

# Broxbourne CE Primary School Newsletter



## HEADTEACHER UPDATE

### Compassion in Action – Charity Bangle Sale

A huge well done to Annabelle, Ruby, and Molly for their fantastic and thoughtful bangle sale held on Thursday! The girls made the bangles to be sold and organised this wonderful event to raise money for our focus charity this year, The British Red Cross.

Thanks to their hard work and the generous support of our school community, they raised an amazing total of £110 this week!! It is inspiring to see such kindness, teamwork, and compassion in action—well done, girls!

### House Football Update

Our Year 5 and 6 Boys' House Football competition is well underway! After two of the three rounds of matches, the scores are very close! It has been excellent to see everyone taking part with such enthusiasm, teamwork, and great sportsmanship. Current points are as follows:



Blue Badgers - 4 points



Green Hedgehogs - 5 points



Red Squirrels - 3 points



Yellow Foxes - 4 points

Please note: due to Year 6 taking part in Crucial Crew on Tuesday, the final round of matches will now take place on the last Tuesday of term.

Well done to all the players for their effort and energy so far—we cannot wait to see how the competition concludes!

### Science Week Excitement!

We are all looking forward to finishing the half term with our Science Week next week! A huge thank you and well done to Mrs Laing for putting together such an exciting and inspiring programme. Thank you also to Mrs Davidson and Mrs Luckhurst for co-ordinating the logistics of our epic school trip!



***Dream, Believe and Achieve with God***



Autumn Term Issue 7

17th October 2025





There will be lots of activities, workshops, science visitors and live lessons, and of course, our Years 1–6 trip to Hertfordshire Zoo on Wednesday. It promises to be a brilliant way to end the half term, full of curiosity, discovery, and fun!

### **Summer Reading Challenge Success**

Whilst some time ago now, we are always thrilled to see how many of our children take part in the Summer Reading Challenge each year. Reading for pleasure is something we love to celebrate at Broxbourne and reading is one of the most important academic skills that we can develop in our children. Once our children have learnt to read, they can read to learn.

A special well done to Oliver, who was selected as one of just 20 children who took part this year to meet the author Sean Taylor. What a fantastic experience—well done, Oliver!

### **Parents' Evenings**

We hope you find next week's Parents' Evening appointments useful and informative as you learn about the progress your child has made during the first sixth of the school year.

### **Please note:**

- All appointments on Tuesday and Thursday will take place in the school hall. EY1 appointments on Monday will be held in the Squirrels' Drey.
  - All parents should report to the main reception on arrival.

It is important to check your appointment time and day carefully and to arrive on time.

We are unable to accommodate missed appointments, and we adhere strictly to the schedule. When the bell rings, your appointment will have ended, and the next parent will begin. Please be mindful and respectful of the following parents' time by concluding your discussion promptly.

May we be reminded of the importance of community, teamwork, and supporting one another:

*"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfil the law of Christ." — Galatians 6:2*

We encourage all in our school to show empathy, provide mutual support, and to positively work together for the greater good of all of our children and school.

We look forward to welcoming you for your appointment next week and wish you each a pleasant and relaxing weekend.

Best wishes Paul Miller



## **CHARITY BRACELET SALE SUCCESS!**

A huge well done and thank you to our Year 6 girls for all their hard work organising and running this week's charity bracelet sale. It was a massive success, with almost all the bracelets selling out in no time!

The girls have been so inspired by the response that they are busy making more stock for those children who missed out. The final bracelet sale will take place after school on Monday, **for children who didn't manage to buy a bracelet this week only.**

Well done, girls — what a fantastic effort for a great cause!



## **NON UNIFORM DAY—THURSDAY, 23rd OCTOBER**

**Thursday, 23rd October – ‘Non Uniform Day’ for a Chocolate Donation** – a day for the children to come to school in their own clothes (no football kits please) in exchange for some chocolate. Multipacks, large bars or minis welcome. Please be as generous as you are able to be – your donation will be used for the Chocolate Tombola for the Christmas Fair. If you don't have any chocolate in the house on the day please feel free to send in a £1 or make a donation on the PTA hub.

Thank you.





## **CHANGE OF MENU—THURSDAY, 6TH NOVEMBER**

**HCL**  
NOURISH · EDUCATE · INSPIRE

**BONFIRE NIGHT**  
November 6th

**MAIN MENU**  
Hotdog Banger (v)  
topped with Cheese  
and Fried Onions  
or  
Pizza Catherine Wheels (v)  
served with Firecracker Wedges  
or  
Hot Potato  
topped with Baked Beans (Free From\*)  
or  
Filled Roll

**SERVED WITH**  
Baked Beans and Corn

**DESSERT**  
Hot Chocolate Sponge  
and Chocolate Sauce

f in X @hclcatering www.hcl.co.uk

Menus are subject to change due to supplier stock availability. \* Free from the key 14 allergens and plant based/vegan

### **INSET DAY—REMINDER**

School will be closed on Friday, 24th October. We look forward to seeing you, fully refreshed after half term on Monday, 3rd November!



### **BE BRIGHT BE SEEN**

As the days get shorter, travelling to and from school can become more dangerous.

We encourage all families to discuss road safety with their children and welcome everyone, especially those cycling, to wear reflective clothing or equipment.

Once again, we cannot stress enough that children should not be walking on roads unless crossing them. Instead, they should use pavements or railed paths. **THIS INCLUDES THE RAILED PART OF THE TOWPATH LEADING TO THE SCHOOL.**

Also, unless a lone walker, we suggest that children walk, and scoot, closely to the adult responsible for them.



### **BIRTHDAY BOOK THANK YOU**

Isaiah—EY1—There's a Tiger on the Train

Axel—EY2—Flower Block

Roman—Year 1 – We Are All Equal, The Dinosaur that Pooped a Planet & Gina Kaminski Rescues the Giant

**REMINDER:** Birthday books should be new and age appropriate for the year your child is currently in.

We hope you both had a lovely day!

If you wish to donate a birthday book, please send in via your child and we will put in the library for everyone to enjoy. Thank you.



## **OLIVER'S INSPIRING DAY WITH AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR SEAN TAYLOR**

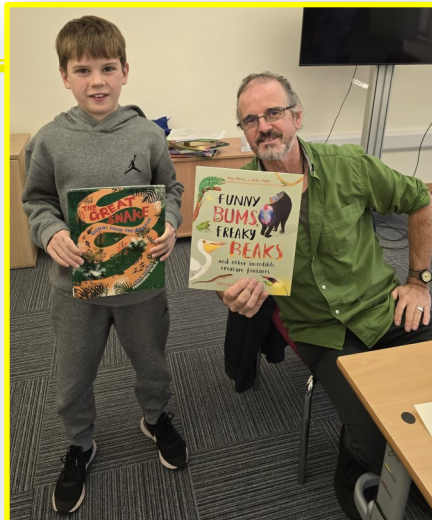
We are delighted to share some exciting news about Oliver's recent literary adventure!

This year, over 18,500 children across Hertfordshire took part in the Summer Reading Challenge, celebrating a love of books and storytelling. From all those participants, just 20 lucky winners were chosen at random to attend an exclusive creative writing workshop with award-winning children's author Sean Taylor — and Oliver was one of them!

The workshop, held at Welwyn Garden City Library, gave children a special opportunity to explore how Sean comes up with ideas for his books. They took part in a range of fun, imaginative activities designed to inspire their own storytelling.

Oliver came well prepared, having already read *The Great Snake* in anticipation of meeting Sean. He even brought his copy along to be signed and was thrilled to receive another signed book as a special gift from the author.

What a fantastic experience — well done, Oliver!



## **HOUSE POINT LEADERS**

This week's winners are.....

**Red Squirrels**



**REMINDER:** The House that wins the House Cup for the greatest number of weeks each term will enjoy a non-uniform day in the final week of term.

The children should wear an item of clothing in their house colour!

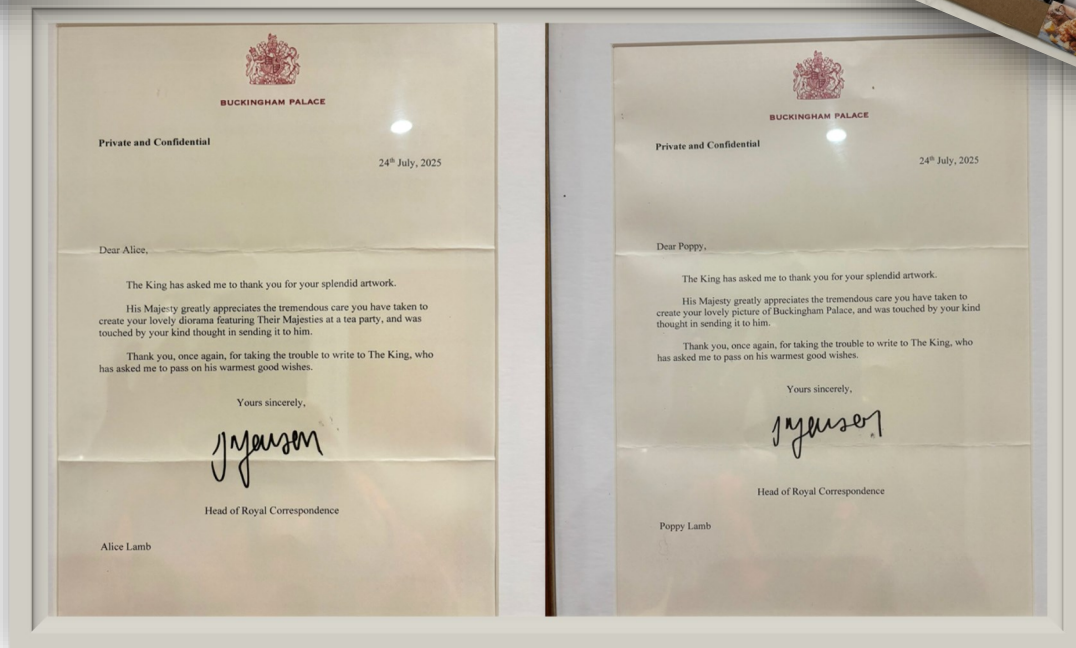


## A ROYAL REPLY!

Following the British Culture homework set during the summer term, Alice and Poppy's creative, Royal-inspired work has received the ultimate seal of approval — from the King himself!

Their parents secretly sent their projects to His Majesty, never expecting a response. To everyone's delight, the family returned from their summer holiday to find not one but two letters bearing the Royal Seal. The King had replied to both girls, who were absolutely thrilled to receive such a special acknowledgment.

They have since framed the letters, now proudly displayed for all to see — a truly royal reward for their hard work and creativity!





# WREATH MAKING NIGHT

with Libby Ayres of Thatch Flowers

Wednesday 3rd December, 6-9pm

£65

(includes prosecco on arrival and  
refreshments)

Deposit £25 by 24th October

Balance £40 by 14th November

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Parish Centre at St Augustine's Church, Churchfields

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](http://nationalcollege.com).

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MEMES

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Memes may look like simple jokes, but, for many teenagers, they form a shared cultural language. Quickly created and reworked, they spread across social media platforms as images with text or short videos. Nearly eight in ten teenagers share memes (79%, YPulse), making them part of daily life. While memes encourage creativity and participation, they can also spread misinformation or reinforce harmful stereotypes.

### SPREADING MISINFORMATION

While memes help to communicate complex topics, they can also spread misinformation. Memes may sometimes include content presenting false facts or biased viewpoints, especially around health, politics, or current events and, as they're designed to be shared quickly, young people may not question their accuracy.

### EXPOSURE TO INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Memes are widely circulated, and not always age-appropriate, meaning young people may encounter explicit language, sexual content, or graphic imagery, even without searching for it. As memes spread fast on platforms like Instagram, TikTok, or WhatsApp, it's nearly impossible to filter them completely.

### MASKED MESSAGES

Some memes are designed to be confusing or layered with hidden meanings, making them hard for parents and, sometimes, other young people to understand. Online groups often create these memes to look like inside jokes, but they can sometimes conceal offensive, harmful, or misleading content.

### HIDDEN HARMS & LOSING SENSITIVITY

When serious topics like violence, racism, or mental health are turned into jokes, children and young people may become less sensitive to these issues over time. While a funny meme may seem light-hearted, it can carry messages that belittle certain groups, encourage risky behaviour, or mock personal struggles. Repeated exposure through memes can make harmful behaviour seem normal or less important. Over time, this can blur their understanding of what is funny versus what is discriminatory, harmful, or damaging to themselves and others.

### PERMANENT DIGITAL FOOTPRINT

Unlike spoken jokes, memes leave a trail. Created or shared memes can resurface later and be misunderstood, even if intended as harmless. Once online, memes may be copied, saved, or spread beyond a young person's control - digital actions can follow them into their future, shaping how they are perceived by peers, teachers, or even employers long after the original meme has been shared.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Talk regularly with young people and try to understand their online world - discuss what they find funny about the memes, and why. By listening without judgement, you build trust, making it easier for them to come to you if they see something harmful. Open conversations also help children and teens think critically about the messages behind memes rather than simply accepting them at face value.

### MODEL HEALTHY BOUNDARIES

Show children and teens positive online behaviours, such as taking breaks from screens, avoiding late-night scrolling, and engaging in offline activities. Setting clear routines around screen time at home can help to reinforce healthy boundaries and reduce the risks of overuse. By modelling balanced technology use, adults can help children and young people see that digital entertainment, including memes, should be just one part of life.

### TEACH DIGITAL LITERACY

Help children and young people learn to question where information comes from and whether it's reliable - developing media literacy skills prepares young people to understand and navigate through their future online lives. Show them how memes can sometimes exaggerate or misrepresent facts for laughs, and encourage them to check credible sources when memes claim to present truth.

### FOSTER EMPATHY ONLINE

Remind children and young people that memes should never come at someone else's expense. Encourage them to think about how a meme might make another person feel before sharing or creating it. Highlight examples of positive memes that celebrate creativity without hurting others. Fostering empathy, respect, and kindness in digital spaces will help them become more aware of promoting a safer, more supportive online culture.

### Meet Our Expert

Dr Cristina Moreno-Almeida is a Senior Lecturer in Digital Culture at Queen Mary University of London. She specialises in memes, online networks, and youth culture, examining how digital spaces shape identity and everyday life.



See full reference list on our website



# SCIENCE WEEK SCIENCE SHOP

Monday 20th, Tuesday 21st and Thursday 23rd October

AFTER SCHOOL 3.00-3.30pm  
OFFICE/FRONT PLAYGROUND

ALL ITEMS £1 - £4