



Bawnmore Community Infant School and Cygnets Pre-School Newsletter



28th November 2025

Head of School's Letter



Dear Parents and Carers,
Christmas has begun in school and what a wonderful start to the festive season we've had this week!

Thank you to Sharon, Nedas's mum, for sharing Lithuanian Christmas traditions with us in Monday's assembly. She even treated us to some delicious Lithuanian food, and every child received a lovely little Christmas gift. It was a really special experience for everyone!

Thank you also to Rachel, Daniel's mum, for talking to us about her family's Christian Advent traditions. The children were fascinated, and everyone loved seeing the Advent candles lit in the hall.

On Monday and Tuesday, our teachers organised Christmas Around the World workshops, where the children explored traditions from Germany, France, India, Poland, Ukraine, China, and Sweden. They created lots of beautiful artwork, much of which is now on display in the hall- do take a look when you're in school!

A big thank you to FOB for hosting a Christmas Wreath Making Evening on Wednesday. It was a huge success, and the finished wreaths looked amazing. I think a few people surprised themselves with their artistic skills!

We have been decorating our hall this week and trying to make it look Christmassy however, sadly, our large hall Christmas tree has come to the end of its life after 18 years of service. If anyone knows of a place that could donate a very tall and wide tree, we would be extremely grateful.

Friday is a Christmas/Winter-themed non-uniform day as we celebrate our Christmas Fayre after school. Children should bring a tombola prize (bottles and chocolates are always popular!) in exchange for wearing non-uniform. The Fayre will run from 3:30pm to 5:00pm. Please come along and support this lovely event!

On Sunday 7th December, KS1 children have been invited to sing at the Christingle Service at St Mark's at 4:00pm. Everyone is welcome to join the congregation for this special occasion.

We are so proud of the way our school community has come together to celebrate different traditions and spread joy this week. We can't wait to see you at the Christmas Fayre on Friday and at the Christingle Service on Sunday.

Wishing you all a warm and happy start to the festive season!

Pam Davey

Head of School

Santa Dash

On FRIDAY 12th December, the whole school will be taking part in a national Santa Dash, where we will all run, jog or walk our daily mile :) Children are invited to come to school wearing their festive gear including festive jumpers, hats or head bands to complete the Santa Dash. We kindly ask that items are named and no inflatables please. We are doing this to support each other in staying active and to raise money for Myton Hospice Care.

We kindly ask for a voluntary donation of £1. :)

Thank you for all of your support,

Mrs Thomas

Advent Books- A Huge Thank You for Your Incredible Generosity!

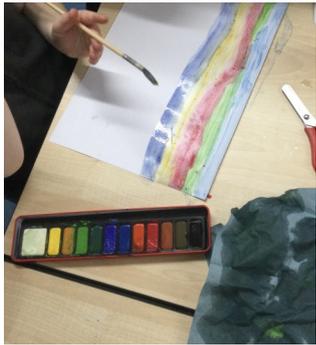
We are absolutely blown away by the response to our Book Advent appeal—thanks to your kindness, we now have around 90 wonderful books ready to share with the children! We're busy wrapping them all up so that, throughout December, each class will have the joy of opening a new book to enjoy together. We can't wait to see their excitement as they discover new stories and fall in love with old favourites all over again.

Thank you for helping us make this festive season truly magical for our young readers!

Art Club Creations



Club Creations
This week in Puffins, they've been exploring the wonders of space! The children enjoyed creating beautiful space suncatchers, making foil print moons, baking delicious space-themed biscuits, and relaxing with some cosmic colouring activities. It's been an exciting, creative week full of discovery!



Values Book

Date: 28.11.25

Class	Child's Name	Award	Reason
RD	Finley	Wonderful Work	For having a go at independent writing and sounding out his favourite food – meatballs!
	Nieve	Certificate	For consistently showing respect and cooperation during learning time, as well as when playing with friends.
	Olivia	Values Sticker	For working really hard in phonics to remember the phonemes.
	Ethan	Values Sticker	For showing care and concentration when making his salt-dough rangoli mandala.
	Venba	Values Sticker	For building her confidence when exploring new activities and trying hard with her phonics.
RS	Remy	Wonderful Work	For a super Potato head and understanding of parts and whole.
	Jack H	Certificate	Jack has had a brilliant week demonstrating Care and Cooperation with his peers.
	Arthur	Values Sticker	Being a kind and respectful friend.
	Rosie	Values Sticker	Showing great teamwork skills when building dens in forest school.
	Fraser	Values Sticker	Super improvement during carpet time.
1H	Edith	Wonderful Work	For a wonderfully creative new outfit design for Traction Man.
	Ethan	Certificate	For always demonstrating our school values, making him an excellent role model to others and an absolute joy to teach.
	Brooke	Values Sticker	For impressing us with her segmenting and blending skills.
	Lexie	Values Sticker	For making great progress across all areas of learning.
	Bodhi	Values Sticker	For working hard on his reading and writing.
1R	Jessenia	Wonderful Work	For an amazing descriptive WANTED poster.
	Gene	Certificate	For following all of our school rules all of the time.
	Ryan	Values Sticker	For always taking care of our classroom.
	Snikitha	Values Sticker	For always being polite and respectful.
	Isla	Values Sticker	For always trying her best with her work.
2K	Lucas T	Wonderful Work	For a great score on his maths quiz
	AJ	Certificate	For great contributions to class discussions.
	Lily	Values Sticker	For always being a kind and helpful friend.
	Elsie-Rose	Values Sticker	For showing confidence in our Christmas play rehearsals.
	Billy	Values Sticker	
2W	David	Wonderful Work	For a fabulous score on his maths quiz
	Nefeli	Certificate	For taking care of our school equipment
	Indie	Values Sticker	For a wonderful rehearsal of Mary's Boy Child
	Luna	Values Sticker	
	Thea	Values Sticker	

Celebrations

Attendance Award

Congratulations to 1R, our Attendance Champions this week, with an impressive 96.7% attendance! Well done! Our whole school attendance was 93.8%, which is a little lower than usual due to bugs, coughs, and colds going around. Please remember to send your child into school if they are well enough to attend- we really appreciate your support in keeping attendance high. Together, let's aim for higher attendance next week!



Assembly Award

Congratulations to 1R who have been chosen as our Assembly Champions this week.

Lunchtime Award

Congratulations to 2W who have been chosen as our Lunchtime Winners this week.

Wonderful Work



Celebration Assembly

This year, on **Tuesdays** we invite the children to share any certificates, medals or trophies that they have been awarded in the previous week at clubs attended out of school e.g. swimming, gymnastics. Please send these in with your child on a Tuesday morning.

Extra Curricular Opportunities

Some opportunities are free to all children. Where an activity is normally parent/carer funded, if your child receives Pupil Premium funding they may be able to access a paid for club free of charge. Please speak to the admin team if you would like to know more. A child's place at any extra-curricular activity may be withdrawn if they are unable to consistently follow our school rules– this is to ensure that the clubs are fun, safe places for our children and staff.

Day	Activity	Led By	Timings	Year Groups	Availability
Monday	Musical Theatre	Funstar Dance	3.10pm-4.10pm	Reception, Years One and Two	Spaces
Monday	Maths in Action	Mrs Holston	3.10pm-4.10pm	Years One and Two	Spaces
Tuesday	Music Lessons	Rocksteady	8.30am-11am	Reception, Years One and Two	Spaces
Tuesday	Gym	Miss Sprayson	3.10pm-4.10pm	Reception, Years One and Two	Full
Tuesday	Cookery	Miss Bourton	3.10pm-4.10pm	Years One and Two	Full
Wednesday	Cheerleading	Funstar Dance	3.10pm-4.10pm	Reception, Years One and Two	Spaces
Thursday	Art	Mrs Lear and Mrs Wigginton	3.10pm-4.30pm	Years One and Two	Full
Friday	Outdoor	Miss Sprayson	3.10pm- 4.10pm	Reception, Years One and Two	Full
Friday	Football	DM Coaching	3.10pm-4.30pm	Age 5 and above	1 space

Calendar

Autumn 2 2025					
5	Tue 2nd December	9am	Rock-steady families	School Hall	Parents and carers of children attending Rocksteady music lessons are invited to attend their first ever concert!
5	Fri 5 th December	8.45am-3.10pm	All		Children are invited to come to school in non-uniform (Christmas jumpers, hats etc. optional) in return for a bottle, toiletries, chocolate or sweet donation for our tombola or raffle.
5	Fri 5 th December	3.30pm-5.00pm	All	School Hall	Christmas Fayre. Come along to our annual Christmas Fayre organized by FOB to raise funds for our school. Please let us know if you would be able to help with this event.

6	Sun 7 th December	4.00pm	All	St Mark's Church	Our choir have been invited to sing at the Christingle Service at St Mark's Church. Everybody is welcome to this festive celebration.
6	Tue 9 th December	R 1.20pm Y1 1.50pm Y2 2.30pm	All	School Hall	Year Group Christmas Assemblies. Performance 1. Families are invited to watch their child(ren)'s assembly. 2 tickets per family will be issued for each date. Reception -1.20 p.m. Year 1- 1.50p.m. Year 2- 2.30pm Children can be taken home following their performance if you wish.
6	Wed 10 th December	R 1.20pm Y1 1.50pm Y2 2.30pm	All	School Hall	Year Group Christmas Assemblies. Performance 2. Families are invited to watch their child(ren)'s assembly. 2 tickets per family will be issued for each date. Reception -1.20 p.m. Year 1- 1.50p.m. Year 2- 2.30pm Children can be taken home following their performance if you wish.
6	Thu 11 th December	During school day	All pupils	School Hall	The whole school will enjoy an early lunch followed by watching a touring production of "Dick Whittington".
6	Fri 12 th December	During school day	All pupils	School Play- ground	Children are invited to come to school wearing their festive gear including festive jumpers, hats or head bands to complete the Santa Dash. £1 voluntary donations to Myton Hospices.
6	Fri 12 th December	9am-11am	Cygnets		Cygnets Christmas Crafts Morning. Cygnets families are invited to take part in some seasonal arts and crafts activities.
7	Tue 16 th December	During school day	Rec-Year 2 Pupils, parents and carers	St Mark's Church	Join us as we walk to St Mark's Church for a Christmas Service.
7	Wed 17 th December	During school day	All pupils	School Hall/ Classrooms	Christmas lunch & class parties. Children are invited to come to school in non-uniform.
7	Thu 18 th December	3.15pm- 4.30pm 4.45pm- 6.00pm	Cygnets and Re- ception pupils Year One and Year Two pupils	School Hall	School Discos. Adult helpers will be required. More details later on. Cygnets and Reception pupils are invited to attend a disco from 3.15pm-4.30pm. All children attending this disco will need to be accompanied by a designated adult. 4.45pm-6.00pm. Year 1 and 2 pupils are then invited to attend their disco without an adult.
7	Fri 19 th December	3.10pm	All		End of term. Puffins Wraparound Care closes at 5.00pm on this day.
Christmas Holidays					
Saturday 20th December- Sunday 4th January					
(5th January: Staff Training Day- School closed to children)					

Christmas Raffle - Tickets, Tickets, Tickets! 🎄

Raffle tickets have officially landed in book bags - let the festive fundraising begin! 🌟 If your bundle disappears quickly (or Auntie Sharon decides she wants "just a few more"), you can pick up extras from the school office.

We'll also be **poppping up in the playground** selling tickets- and yes, we'll have a **card reader** for anyone who never carries cash (same... same).

Fancy helping us sell them? It's only **half an hour after school**, super easy, and actually really fun. 😊 Come join us!

..... **Volunteer Sign-Up Sheet** [\[Click Link Here\]](#)

🎁 Tombola Prep - Friday 5th December

Got a free morning? On **Friday 5th December**, after school drop off, we will need to ticket all the Tombola prizes- and we could really use a few extra hands!

Anyone on maternity? Part-time? Working from home with a conveniently timed "meeting"? 🙋

Or maybe you've got a mum, nan, auntie, dad, grandad, uncle, friend, neighbour ... basically *anyone with two hands* you can kindly rope in for an hour of organised chaos? 😊

..... **Volunteer Sign-Up Sheet** [\[Click Link Here\]](#)

👪 ✨ Christmas Events - We Need You!

(Or any lovely family or friends you are able to rope in to the fun)

We're so excited for all the upcoming festive fun - the kiddies' Christmas discos, the big raffle, and of course the Christmas Fayre! 🎄 But to make the magic happen... we need a few more lovely volunteers.

If you can spare just an hour, we'd be incredibly grateful.

..... **Volunteer Sign-Up Sheet** [\[Click Link Here\]](#) ❤️ ✨

👪 Class Fundraising – Children's Artwork!

A few parents mentioned they didn't see their child's artwork in their book bags, or the code may have gone walkabout (we've all been there). Good news- you've got another chance! ✨

Ordering is open again from **Monday 21st Nov – 1st December** & every order gives 10% back to support our kids and the school. ❤️

Missing a code? Request one here: [\[Lost Code Form Link\]](#)

And if you love a stat... 🙋 ✨

	ONLINE ORDERS 69
	ITEMS SOLD/PAID 122
	UNIQUE CUSTOMERS 67
	ESTIMATED COMMISSION £164.392

🛒 Easy Fundraising - £2 Donation Just for Joining the App! 🙋

Literally all you need to do is **download the EasyFundraising app** and select **Bawnmore** before 30th November - why not today - right now - and boom, we get £2 for free. 🙋

No shopping, no effort, no excuses, NO BRAINER..... just tap, tap, done.

Go on - be a hero in 10 seconds. 😊

As always if you have any questions, suggestions, or wish to collaborate please feel free to catch an Emma in the playground, email bawnmorefriends@gmail.com or join our link > [FOB WhatsApp group](#).

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about YOUTUBE KIDS

AGE RESTRICTION
4+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

As its name suggests, YouTube Kids is a child-friendly version of Google's online video-sharing platform. Its colourful user interface is designed with young people in mind, and it offers a curated, family-friendly experience with features like age-based content settings and parental controls.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT BYPASSING FILTERS

YouTube Kids is less likely to show inappropriate material than YouTube, but there have been reports of the app showing age-inappropriate content to young viewers. One investigation found that YouTube Kids had shown videos that promote skin bleaching, weight loss, drug culture and firearms to children as young as two, as inappropriate content had bypassed the platform's algorithms and human moderators.

18
CENSORED

BE WARY OF ADVERTISING

Like Google's regular YouTube app, YouTube Kids features pervasive advertising before a video plays. While these adverts are designed to be family friendly and are subject to a strict review process, it's worth noting that YouTube Kids collects information around children's viewing to inform targeted content and advertisements.

BUY NOW!

DESIGNED TO BE ADDICTIVE

YouTube Kids is designed to be addictive. The platform's design features, such as the constant stream of new videos and the reward system of points or virtual stickers, can be very engaging and make it difficult for children to switch off. Research has shown that spending too much time using digital services such as YouTube can lead to screen addiction, affecting children's daily routines, studies, and even their social lives.

SETTINGS CAN BE CIRCUMVENTED

YouTube Kids offers built-in parental controls, enabling you to set screen time limits and curate the content children are able to view; however, children are often more tech-savvy than we think. They can easily bypass or tweak these settings if they have access to the associated Google account password, thereby exposing themselves to age-inappropriate and potentially dangerous content.

AI-GENERATED MISINFORMATION

There is also a risk of children accessing videos that contain disinformation and misinformation. A BBC investigation found that some YouTube channels are using artificial intelligence (AI) technology to create misleading "scientific" videos that are recommended to children as educational content. These videos included conspiracy theories and ideas that lack scientific backing.

DATA COLLECTION RISK

While there are limits on the data that YouTube can collect on children under 13, children can still inadvertently give away sensitive information when using YouTube Kids. The platform collects data on children's viewing habits, content searches and location, which YouTube and third-party advertisers can use.

Advice for Parents & Educators

PARENTAL CONTROLS

YouTube Kids offers several settings that allow you to manage what content children can view. For example, you can choose what level of content you want them to access, such as "Preschool" or "Younger". You can also turn off the search function, so that only those videos approved by the YouTube Kids team themselves will appear on a child's recommendations list.

SET TIME LIMITS

The built-in parental controls let you keep a tab on how long children spend watching videos. You can set a timer that limits screen time and disables the YouTube Kids app once a specified length of time has been reached. It's also worth speaking to children about the dangers of spending too much time on YouTube, to ensure they remain focused on other, more important activities.

CHECK WATCH HISTORY

YouTube Kids has made it easy for you to keep an eye on what the children in your care have been watching on the app. By clicking on the "Recommended" icon at the top right of the home screen, you can see which videos they've been viewing, and how much of each. If a child watches YouTube Kids while signed into a Google account, you can check their history through Google's "My Activity" page.

WATCH TOGETHER

It's important that you try to make YouTube Kids a fun and positive experience for children. One way to do this is by introducing watching sessions, where you all gather around and share the most enjoyable videos that you have recently watched. This can be a great way of giving you both new things to talk about and of keeping an eye on what they're watching.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced journalist with more than 10 years of experience covering the technology industry. Previously a senior cybersecurity reporter at TechCrunch, Carly is now a freelance journalist, editor, and copywriter. Her bylines include Forbes, TechRadar, Tes, The INQUIRER, The Metro, Uswitch, and WIRED.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

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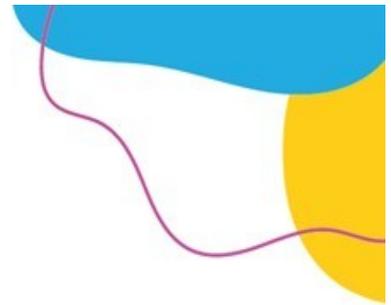
@wake.up.wednesday

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Mental Health in Schools Team Tips For Wellness



Winter Wellness

It is important to focus on our wellness during the colder months. Winter is a time where our bodies may start to crave the same warmth and comfort we had during the summer months. We might associate winter with the winter blues, but we need to try and create some space for self-care and slow down to nourish our physical and mental health! Sometimes we might feel the winter blues because of the lack of sun and vitamin D we are getting. This is why our mental wellbeing should be a big focus during these months, and we should find creative ways to stay on track, keep up motivation, and look after ourselves.

Our Top Tips For Winter Wellness:

1. Wrap up warm and lay down with a blanket and a hot drink.
2. Do some **fun activities outside** in the natural sunlight such as going for walks or seeing friends (you might need to wrap up warm for this!) Even on cold days, fresh air and natural light boosts our mood.
3. **Stay active** – try indoor exercises to help get your body moving during the colder months. You could keep your energy up by dancing, swimming, or practising yoga. You could also find an exercise video online for you to do at home!
4. You might even want to go to your local café and read a book in the daytime or have a warm relaxing bath when you're home after a cold day.
5. **Keep up your routines**- getting up in the morning is harder in winter when it's cold and dark. Shorter days also make it tempting to sleep more, but consistent sleep helps your mind feel balanced.
6. **Eat well and stay hydrated** — good nutrition fuels your brain and body.
7. **Talk about how you're feeling** — sharing your thoughts can help if you're feeling low or stressed.

Remember to always make time for yourself at the end of a long day!

Scan the QR code for more ideas about how to keep well in Winter:



In Coventry and Warwickshire, for any urgent mental health concerns, contact the Children and Young People's Mental Health Crisis support available 24/7, by calling NHS 111. Alternatively, call 999 or visit A&E in an emergency, for example if medical attention is required.

MHST are available to support you and your school throughout the school year including term time and school holidays.

Please contact your school's Mental Health Lead for information and advice.



BAWNMORE CHRISTMAS

raffle prize draw

Raffle Ticket Sales
£1 per ticket

Each child will receive one book of 5 tickets in their book bag.
Please return the stubs with the cash to the office.
Spare ticket books will be available from the office.
Tickets will also be sold on the playground.

✦ The more tickets you buy, the more chances you have to win!
✦ Cash only.

BOOK ADVENT CALENDAR

We're excited to share a special project that will bring fresh energy to our class reading corners this winter—and your child has helped shape it!

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Our reading corners are much-loved spaces, but they're ready for a refresh. To make them vibrant and inspiring, we've launched our Book Advent Calendar Project. Each class will receive three bundles of new books during December—six books per bundle—so that every child can enjoy exciting stories and fascinating facts in the run-up to the holidays.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

If you'd like to support this project, we'd be so grateful for any families who feel able to donate a book—which School Council helped create with input from all classes.

2 DAYS
Christmas Jumpers Welcome!

AK COACHING

Christmas Holiday Club

- Football ● Tag Rugby ● Frisbee ● Dodgeball ●
- Basketball ● Netball ● Hockey ● Tennis ●
- Cricket ● Rounders ● Gymnastics ● Table Tennis ●

PLUS, PLENTY OF OTHER FUN GAMES

MON 22ND DEC
TUE 23RD DEC

0900-1600

£17 FOR THE DAY

AGE 5-11

BILTON JUNIOR SCHOOL

BOOK NOW USING THE QR CODE

<https://rb.gy/dpdp7k>

07725 876 612
akcoaching2020@gmail.com

Suitable for all the family (recommended for ages 3-10)

The Gingerbread Man

14 - 23 Dec & 2 - 4 Jan

Find out more & book now at www.macreadytheatre.co.uk

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