwaring, former Head of Languages at Henry Box. Please contact the office to book your child's place or return the after school clubs form.

Christmas Shoe Boxes

Please return the Christmas shoe boxes on either Wednesday 7th or Thursday 8th November. Many families enjoy supporting this as the boxes are given to children of all faiths and denominations across Eastern Europe.

BSA Stationary

You will have seen recently that the BSA has organised to receive commission on stationary items from Boxclever Press. We all need diaries, notepads, weekly planners etc and these and other items are available. The school will receive commission for all items bought using the order form. Please ensure your orders are back at school by next Friday.

Thank you for your continuing support this term.

Yours sincerely

Mr Chris Payne
Headteacher

