



THE BATT C.E. SCHOOL



THE BATT CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

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No. 09

Dear Parents/Carers

Children in Need

Thank you for supporting our collection for Children in Need today and apologies for the short notice. It was good to see a variety of spotty clothing and accessories!

Virtual Tour

As you are aware, we have been working with Abingdon and Witney College to produce a short video/virtual tour of our school. The video is now available on our website under the Latest News and Our School tabs. It includes drone footage, commentaries by staff, footage of the children in action, photographs of events and the curriculum, and finishes with a brief clip of a group of children singing. Several of our children were interviewed during one of the filming days, but unfortunately these did not make the final cut. I hope the children are not too disappointed. I would like to thank Richard Millard-Smith for the use of his drone and camera, and Abingdon and Witney College for loaning us four very talented and enthusiastic students.

The video has been produced primarily for prospective parents to watch as they choose schools over the next few months.

Anti-Bullying Week

Next week is National Anti-Bullying Week and the children will be involved in classroom activities that remind them about what bullying is, advice about bullying and ways to discuss it. I will feed back in next week's newsletter about what the children have learnt.

Infant Nativity and Christmas Service

We are all so disappointed that we cannot put on an Infant Nativity or a Christmas Service in the church this year because of Covid restrictions. Christmas is such a special time in a Primary School and this is certainly not what I wanted for my 18th and final festive period at The Batt. We are however planning for each Infant class to rehearse and video a part of the Christmas story each. This will then be made available to parents on our website, and possibly even on DVD in January. The Junior classes will also be recording their own festive contribution; all of which will be shared with the whole school via Zoom during the final week of term.

BSA Pumpkin Trail

Thank you to all those families that took part in the BSA Pumpkin Trail over Half Term. £75 was raised for the BSA funds. The children should have received their prizes this week. Congratulations to everyone who managed to find the pumpkins and crack the code, and thank you to Amber and her team for organising it.



Christmas Cards

You should have received the Christmas cards designed by your child earlier this week. If you were expecting cards and haven't received them yet, please contact the school office.

Birthday Treats

Many parents like to send in sweets for the children to distribute to the class on their birthday. Whilst the staff do their very best to ensure that the giving out of sweets is done in a safe way, it would help if any items you would like to share with your child's class are brought in three days in advance of the birthday to enable them to be kept aside for this period. Clearly no homemade products are permitted at present and sweets would need to be packaged. Please be aware that there is absolutely no pressure to provide gifts for birthdays, but if this is something your child would like to do, please bear the above in mind. A couple of years ago a parent suggested that a cheap book, or similar, be brought in for the class instead of sweets, as this would fit in with our healthy eating aims. However, I don't believe now is the time to be pushing this.

Street Tags

Thank you again to all those taking part in our Street Tags team. It is really good to see new families joining all the time. For details of how to join in the fun and gain points for our school, please refer to the newsletter sent out just before Half Term. At the last check, we had over 4.5 million points and were 600,000 points ahead of our nearest rival. Dom Baker was interviewed about our school's involvement in the Street Tags scheme over the weekend and you can hear the interview via the Opportunities section of the Street Tags app. Dom did a great job answering a multitude of questions and really getting across the school's passion for sport and fitness.

Giving Out Christmas Cards

Many children like to give Christmas cards to their friends by posting them in our special Christmas post box. We would dearly like to carry on with this, in a Covid-safe way. Therefore, if your child would like to send cards this year, please ensure they post them in the big red post box by Wednesday 9th December. We will then leave them for several days before distributing to the children. The post box will be on a table by the main gate every morning from 30th November onwards, unless it is raining!

Minster Hedgies

One of our parents and member of staff, Lorraine Grant, is organising the collection of pet food for rescued hedgehogs. Minster Hedgies is a Rescue, Rehabilitation and Release charity based in Minster Lovell. They are asking for donations of meat-based cat food and nibbles. If you can spare some, please put it in the box near the gate in the coming weeks and Lorraine will put it aside for a few days before delivering the donations to Minster Lovell. If you would like to learn more about this charity, please visit their website www.minsterhedgies.co.uk. Thank you.

Many thanks again for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Chris Payne
Headteacher

