



THE BATT C.E. SCHOOL



## THE BATT CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Corn Street, Witney, Oxon, OX28 6DY

Headteacher: C.M.Payne BMus (hons), Cert Ed

Telephone: 01993 702392  
Office.3605@batt.oxon.sch.uk  
www.thebattschool.org.uk

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Dear Parents/Carers

### Harvest

Thank you so much for the donations of food for our Harvest today. As I have mentioned in previous correspondence, we will be delivering it to the Witney Food Bank and the charity 'Besom'. I added a short Harvest message to our weekly Zoom Collective Worship today as we thought about and gave thanks for the hard work of farmers across the UK and beyond, particularly during these most challenging times.

### Scarecrows

Linked to our Harvest, I would like to thank Lorraine Grant for creating the wonderful scarecrows in the garden next to the offices. I know she spent many hours over the weekend putting them together. I also know that Mr Peacey and Mrs Bark were particularly pleased to have been chosen as models! The scarecrows are a good reminder of protecting and looking after our crops in the build up to Harvest.

### Staffing News

Today was Rachel Webb's last day at The Batt. Rachel leaves us after 19 years working as a Teaching Assistant to move on to pastures new. I would like to thank her for all the wonderful work she has done to support the children and families within our school community.

Miss Lydia Locke and Miss Sophie Bullock have been appointed to replace the hours worked by Rachel Webb and Rachel Hannam who left last week.

### Screen Time

I have been in conversation with a parent about the amount of time children spend in front of screens, particularly at home. She shares my concern that many children spend a lot of time on tablets, gaming screens etc and how this might be affecting children's well-being. It would be good to get parents and carers talking about this topic and perhaps considering how to make a positive difference, what children could be doing instead etc. We try hard here to remind and teach children about being safe on the internet, but perhaps don't do enough to support parents in suggesting what the children could be doing instead of playing on their electronic devices. In terms of social media for the older children, the parent drew my attention to a documentary on Netflix, 'The Social Dilemma', which I understand questions how companies gather information about individuals. I have not seen this personally and therefore cannot endorse it, but perhaps parents, particularly of older children, may find it an interesting watch. In a similar vein, the documentary 'Screened Out'



(also on Netflix) is a programme parents and carers may want to watch if you are concerned about the impact screen time and its contents are having on our children. Again, I have not watched this and therefore cannot endorse it. If you have any thoughts about the above, I would be interested to hear from you.

### Secondary School Transfer

Parents and carers of Year Six children will have received an email from us, on behalf of the County Council, informing parents about the application process for secondary schools. The deadline for applications is 31<sup>st</sup> October. If you have any questions about the process, please contact me via the school office.

### Clothes Bin

The blue second-hand clothes bin on the playground has recently been emptied. Please feel free to fill it with your old clothes etc. The school receives money for the contents of the clothes bin.

### October Half Term

A couple of parents have asked when October Half Term is. We break up on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October and return to school on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November. For details of all term dates, please refer to the For Parents tab on our website.

Thank you for all your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Chris Payne  
Headteacher



