

Boorley Park News and Updates



Boorley Park School

1st December 2023

Elf School

Thank you so much to everyone who supported the PTA's Elf School event last weekend. We hope that the children had fun learning all the skills they needed to be an elf to help Santa.

As always a huge thank you to all of the volunteers on the PTA who give up their free time to support the school. We are very grateful to them for their time and enthusiasm to plan and run events to raise money for the school.



Christmas Performances



We are looking forward to the KS1 and Year R performances that will be taking place over the next two weeks.

We have a number of children in school who cannot have their photograph taken so there will be **no photography or filming** allowed at any of the performances.

Teachers will take photographs of the children in their costumes and will share them with you via Tapestry and SeeSaw.

Spotlight On.... The Importance of Reading

Studies show that reading for pleasure makes a big difference to children's educational performance. Evidence suggests that children who read for enjoyment every day not only perform better in reading tests than those who don't, but also develop a broader vocabulary, increased general knowledge and a better understanding of other cultures. In fact, reading for pleasure is more likely to determine whether a child does well at school than their social or economic background.

What difference can I make as a parent?

You can make a huge difference and it's never too early to start reading together.

Even before they're born, babies learn to recognise their parents' voices. Reading to your child, even for just a few minutes a day, gives them the comfort of hearing your voice and increases their exposure to language.

Building vocabulary and understanding

Learning to read is about listening and understanding as well as working out what's printed on the page. Through hearing stories, children are exposed to a wide range of words. This helps them build their own vocabulary and improve their understanding when they listen, which is vital as they start to read. It's important for them to understand how stories work too. Even if your child doesn't understand every word, they'll hear new sounds, words and phrases which they can then try out, copying what they have heard. As children start to learn to read, you can play an important role in helping to keep them interested in books.

Some of the things you can do include:

- **Reading aloud to your child**, talking about the words and pictures, and sharing ideas about the book
- **Reading yourself** – children who see adults reading, and enjoying it, are much more likely to want to read themselves
- **Surrounding your child with books** – you don't need hundreds of books at home, but go to the library or bookshop regularly to borrow books, spend time together, browse and make choices. In this way, reading becomes a habit.
- Most importantly, talk to your child. Spend time with them, doing simple activities (like cooking and making things). As you talk about what you're doing, you are helping them to learn new words. Later, when they see those words written down, they've already heard them and know what they mean.

Our Assembly Theme This Week

There has been a lot in the news about migration this week and so in assembly on Monday we focused on the Windrush generation.

We talked about the reasons why people move countries and then shared the story of Floella Benjamin by reading her picture book 'Coming to England'. The children were shocked to learn that families sometimes travelled separately, with parents and grandparents travelling to a new country to find homes and work before their children joined them.

The story tells what life was like for Floella when she came to England and how the children at her new school were unkind to her when she first started. We talked about why this was and how times are changing. We linked this to our theme of kindness from the last few weeks.



Uniform

Please can we remind you that children should be coming into school in full school uniform every day.

Boots and leggings are not part of our uniform.

If you need support with purchasing any new uniform, please let us know and we will do our best to help you.

PTA School Disco

THURSDAY 14TH
DECEMBER

Disco

YEAR R & 1: 4.15PM-5PM
YEAR 2, 3 & 4: 5.15PM-6.15PM

YEAR R, 1 & 2 DROP OFF AND PICK UP FROM THE CLASSROOMS
YEAR 3 & 4 TO BE DROPPED OFF AND COLLECTED FROM THE HALL.

PLEASE PAY VIA PARENT PAY
£4.00 PER CHILD SNACK INCLUDED

ALL CHILDREN REQUIRE A WATER BOTTLE
FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK @BOORLEYPARKPTA

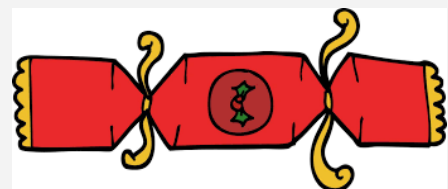
Christmas Dinner Order Reminder

Christmas Lunch will be on Friday 15th December (change to the original menu). The only lunch option on this day will be a Christmas lunch (meat or vegetarian).

If your child is not having a Christmas lunch you will need to provide them with a **packed lunch** on this day as the kitchen will not be able to make any other options.

All meals previously ordered for Friday 15th December have been cancelled on Parentpay and if you pay for your child's meals your account has been credited.

If you wish to order your child a Christmas lunch please log in to Parentpay and order the meat or vegetarian Christmas lunch by Monday 4th December.



Dates for Your Diaries—2023-2024

Whole School

Autumn Term 2023

- Wednesday 6th December—Open Box Pantomime in school for all pupils
- Thursday 14th December—PTA Christmas Neon Disco (Year R and Year 1 4:15pm—5pm; Years 2-4 5:15pm-6:15pm)
- Friday 15th December - Non-School Uniform - Christmas Jumper Day
- Friday 15th December—Last Day of Autumn 2 Half Term

Spring Term 2024

- Tuesday 2nd January—First Day of Spring 1 Half Term
- Friday 26th January—After School—Messy Church in our school hall
- Thursday 1st February—4:30pm—6pm—PTA Film Night for KS1 Pupils
- Monday 5th February—3:30pm—7pm-Parents' Evening
- Thursday 8th February—3:30pm—5:30pm—Parents' Evening
- Friday 9th February—Last Day of Spring 1 Half Term
- Monday 12th—Friday 16th—Half Term
- Monday 19th February—INSET Day (school closed to pupils)
- Thursday 7th March—World Book Day (dress up as a book character)
- Friday 15th March—Comic Relief (non uniform day)



Year R

- Friday 8th December-2:30 - 3:15pm - Christmas Crafts Workshop with parents
- Year R Christmas Play—Tuesday 12th December—2:15pm
- Year R Christmas Play —Thursday 14th December—9:15am
- Friday 12th January—Little City Play Visit (in school)
- Friday 9th February—2:30pm—Year R Afternoon Tea for Someone Special
- Thursday 28th March—2:30pm—Year R Community Rocks!
- Friday 21st June—9am-12pm-Mill Cottage Farm Experience in school

Year 1

- KS1 Christmas Play—Tuesday 5th December—9:15am
- KS1 Christmas Play—Thursday 7th December—2:15pm
- Tuesday 23rd January—2:30pm—Sewing Workshop with parents
- Thursday 14th March—2:45pm—Recorder Concert for Parents
- Tuesday 19th March—Trip to Marwell Zoo - more details to follow
- Thursday 6th June—Trip to Portchester Castle - more details to follow

Upcoming Events and Reminders

Year 2

- KS1 Christmas Play—Tuesday 5th December—9:15am
- KS1 Christmas Play—Thursday 7th December—2:15pm
- Wednesday 24th January—Year 2 Trip to Portsmouth Aquarium and Beach
- **Hedgehog Class**—Tuesday 30th January—2:30pm—Science Experiment with Parents
- **Fox Class**—Wednesday 31st January—2:30pm—Science Experiment with Parents
- Wednesday 24th April—Trip to Sea City Museum -more details to follow

Year 3

- Monday 29th January—2:45pm—Share a Book with an adult
- Wednesday 13th March—2:45pm—Portrait Gallery for Parents
- Thursday 21st March—Trip to Staunton Country Park - more details to follow

Year 4

- Thursday 1st February—2:50pm—Art Exhibition for Parents
- Friday 23rd February — Trip to Winchester Cathedral - more details to follow
- Wednesday 20th March—2:45pm—Volcano Workshop for Parents

Christmas Jumper Day on Friday 15th December

Save the Children's official Christmas jumper day is on Thursday 7th December. We're saving all of our festive excitement for Friday 15th December so it is the same day as our Christmas lunch.

The children are invited to come into school on this day in non-school uniform. A Christmas jumper is optional (please make sure they are wearing clothes suitable for the weather, including footwear and a coat!) in exchange for a donation to Save the Children.



Winter Water Safety

Water can freeze when the temperatures are really low. We might see this frozen water as ice, snow or frost.

Icicles form when dripping water freezes.



Frost and snow form when water vapour freezes.

We can have lots of fun with water in winter ...
... but we need to remember to stay safe.



Ice is very slippery. Be careful when walking outside when it is icy.

Stay away from the edge of water in case you slip and fall in. Keep dogs on leads.



Never walk on frozen lakes, ponds and rivers.

If someone is in the water and needs help, shout for help and call the emergency services.

