



THE BATT C.E. SCHOOL

THE BATT CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Newsletter No. 03

Dear Parents/Carers

Harvest

Thank you so much for your wonderful donations of food yesterday to celebrate our Harvest Festival. We were overwhelmed with your generosity and both the Besom Charity and Witney Food Bank were so pleased to receive the food. I hope you enjoyed our service at St. Mary's Church. It was great to hear our children talking so passionately about looking after our planet and encouraging everyone to consider issues including our use of plastics, food waste at school and pollution caused by the transport of food.

Climate Week

Inspired by Greta Thunberg and Climate Week, our children have been thinking this week about how our actions are affecting the future of our planet and in particular climate change. There have been some very knowledgeable and authoritative discussions within class and it is gratifying to know that our young children speak with such commitment to make changes to the way in which we care for our world. We were very lucky to have Mr Ripley, who works for an environmental company, talking to the children in Collective Worship this morning about climate change. Some of the children are also planting four more trees in our school grounds this afternoon.

Here are a few quotes from our children:

'Environmentally, our planet is in serious trouble. I think that it is important for everyone at our school to learn how to protect the planet;'

'We must act fast though, because if we don't make a difference now it will be too late;'

'In Geography, we should learn about the melting ice caps and deforestation, it is our generation that will live with the consequences.'

James Ketchell – Adventure

Many of the children will recall meeting James Ketchell when he visited our school last year. He came to talk to the children about his previous adventures – cycling around the world in 2013, climbing Everest, rowing across the Atlantic Ocean, and to tell us about his latest adventure; to be the first person to fly solo around the world in a Gyrocopter. Some of you will have seen in the news that James successfully completed this incredible challenge, landing in Hampshire on Sunday after 175 days and 24,000 nautical miles. I am sure you would want to join me in congratulating James on this wonderful achievement and raising over £10,000 for charity.

Safeguarding for Volunteers

If you already help in school, or are considering doing so in the near future, you will need to have done safeguarding training. Our next safeguarding training for volunteers will take place next Thursday (3rd October) at 9.00am. Please let the office know if you would like to be part of next week's session.

Wet Mornings

As the weather turns a little wetter and more autumnal, please be reminded that on rainy mornings, the Infants and Year Three children should go straight to their classrooms and the Year Four, Five and Six children should go to the hall.



Information Evening and Online Safety

I hope you found the Information Evening useful earlier this week. As you will have seen from the displays in the entrance area and the classrooms, we are having a significant focus on Reading for pleasure at the moment, including encouraging the children to read a greater variety of books. If you have any thoughts or comments about this, we would be very pleased to hear from you. I was also giving out information about keeping children safe online. If you missed this and would like a copy of the documents, please call in to the office.

Year Six Secondary School Applications

Please be reminded that if your child is in Year Six you will need to apply for their secondary school placements by 31st October. This should be done by completing the online form on the County Council website www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/schools/apply-school-place/secondary-school. If you have any problems with this, please call in and talk to our office staff.

MuzoAkademy

MuzoAkademy, a local rock school, are organising an open morning at Langdale Hall, Witney, on Saturday 12th October, 9.45 – 12.00noon. MuzoAkademy offers lessons in guitar, bass, ukulele, keyboard, drums and song writing, and the open morning will be an opportunity to have a go at some of these, meet the mentors and find out more information.

INSET Day

This is a reminder that the school will be closed next Friday (4th October) for staff training.

Thank you for your support so far this term.

Yours sincerely

Chris Payne
Headteacher

