

Broxbourne CE Primary School Newsletter



Spring Term Issue 7

28th February 2025



HEADTEACHER UPDATE

It is wonderful to welcome everyone back for the second half of the school year, and to the excitement of all that lies ahead! I hope this letter finds you well and that you had an enjoyable and restful half-term break.

A huge well done to Tilly, Aoife, and Evie-Hope who ran a fantastic book sale this week in support of HABS Family Support. Thank you to everyone who donated books and attended to support this wonderful cause – your generosity is appreciated.

Our Year 5 and 6 netballers finally had their chance to compete in the rearranged District Tournament today! They played brilliantly and finished in 3rd and 4th place – we are so proud of them! Good luck also to our Year 3 and 4 rapid fire cricket team, who are currently in the middle of their tournament as I write this – fingers crossed for great results!

A big thank you to the parents who continue to support our Hear Our Prayer (HOP) group. It was such a joy to come together for prayer again this week. For those interested in joining, HOP meets at 9:00am on the first Thursday of every half term in the school hall – everyone is welcome!

Next week includes World Book Day and we look forward to an even greater focus than usual on developing a love of reading and books. As we move into the second half of the school year, nightly reading and development of fluency is so important and please do continue to highly prioritise this with your child. Please see the email sent earlier in the week for the detail of all happenings across the week. Happy reading!

Wishing you all a relaxing and enjoyable weekend ahead.

Best wishes,
Paul Miller

Dream, Believe and Achieve with God

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OUR FANTASTIC NETBALL TEAM!

Well done to everyone! You all played so well and demonstrated great sportsmanship on the court.

It's wonderful to see such enthusiasm and teamwork among our children. Keep up the fantastic work, and let's continue to support each other in all our sporting adventures!





CHANGE OF ASSEMBLY DATES FOR EY1 AND YEAR 2

The EY1 class assembly has been moved to Friday, 20th June and the Year 2 assembly is now Friday, 27th June.

Thank you.



KINGFISHER COUNCIL EASTER PENALTY SHOOT OUT

On Tuesday 4th March and Wednesday 5th March the Kingfisher Council will be hosting an Easter Penalty shoot-out. The shoot-out will take place at playtime.

For 50p, the children will get 3 shots against our amazing goal keepers. Everyone who enters will win a small Easter chocolate Easter (allergies will be catered for). All of the money that is raised will go to our amazing school charity, HABs family support.

If your child would like to enter the shoot-out, you can either pay online via the School Gateway or on the day with cash.

Thank you so much for your continued generosity and support for our school charity.

HOUSE POINT LEADERS

This week's winners are.....

Blue Badgers



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!



OUR FOCUS VALUE THIS HALF TERM IS SERVICE



Our focus
Christian value is
Service



Prayer for Service

Dear God, I ask for your guidance and strength to help me serve others. Please remind me that every person I encounter is created in your image and deserves to be treated with love and respect. Help me to see the needs of those around me and be willing to step in and help in any way I can. Whether it's offering a kind word, a listening ear, or a helping hand, please give me the courage and compassion to serve others selflessly. Lord, you have shown me through your life and teachings that true greatness comes from service. Help me to model my life after your example and put the needs of others before my own. As I go about my day, please give me eyes to see the lonely, the hurting, and the marginalized. Help me to reach out to them in love and show them that they are not forgotten. Remind me that every act of service, no matter how small, can make a big difference in someone's life. Whether it's lending a hand to a neighbour or volunteering at a local charity, please help me to be a channel of your love and grace to those around me. Amen

God, I know that serving others isn't always easy. It requires sacrifice, humility, and a willingness to put others first. But I also know that when we serve others, we become more like you and experience the joy and fulfillment that comes from living a life of purpose. As I step out into the world today, I pray that you would guide my steps and direct my path. Help me to be a light in the darkness and a source of hope and encouragement to those who need it most. Thank you, God, for the opportunity to serve others. May my words and actions reflect your love and grace, and may I always seek to bring glory to your name. In Jesus' name, Amen.



REMINDER: WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

FRIDAY 7th MARCH AT ST AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH

Come and hear our wonderful choir perform at the World Day of Prayer on Friday, 7th March. Our Year 5 and Year 6 children will also be singing, so please join us if you can for worship and singing.



11am:

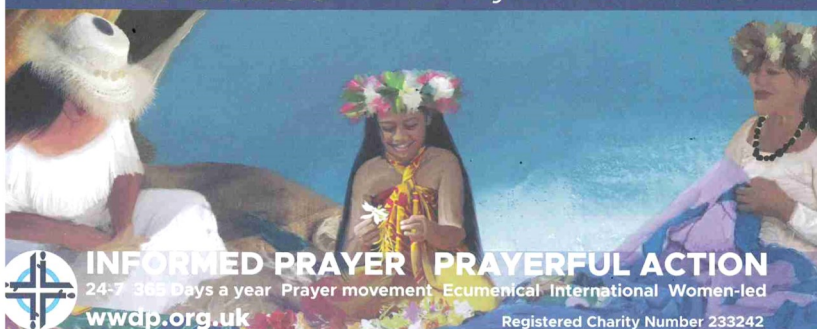
**St Augustine's C of E Church
Churchfields, EN10 7AU**

**followed by lunch
in the Parish Centre**

also at 7:30 for 8pm

**Hoddesdon Baptist Church
Old Essex Road, EN11 8HX**

Cook Islands *I made you wonderful*



INFORMED PRAYER PRAYERFUL ACTION
24-7 365 Days a year Prayer movement Ecumenical International Women-led
wwwdp.org.uk Registered Charity Number 233242

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.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MARVEL RIVALS



ESRB advise nobody under the age of 13 should play

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

IN-GAME CHAT

Voice chat allows players to speak to teammates and opponents within the game, but in a competitive environment, some conversations can become unpleasant. Text chat is equally prominent among those playing on PC and will be shown on the side of the screen. Moderation on chats is relatively lax, so it's important to recognise that potentially inappropriate messages could arrive at any time.

IN-GAME PURCHASES

While Marvel Rivals is free, there is an in-game store, selling character skins from recognisable movies and comic-book titles. Each season also includes a £10 Battle Pass (much like those seen in Fortnite and Call of Duty), offering a series of exclusive cosmetic items. These passes don't expire – but they can't be purchased once the next season rolls around, creating a fear of missing out.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

With such a huge player base, it's impossible to predict whom your child will be teaming up with or playing against. They're virtually certain to run into strangers through voice and text chat, for starters. Most of these people will just be ordinary gamers enjoying the action, but there is the risk of some users behaving inappropriately with younger players – either intentionally, or because they don't realise that they're speaking to a child.

VIOLENT CONTENT

There's no gore in Marvel Rivals, and the violence depicted is comparatively cartoonish – but the playable characters available vary between more traditional superheroes and supervillains, and figures like Black Widow and The Punisher, who use more realistic firearms. Given the game's nature as a shooter, this may make some parents and carers uncomfortable as some players will be firing these weapons at each other.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

The game includes some innuendos and mature themes in the dialogue, which could expose youngsters to content unsuitable for their age, detracting from a safe and family-friendly gaming experience. As we mentioned previously, the content of the in-game chat could also be age-inappropriate, ranging from swearing to mature themes to potentially harmful content.

FAMILIAR CHARACTERS

The inclusion of iconic characters might make Marvel Rivals appear more approachable than other games in the genre, with recognisable heroes and villains like Spider-Man and Venom. This could lead to more interest from younger players, increasing the likelihood of children playing the game without properly understanding the risks.

Advice for Parents & Educators

FOLLOW ESRB RATINGS

The ESRB rating for Marvel Rivals says the game shouldn't be played by anyone under 13. Most children of that age will be able to appreciate the moral compass of the roster of characters (people can play as Hela, the Goddess of Death, for example), while also ensuring that the violence, however cartoonish, won't overwhelm them.



FAMILIARISE YOURSELF

The game's inclusion of fan-favourite characters like Iron Man and the Hulk, plus its increasing popularity, means that younger Marvel fans will likely be eager to see what the fuss is about. Since it's free, consider playing Marvel Rivals yourself to gauge how you feel about a child playing it. Alternatively, you could let them play against the game's AI in Practice Mode, until they're old enough to compete online.

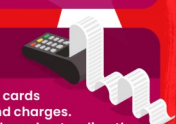
MONITOR OR TURN OFF CHAT

Voice and text chat can both be adjusted within the in-game settings. If you're particularly concerned about exposing children and young people to them, however, you can disable both forms of chat in the game's settings. If a child wants to play alongside friends, remind them that they can use their console's party chat feature or host a call on a third-party service like Discord.



DISCONNECT PAYMENT OPTIONS

Parents should ensure that no payment options – such as debit cards – are linked to the game, to prevent unauthorised purchases and charges. Children can be tempted by enticing in-game offers without fully understanding the costs. Removing payment methods avoids impulsive in-game spending and instils a sense of financial awareness, teaching young people to be careful with their money.



Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Games Editor at the Daily Star and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for five years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, he has been published on sites including IGN, TechRadar and plenty more.





DSPL4 SEND COFFEE MORNING

You are invited to a relaxed and supportive coffee morning designed to offer valuable information and networking opportunities.

- Connect with other parents and carers
- Share experiences and gain insights into various topics that matter to you
- Practical advice & emotional support
- Meet and chat with others in a similar situation
- Professionals available to talk to
- Bring any questions or topics you'd like to discuss

We look forward to seeing you there and fostering a strong, supportive community together!



SEN COFFEE MORNING

12TH MARCH

PTA Pre-loved Uniform Sale and Coffee Morning (including SEN Coffee Morning)

9:00am Wednesday 12th March straight after drop-off in the school hall.

Please do join us for an informal catch-up, cake and a cuppa!!!

Coffee Morning for SEND parents/carers

Group discussion on
everyday challenges

Informal help and
support from local
organisations

Which services
can I have access
to?

Want to speak to other
parents of children
with SEND?

Come and join us for a chat!





MY FIRST FIVE YEARS™

Scan the QR Code below for a great App which supports parents with children under five. There are lovely activities, learning and more importantly, a fantastic list of 50 books that your child should read before they are five years old. Miss Clifford (English Lead) and Mrs Catlin (Early Years Leader) have agreed that this is a comprehensive list of books, both fiction and non-fiction, as well as books covering diversity and emotional well being. Download and take a peek!



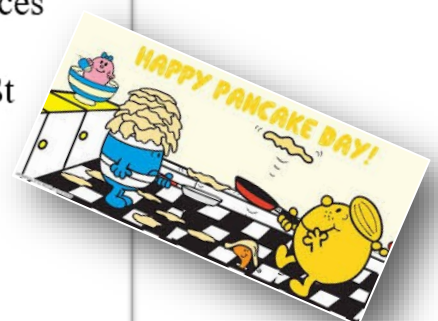
All Age Pancake Races

Shrove Tuesday

Parish Centre

Tuesday 4th March from 3pm

- bring a frying pan for the races
- blessing the frying pans at St Augustine's Church
- chocolate / lemon pancakes
- to eat in the Parish Centre





SCHOOL FUND – SECOND HALF

Every year we offer the option of paying your School Fund contributions in two instalments, the first being at the beginning of the Autumn term. For everyone who chose to make their payments in this way, the second instalment is now due. For those yet to make a contribution, the full payment is still also possible.

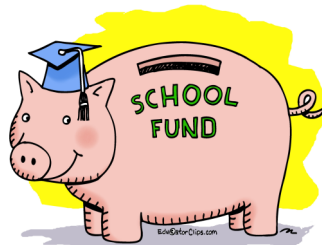
We are extremely grateful to all those parents who regularly contribute to the Fund as by doing so you are making a significant difference to the quality and range of resources we are able to purchase for the children.

Contributions can now be made online via the Gateway app or via the link on the Parents tab of the school website:

[Online Payments | Broxbourne CE Primary School \(broxbourne-pri.herts.sch.uk\)](https://www.broxbourne-pri.herts.sch.uk)

Payment made online must be made separately for each child.

Thank you for your support.



BIRTHDAY BOOK THANK YOU

Alice—EY2—Oi Cat!

Zachariah—Year 3—SV2's Ultimate Football Academy

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.

