

Bathampton Primary School Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers

We thought a newsletter would help bring us back to some normality alongside the reams of letters I've been sending you over the past few months.

You have all been so adaptable during these uncertain times. **I would like to thank you all.** The teaching **staff** for working so well getting our TEAMS provision to the level it is now. Thank you to you the **parents** who have been so resilient and adaptable whilst supporting your children at home, many of you whilst trying to work.

Finally, thank you to the **children** of Bathampton. The children have responded so well to remote learning and there are countless many examples of outstanding work going on across all year groups.

Keep up the good work children, you are being noticed!

Best wishes

Mr Brewer
Headteacher

School Re-opening for Years Reception, 1 + 6

We re-opened our doors on Monday to Years Reception 1+6. The children have been fantastic at social distancing, hygiene, washing hands and adapting to life in a POD (not like a Dolphin)



Mr Brewer's 100 Challenge

Well done to everyone who had a go at the 100 tennis challenge. Please see the compilation video below.

<https://youtu.be/VUyRRMabnLQ>

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Reception

During the past few weeks, the children in Reception Class have amazed us daily! They have shared their wonderful work, been so creative, been on lots of adventures and have embraced home learning! We are so proud of all of them!

Thank you for all your hard work, enthusiasm, and resilience in finding your way around TEAMS and for sending us those fantastic videos to makes us smile.



Music Theory Lessons

Mr Shean Bowers, Assistant Director of Music and Organist at Bath Abbey, is offering Music theory lessons/aural training online, which is exciting news.

As you may know, music theory and aural skills study are two of the most important disciplines in music education. They aid in quicker learning of repertoire and a deeper understanding of musicianship.

Mr Bowers teaches via zoom and has a flexible timetable, so if you want to know more, please contact him on shean@bathabbey.org or [07890 639157](tel:07890639157). He has three slots available.



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School Building Work – New Library

It is my absolute pleasure to announce to you that we will be having some extensive building work commencing over the summer holiday. I have been waiting so long to share this news with you as this work was supposed to happen last year but due to complications had to be re-designed.

In short, this project is primarily a change to our school entrance area for the purpose of safeguarding pupils, staff and parents. The current side entrance will no longer be the school entrance. The main section (pictured below) will become the new entrance. Our current school office will move to the current library – this is where the idea for a new school library came from. It gives us the opportunity to have a wonderful new space to promote a love for reading, where children can go and enjoy reading and where books can be the source of enjoyment for all! The new library will be where the current YR3/4 cloakrooms are.

Please join me on a virtual tour of the site by clicking on the link below.....

<https://youtu.be/fcqMWTIFn4M>

In the meantime, 'The Friends of Bathampton' have been hard at work fundraising for our new library. Any money you donate will go towards books for children and other items that you may see in the library. At some point in the future we will open the library officially and all pupils and parents will get the chance to spent some time in there together.

My extended heartfelt thanks must go to the following people;

Mrs Fiona Powell, Mrs Cheryl Cook, Mrs Cathryn McDougal, Mr Mike Rolfe, Mr Graham Lewis, Mrs Hannah Findlay and Mrs Sylvie Jones.

They have been integral in supporting me get to the point where we are now and I am most grateful for their expertise and energy.

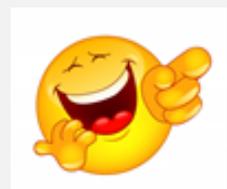
A massive thanks also goes to **'The Friends of Bathampton'** who have been so supportive in raising funds already for this project and to the parents, who, as always, are supporting our ideas and goals!



Joke Section on TEAMs

Several children have been sharing their brilliant Jokes on TEAMs over the past few months. Here are some to make you smile today!

- I started reading a book on Gravity – I couldn't put it down!
- Why did the man cross the road? – Because he was wearing a chicken suit!
- What does a Jedi say before eating a meal? – May the fork be with you!
- What does a clock do when it's hungry? – It goes back 4 seconds!
- What did the cheese say to itself when it looked in the mirror? – Halloumi!



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Dear Friends,

Well what a strange and emotional ride this Coronacoaster has been so far! I'm sure there have been some real highs and lows for you and your family, and that can change within any given hour! And don't get us started on home schooling... who else hides in the loo for a 'break' and has called INSET day in desperation?! The emotional and financial toll of this period are very real so we hope this newsletter finds you as safe and well as you can be.

We are working with Superpirates to bring our KS1 and KS2s a virtual summer party! We will send out information when we have details confirmed.

I know that we are all a bit frazzled and missing our special school community, and the routine of school. We wanted to contribute to this newsletter because we think it's important for us to look forward because there will be an end to this (or at least a new normal which gets us closer to what we knew and loved as an average day)! It is also good for our mental health to focus on some positives and good news stories (and there are some!)... so here goes!

It was great to see so many children on the Beat the Head quizzes that we ran with Mr Brewer. In total over 115 children joined in across the years which was brilliant! We have also heard amazing stories of our children completing individual fundraising challenges for local causes, starting small businesses to create things that can be sold to raise money for the NHS and art projects in the community. Well done all!

It's great to hear that the build for our new library will start soon and complete in time for the September term. This is such a positive change and will benefit all our children. Unfortunately, lockdown hit just before we were due to swing into some key Friends events such as the Auction of Promises and Easter Extravaganza. These had been planned to help us reach our £15,000 fundraising target which is needed to buy new books and furnish the library.

The good news is that with your support we had an amazing start to the school year with events such as Bake Sales, Chess Challenge, Winter Warmer and Movie Night. We had already committed money towards IT equipment and resources for the children so that leaves us with a very respectable £4,700 as it stands to donate to the library fund. We did not want to continue whole school fundraising during lockdown as we appreciate that you already have huge demands on your time, energy and finances. However, we want the library to be as great as it can be so we wanted to put a shout out to those of you that may be able to or would like to contribute. Could you..?

- Fundraise within your family or friendship group (being mindful of the current Government guidelines). Perhaps a sponsored bike ride? A reading challenge? Sponsored silence?!
- Could you set a virtual challenge within your class to raise money?
- Could you spare any time or specialist skills? For example, soft finishing/sewing skills, carpentry, art work? If you think you could help in any way then please contact Mr Brewer via the school office email.

There are other ways in which you can help:

- School Angel can make a significant amount of money for our school. This replaces "easyfundraising", is a charity, and takes no data from you. You simply go through the link at School Angel or Book People. You simply go through the link at <https://www.schoolangel.org.uk/bathampton-primary-school.html> to your usual shops including Amazon, M&S, Next, John Lewis, Debenhams, Argos and many others. Each time you go through the link to shop a percentage of the amount you spend is donated to the school.
- You can also make a direct donation to the library fund. Either a one-off or regular payments can be made to 20-68-15 93952487.

We know that it is an incredibly challenging time right now – hang in there you are doing a brilliant job! Thanks for your ongoing support and we can't wait until we can all enjoy being together again, at school and with the children.

Stay safe, The Friends of Bathampton.

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