



“Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them” (Romans: 12,6)



St Paulinus CE Primary Newsletter



Friday 31st January 2025

Well, another two weeks of the Spring term have whizzed by! In September, we told you about some exciting plans to make our school more ecologically friendly by installing LED lighting, solar panels and EV chargers, all of which will save us money - **all at no cost to us!** We're very grateful to the Trust central team, particularly the Trust Procurement Lead: Lee Natusch, who has organised the work with outside agencies, electricity providers and government grants over the last 2 years! Phase 1 is now complete with the installation of LED lights across the school - it is wonderfully bright everywhere. Thank you to Lee and all the central team for this amazing work.

Next week marks the beginning of Mental Health week, we are looking forward to working with the children on ways to acknowledge and learn how to support our mental health. The theme of this year's children's mental health week is "Know yourself, Grow yourself". Thank you to Mrs Scudder and all teachers for organising events to support our learning in this area for next week. Please do ask your children about things they have done as the week progresses.

We start the week **on Monday** with **WEAR YELLOW DAY** to show our support for both our own mental health and that of others. We are using this to raise money for the Bexley Mayoral Charity - there will be buckets at the gate in the morning - donations of any amount are very welcome. If you would rather donate online directly, this is the link to do so <https://www.counsellingmattersbexley.org>

We have an opportunity for a dedicated musician with a particular talent for the piano. We recently received an email from a gentleman who is looking for a new home for his late wife's much loved grand piano. It is important that this beautiful instrument is continued to be played by someone who with a real love for the piano, someone who will love and cherish it for years to come. If you think you would like to give this instrument a home, that you have the space for it and that you meet the criteria, please do contact the school office. All that is required is for you to cover the moving costs to get the piano out of storage where it currently resides in **Melbourne, Derby**. It is a YAMAHA C7 Semi-Concert grand piano and the dimensions are "151cm by 146cm"

This week on Wednesday the children celebrated Chinese New Year together as part of our collective worship, it was wonderful to celebrate this special occasion as a school community. We were thrilled to see so many of our children taking part in different activities across the day to mark this auspicious occasion - we'd like to say **Gong Xi Fa Cai** to all who are celebrating this festive time at home!

Have a wonderful weekend and we look forward to seeing you next week refreshed and ready for a new week of learning.

Mrs Rhodes

Mrs Sukonik

Principal

Assistant Principal

“Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you”: 1 Peter 5:7

Match Fixtures:



This week we played some friendly football and netball matches against other Bexley schools, our UKS2 children played a netball match against Harris Gerrard Academy on Thursday afterschool and two football matches against Bursted Woods Primary on Friday, again afterschool. We'd like to thank parents for coming along to support and helping to transport children from school to other schools and we'd also like to thank Mrs Cusselle for her time arranging and then supervising

each event. Each match gives the children the opportunity to practise their PE skills, whether that is passing and defence or team work and resilience. We are very proud of all our children!

SEN Coffee and Chat:

Join us on Tuesday 4th February at 2pm for tea, coffee and an informal chat about SEN provision. Curious about how referrals work? What does it mean to be on the SEN register? What is the process for raising concerns? What support is available to you outside of school? All these questions and more will be covered. We look forward to welcoming you into school.

PTA News:

The PTA are hosting an end of term disco on Friday 14th February. Tickets and more information are available from the lovely committee but we are happy to announce that this will be **a non-uniform day** for all children. A little reminder that children should be dressed in weather and school appropriate clothing.



Staff news:

Miss Hobin-Brady will be returning to work as SENCo as part of our Inclusion Team, from Monday 24th of February, her working days will be Monday and Tuesday. You can however, continue to speak to anyone on the Inclusion team about queries, concerns or for a catch up throughout the week. This does mean that we will be saying a sad goodbye to Mrs Bushell at the end of term. Her last day working for us will be Monday 10th of February. We are incredibly grateful to her for all her support and knowledge over the last year and we will miss her very much.

News from Year 6:

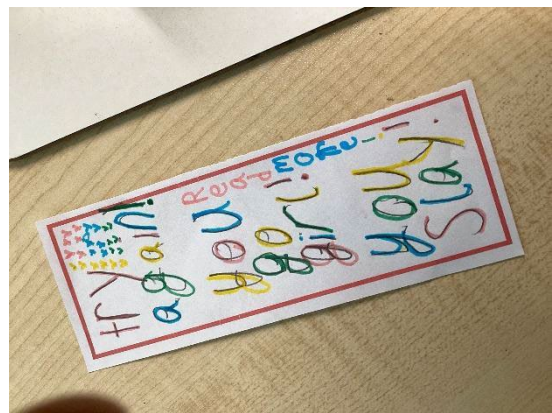
Year 6 have continued their food tech learning by investigating what make food visually appealing. They considered what would happen if food was not appealing and what techniques we cause to make food look nice. The children used their chopping, peeling and grating skills to prepare their salads in an appealing way.

They have also been considering what variable are in computing and how we can use them in games. We considered what different things might need to happen in their own games and how we can use circles to programme this. Year 6 have been using Scratch to put their variables in practice.



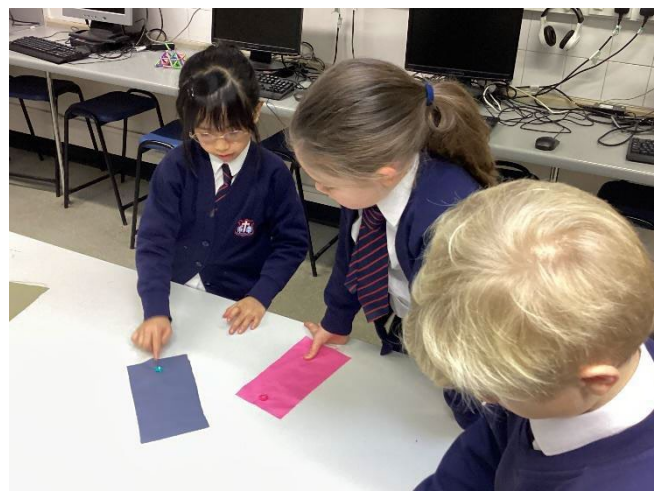
News from Year 5:

This half term, Year 5 have been exploring the theme of "My Life" in PSHE. They've been reflecting on connections and how they shape our lives. In this week's lesson, the children focused on the challenges they may face and discussed ways to overcome obstacles. To help them remember their personal strengths, they created bookmarks with positive self-talk, which they can refer to whenever they encounter difficulties.



News from Year 4:

Year 4 settled well into the new term and enjoyed piecing together their class assembly. In DT, we began to look at different types of fastenings and how the materials on our clothes are connected. Then, the children carefully sewed buttons onto fabric. In maths, we began our fractions topic by looking at making wholes. In science, the class read about different types of teeth and completed an experiment with apples.



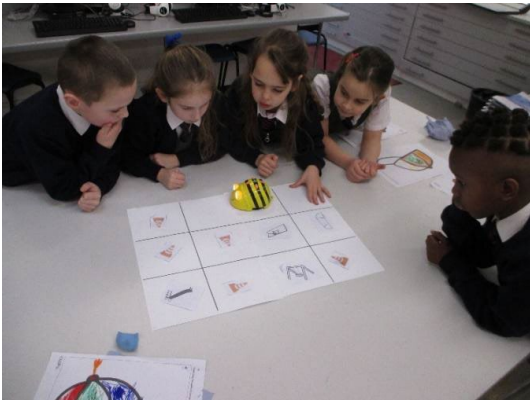
News from Year 3:

This week year 3 have been exploring the different magnetic materials that surround us during Science. The class have also been identifying the different regions within the UK and practicing their map reading skills.



News from Year 2:

In year 2 we have been learning about robot algorithms and programmed a bee bot to go around obstacles. In D&T we are looking at the best materials to waterproof a paper hat.



News from Year 1:



In Year 1 children have been learning about different types of animals: fish, amphibians, mammals, and reptiles. They've discovered the unique features of each group, like scales, fur, and slimy skin. They also explored the difference between warm-blooded and cold-blooded creatures. To top it off, they learned new exciting words like "ferocious creatures", focusing on animals with strong hunting abilities like sharks. It's been an exciting journey into the animal kingdom!

News from Reception:

Last week, Reception's class book was The Story Orchestra, where we followed two brothers who entered into various magical kingdoms full of different animals after they found a secret door behind their bookcase. We were able to learn lots of new and ambitious vocabulary, such as extinct, endangered, captive and habitat. We have looked at where different animals are found around the world (as well as touching on continents) and why they are suited to that area. We have also learned about coral and what will happen to it as a result of over-fishing, pollution and changes to sea temperature. All of us created an animal mask using our collage skills and we were able to create our very own parade of animals, moving to the music in ways our animal would move.



This week, we are focusing on the Lunar New Year and how it is celebrated across the world. We will be learning all about the customs and practices that are shared, as well as getting involved in various craft activities. For everyone celebrating this event, Year R wish you a very Happy New Year!

Up-coming diary dates:

Date	Event
Monday 3 rd February	Mental Health Week
	Wear yellow day
Tuesday 4 th February	Candlemass service in school – all welcome 09:05 start
	SEN parent coffee and chat from 2pm
Wednesday 5 th	Y2 in Church
Sunday 9 th February	Education Sunday – YR in church - all welcome
Tuesday 11 th February	Safer Internet Day
Wednesday 12 th February	Y1 Class Assembly
	YR in Church
Friday 14 th February	Last day of term – non uniform PTA school disco
Monday 17th – Friday 21st Feb	Half Term
Monday 24 th February	Children back in school
Wednesday 26 th February	Y1 in Church
Friday 28 th February	Y5 Sleepover!

Are you supporting a child or young person?

Feeling unsure how to reach help for them, or you?

"I was nervous at first but after being in the chat it was really open and relaxed."

Find out how we can offer a listening ear, practical advice and signposting to local services that can help you and your family!

"I think parents should try it, even if they are hesitant because after you join, you're really welcomed in and everyone's really nice."



You will also be able to access regular events, activities, training and workshops all completely free!

CONTACT US:

facebook

BEXLEY FLARE PARENT GROUP

flare@bexleymoorings.co.uk

CHECK IN WITH YOUR FRIENDS

If one of your friends doesn't seem OK, checking in on them can make a huge difference. One in every five children struggles with their mental health, so let's make sure we support each other through any difficult times.

BE A GOOD LISTENER

ASK HOW YOU CAN HELP

SHOW EMPATHY

SEND A NICE MESSAGE

BE KIND

★ BE ★ SUPPORTIVE ★

**IF YOU ARE WORRIED ABOUT A FRIEND
TELL A TRUSTED ADULT**

-  I SAW THIS AND THOUGHT OF YOU!
-  WANTED TO LET YOU KNOW I'M THINKING OF YOU!
-  I'M HERE WHEN YOU NEED ME.
-  MISSED YOU AT SCHOOL TODAY. EVERYTHING OK?

