

Broxbourne CE Primary School Newsletter



Spring Term Issue 5

7th February 2025



HEADTEACHER UPDATE

With only a week left until the halfway point of this academic year here are some highlights from our school community over the past week.

First and foremost, congratulations to our wonderful choir! They performed beautifully in church last Sunday and also entertained our local residents at the Broxbourne Residential Home. The smiles and joy their singing brought were heartwarming, and our children loved the interaction with the residents. What a delight for our children to make a positive impact in the community!

This week we have celebrated Mental Health Awareness Week with various engaging activities designed to promote self-awareness and self-care. From yoga sessions to interactive workshops and even visits from some adorable owls, our children have embraced these opportunities with enthusiasm. We have witnessed growth in our children understanding the importance of mental well-being and discussing their emotions.

Thank you to all in our school community who attended this term's EDI parent/carer forum. We reviewed our current Equality objectives and next week will be sending a questionnaire to enable all in our school community to suggest focus areas for our next objectives. We really appreciate your ongoing support and contribution in this vitally important area of school improvement.

We introduced lacrosse last term to our sports programme! It was fantastic to see the children's excitement during their first fixture on Thursday. Thank you to Miss Hawthorne and Mrs Davidson for making this happen – your ongoing efforts in providing our children with new sporting experiences are much appreciated!

Additionally, our indoor athletics practise on Wednesday went well. Thank you to the Sports Leaders and Mrs Balsdon at The Broxbourne School for facilitating this opportunity for our children. With the events for our Year 3 and 4 teams, as well as the Year 5 & 6 teams, coming up in early March, we hope to have two more practise session for each team in our school hall after the half term break to ensure everyone is ready to shine!

Thank you for your continued support and encouragement at home.

Wishing you all a relaxing weekend and enjoyment of the Six Nations second round matches if you are a rugby fan!

Best wishes Paul Miller

Dream, Believe and Achieve with God

Tel: 01992 462419 website: www.broxbourne-pri.herts.sch.uk
Fax: 01992 462419 email: office@broxbourne-pri.herts.sch.uk



CLASS ASSEMBLIES

21 st March	Year 1
28 th March	Year 3
2 nd May	Year 4
9 th May	EY2
20 th June	Year 2
27 th June	EY1
11 th July	Year 5
17 th July	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly

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!



PTA DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

We have lots of fun events planned for this term - please pencil in the following.....



Friday 14th Feb - Wear PJs Day



£1 contribution to wear your comfiest Valentines themed clothes/pjs and slippers to school. Please wear trainers for the journey to and from school and for breaktimes!!!

Wednesday 12th March - preloved uniform and coffee morning

In the hall straight after drop-off, come along for a chat, a cuppa and a browse of uniform.



Friday 14th Mar - Disco

The usual £2 per ticket, bring some extra money on the night to spend. Available on the hub in due course.



Friday 28th March - Mothers and Significant Others Gift Sale

Bring some money to buy gifts for mums and the other significant carers in your life. We will advise on numbers and values nearer the time.



Thank you to our amazing PTA for their ongoing support and all of their great work organising these school enhancing events for our children.



FEELING GOOD WEEK

NIGHT OWLS VISIT AND THE CHOIR AT BROXBOURNE NURSING HOME

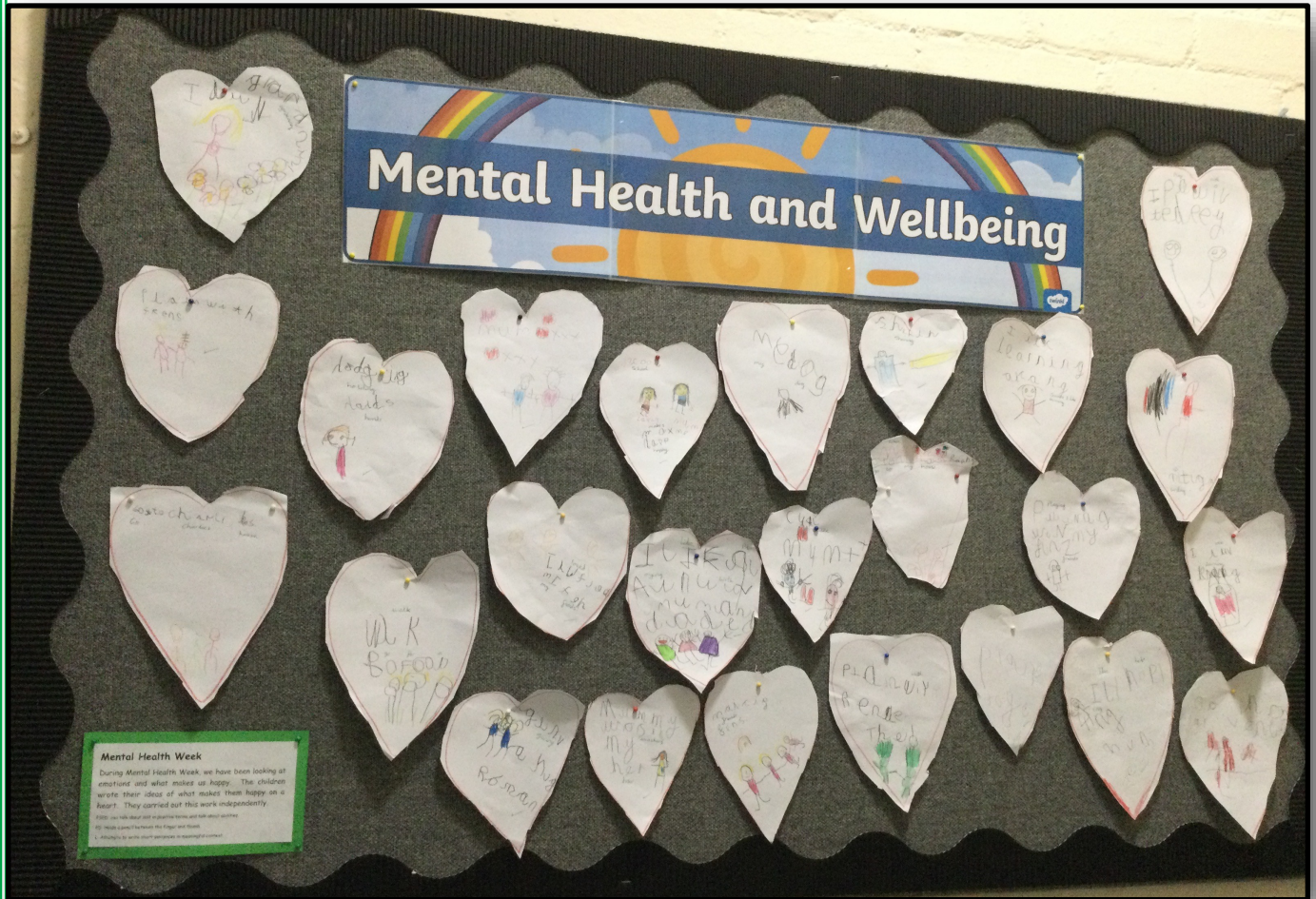


HOME LACROSSE MATCH
BROXBOURNE V WORMLEY!



FEELING GOOD WEEK IN EARLY YEARS

In EY2, the children were thinking about what makes them happy. The children had so many lovely ideas that we decided that they should write them on a heart and we would display them. The children wrote these independently, using their phonic knowledge. We are so proud of their understanding and their writing!



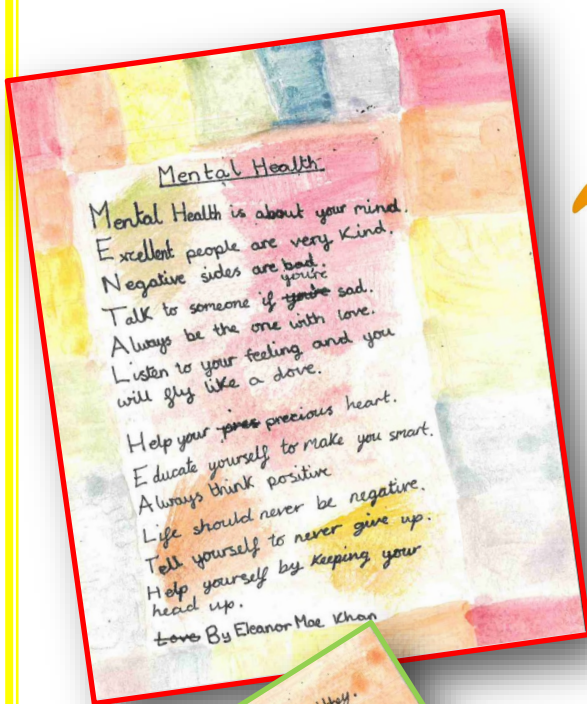


FEELING GOOD WEEK IN YEAR 4

In Year 4, we have composed poems to celebrate Children's Mental Health Week. They are all thoughtful and inspiring pieces of work which explain what we can do to help one another and ourselves.

Using the ideas we discussed together and all the work we have done so far, we created these stunning, individual poems. We painted watercolour backgrounds of shades and patterns that brought us happiness and then published our poems in handwriting pen over the top.

We have displayed them beside our classroom door as a reminder each day of our important messages. Here are a few examples, aren't they beautiful?!



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 SCAMS AND FAKE NEWS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

"Fake news" refers to falsified or misleading material presented as a legitimate account of events. It's often used by malicious actors online to push an agenda, or even by criminals as a way of making scams more persuasive. Scammers can trick us into handing over personal information, security details and even our hard-earned cash.

"CLICKBAIT" PHISHING SCAMS

A message arrives saying "Have you seen this video of yourself?" or you might be sent an attention-grabbing headline about a celebrity that's been shared on social media. This kind of "bait" is produced by scammers to drive us to click on an unsafe link, where malware could be downloaded to our devices. These scams rely on our curiosity and our "need-to-know" instinct.

SALES, DEALS & DISCOUNTS

Some scams appear as adverts, offering a chance to buy something – such as designer products, expensive gadgets or tickets to a popular show – at a reduced price. Such offers often include a time limit or countdown, urging us to hurry so we don't miss out on the deal. This pressure encourages us to input personal details or payment information before pausing to check if it's legitimate.

YOU'RE A WINNER!

This kind of scam involves fake giveaways, opportunities or freebies. It could be a message saying we've won a prize draw or competition. Or it could be a gift, free trial, bonus credit, and suchlike. It might claim that a package or refund is waiting. All these techniques are used to prompt us to share our personal information, thinking that there's something to be gained by doing so.

FALSE FRIENDSHIPS

Scammers often pretend to be someone they're not to gain their victims' trust. They might attempt to convince any children they connect with that they're a child of similar age with shared interests. Warning signs include a high volume of messages (often with an intense tone), secrecy, inappropriate levels of intimacy, guilt tripping, emotional manipulation, threats or blackmail.

PANIC MODE

To trigger a sense of panic, scammers may claim that a child's account has been hacked, or a virus has been installed on their device, or any number of other scary scenarios. They may claim to be able to fix the problem or offer a solution – if the child hands over control of the device or sensitive information. Similar scams involve impersonating a friend or relative, claiming that they're in trouble and need help.

FAKE CELEBRITY ENDORSEMENTS

Impersonating influential people online is a common tactic for scammers, who can use technology to create fake photos, audio and even videos that look authentic. These can be used to convince us, for example, to buy products, sign up for so-called "business opportunities" or invest in cryptocurrency schemes – all of which are fake or otherwise malicious. Many scams also involve the impersonation of popular companies' social media accounts, as well as those of individuals.

Advice for Parents & Educators

STAY INFORMED

Stay up to date with the latest information and best practice on cyber-security. See what scam stories are reported in the news and make note of what tactics were used. Keep up with young people's digital lives: talk about what they're doing online and use properly endorsed resources to learn what risks certain sites and apps pose to their younger users.

TALK TOGETHER

Chat often and openly with young people about fake news, online scams and how they both work. Encourage them to talk to you about anything they're unsure of or worried about online. If a child claims to have been scammed, don't pass judgement. Blaming the victim may deter young people from asking you for help. Remember: adults are scammed just as often, if not more.

ENCOURAGE HEALTHY SCEPTICISM

Most scams rely on emotional or psychological manipulation, tapping into our human instincts – whether that's to keep ourselves safe, help others, find answers, make friends, avoid losing out or to secure something we really want. Encourage children to recognise that pressure to act and to always consult with an adult – especially if what's on offer sounds too good to be true.

BE PROACTIVE

Children increasingly use digital devices for education, socialising, shopping and play. Don't wait for a problem to arise before you discuss the risk of scams, false information and fake news. Highlight what to look out for and clearly communicate under what circumstances the child ought to speak to an adult. Finally, ensure that they're aware of the support services that are available to them (such as Childline).

Meet Our Expert

Dr Holly Powell-Jones is the founder of Online Media Law UK and a leading expert in digital safety, media law and young people. Her PhD investigates children's understandings of risk online. She works with schools, businesses, and universities to provide award-winning education on the criminal, legal and ethical considerations for the digital age. Visit OnlineMediaLaw.co.uk for more.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/fake-news-and-scams>



Friday
14th March



PTA

Disco

£2 Per Child

BUY TICKETS ON THE PTA WEBSITE
OR PAY ON THE NIGHT.

EY and KS1: 5:00pm to 6:00pm

KS2: 6:30pm to 7:30pm

Sweets | Treats | Drinks | Glow Sticks
Nail Painting | Face Painting | Lucky Dip



M&S | YOUNGMINDS Young Designer Competition



This Children's Mental Health Week, we're calling on young people across the UK to get drawing and take part in **M&S x YoungMinds Young Designer competition** – to design a new hoodie or sweatshirt – for the chance to have their design sold in M&S stores and online across the UK to support YoungMinds' work.

The new hoodie and sweater will go on sale to celebrate this year's Hello Yellow, when schools and communities come together on **World Mental Health Day** to show young people they're not alone with their mental health.

[Learn more & enter →](#)

How to take part

Pupils aged 5-16 are invited to get creative and show what's on the inside on the outside in this exciting competition. It's perfect as an in-class activity or fun at-home challenge!



Turn thoughts and feelings into a powerful design

Ask them to think about what they would say to a friend who needs support and express it through words, drawings, or doodles.



Be bold, bright and expressive

We're looking for designs that stand out - full of colour, creativity and big ideas.



Share with parents using our letter templates

All pupil designs must be submitted by parents/guardians. We know how busy things can be, so we've put together an [email/letter template](#) that you can share with your school community to explain the competition.



Submit your incredible ideas

Designs must be submitted by 11.59pm on **Monday 31st March**. Two lucky winners (one aged 5-11 and one aged 12-16) will be chosen, and will see their design brought to life.

[Find out how to get involved and get your pupils drawing →](#)

We can't wait to see everyone's design,
YoungMinds ♥

YOUNGMINDS
Fighting for young people's mental health



All rights reserved © 2021 - 2024 Young Minds.
We are a registered charity. Registered Charity Numbers 1016968 & SC039700

[View this email in browser](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2025
Friday 7 March
A service for everyone!

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*



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.



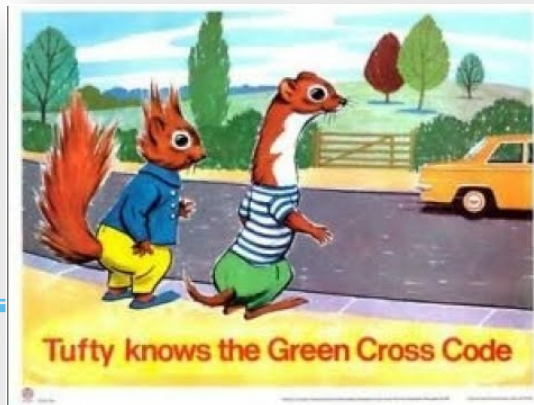


ROAD SAFETY/SAFEGUARDING/MORNING DROP-OFF REMINDER

The New River Road, whilst quiet, is a road and is for vehicles and bikes. It is not for pedestrians to walk down the middle of. It is certainly not for children to scoot down the middle of.

The railed path at the side is there for safety when travelling to and from our school and should be used by children, pedestrians and scooters. If bikes are used, these should be wheeled or ridden as close to the railings as possible if travelling from the church to school or as close to the river railings if travelling in the reverse direction safely allowing the cars of staff and parents/grandparents/carers with permits to safely pass. If your child is not yet proficient enough to safely ride their bike in such a manner, they should not use it to ride to school. Please ensure you teach your child appropriate road safety behaviours through following these basic common sense expectations.

If dropping off at Breakfast Club in a morning and there are not visitor parking spaces available, please turn around first and then park on the river side of the New River Road against the river railings facing the direction of St Augustine's Church. The path side should be kept clear. This again is for the safety of our children and school community.



BIRTHDAY BOOK THANK YOU

Mrs Catlin—EYFS Lead—Busy Spring and Hello Spring

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

We hope you 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.

