

PRIMARY
NEWSLETTER

January 2025



Dear Parents/ Grandparents/ Carers,

HAPPY NEW YEAR BOURNVILLE COMMUNITY!

THANK YOU

Firstly, I would like to say thank you on behalf of the team for all your kindness and generosity last term with Christmas gifts and leaving gifts for Mr King. It was such a lovely Goodbye for him and I know that he felt very appreciated and loved. The staff team were also so touched by your Christmas gifts and cards. We love our Bournville Community.

SENDCO

We now have two very experienced SENDCo's supporting Primary. Mr Archbold and Mrs Richardson-Power. Although they are not available every day, they can be contacted via email and will arrange appointments to meet with you.

Reception/ Year 1: Mrs Richardson-Powers: r.richardsonpower@fmat.co.uk

Years 2 – 6: r.archbold@bournville.fmat.co.uk

The day-to-day support for your child is the responsibility of the class teacher so you can always speak to them directly by arranging an appointment. They will always refer you to the SENDCo if they are unable to answer your questions.

SECONDARY STAFF

Over the next term, there will be a lot more presence of secondary staff in primary. This is to improve communication between both areas of the school and to develop expertise across the school so that support for pupils is seamless. As an All-Through school, pupils will be meeting secondary staff while in primary to support with transition for when they move to Year 7 and to support school improvement. All leaders of the school will be developing their skills in the Primary area so that strong relationships are built early on and everyone has an understanding of all phases of education. Over time, this will build a strong culture of excellence and provide stability for the children as they grow. Once at Bournville, pupils DO NOT need to apply for a secondary place – they will move smoothly through the school until they are 16!!

World Book Day

We will be celebrating World Book Day after the half term. This is an advance warning to get costumes ready!! We will be dressing up and organising lots of events to celebrating reading as we want every pupil at Bournville to be a reader and love reading. We will be

organising events, raising money for books, holding another Book Fair and generally getting excited about reading. 😊 We also would love to raise enough money to buy a Book Vending Machine! If anyone knows any businesses that can sponsor reading in school by donating money or books, please put them in touch with us.

ATTENDANCE

To start on a positive note, attendance has improved from this time last year which is fantastic. Children and parents are working hard to send pupils to school even if feeling a little under the weather, and this is making a difference. Some parents have also allowed their children a bit of a lie-in if they have been up late poorly, but then brought them into school a bit later. This gives them an attendance mark and has improved their attendance. Thank you for this support and for also doing the best for your child. This does teach them resilience and helps them as they grow through their years of education.

However, I do also need to remind parents that children **MUST** be in school every day as this is a **LEGAL** requirement as all children are entitled to a full-time education and the responsibility for this lies with parents. We look at children's academic results 3 times a year and we can see very clearly that those children missing a lot of school (below 95%) have dropped in their academic studies. It really does affect your children and for some children it is a huge cause of anxiety. It is sad for your children when they fall behind as when they are in school, they work so hard to improve their learning. Whilst we can provide help and support, it is important you establish good morning routines so your child is at school every day. They deserve an education that is consistent and supportive. Let's keep working together to ensure your children are in school EVERY DAY. **95% is the magic number! We can get there TOGETHER!**

Thank you for all your continued support to help make this school a safe, happy learning environment. We love this community and want to keep getting a little bit better each day.



Kind regards,

Miss Briner

Attendance League Table

Each week, the class that gets the best overall attendance is awarded the Trophy, a certificate and a prize. The children love to win. Here is the league table so far...by ensuring your child is at school every day, you help your child's class to win the prize 😊.

Class	Percentage of Attendance %				
	Overall	Week 16	Week 17	Week 18	Week 19
Reception	92	89	94	91	91
Year 1	92	96	92	88	92
Year 2	96	93	96	98	95
Year 3	91	97	94	92	84
Year 4	94	95	96	93	89
Year 5	92	95	89	89	96
Year 6	95	96	97	92	97
Primary Overall	93 😊	95 😊	94 😊	92 😞	92 😞

Reception with Miss Bell

This half term, Reception Class have been learning all about 'Winter Changes' and how this affects people and animals locally and worldwide.



We have observed and talked about the weather associated with Winter and compared our findings from our Autumn Walk. In January, our playground was covered in frost and ice, which gave us a wonderful opportunity to explore with a real 'awe and wonder' of how beautiful nature can be. We recorded on a chart what outdoor clothing we needed to wear to keep us all warm outside. This also gave us another opportunity to practise zipping our own coats up.



The big question 'How does a brown bear survive in Winter?'

First, we gathered our ideas, thinking about how a brown bear survives in Winter and decided to do an **experiment** to find out. Next, we filled hot water bottles up and put some in fur covers and some without any covers. We tested the temperature of them with our hands and then put them in a cold cupboard and **predicted** what would happen. **"I think it will be hot still!" "I think it will be cold because it's got no fur!"** Finally, we **concluded** our experiment by checking if our predictions were correct and what we found out. We discovered the **temperature** of those without fur covers were cold, whilst those with fur covers on were warm.



Hibernation: We continued our studies by finding out why brown bears sleep during the winter (lack of food, cold weather). We built a 'bear den' and pretended to hibernate like bears, recapping on our learning that brown bears have fur, which is how they stay warm when they are hibernating in their dens. As part of our Art topic '**collage**', we created our own collage brown bears to go in our den.



We will further develop our understanding of contrasting habitats by exploring different environments from the one in which they live. We will look at different climates of each habitat such as hot and dry desert compared to the rainy and humid jungle.

Year 1 with Mrs Clay and Miss Hutchinson

Year One have had a busy start to the new year. Our PSHE topic is 'Goals and Dreams'. We have talked about our achievements over the last year and what we would like to achieve in 2025. We also discussed the small steps that we need to take in order to achieve a result. We used the idea of making a jam sandwich to help us understand the small steps that we take towards a goal.



In History we are revisiting our topic of 'The Great Fire of London', but this term we are focusing on the famous and significant individuals of the time. We have learned about Samuel Pepys and King Charles II.

Our art topic this term is focused on the work of artist Wassily Kandinsky. We have looked at examples of his art and discussed the different patterns and shades used in his art. The children have used his work to inspire them to make printed repeating patterns and to create abstract art using roller printing.



Year 2/3 with Miss McLynskey

Art Spotlight: Year 2 & Year 3 Inspired by Andy Goldsworthy!

This half term, Year 2 and Year 3 have been exploring the work of artist Andy Goldsworthy in their Art lessons. They have been experimenting with natural materials to create stunning sculptures. During one exciting session, the children worked in groups, using an array of



natural resources to bring their creative visions to life. The results were truly beautiful, showcasing their imagination and teamwork. Well done to all our young artists! 🍃🍂🌟

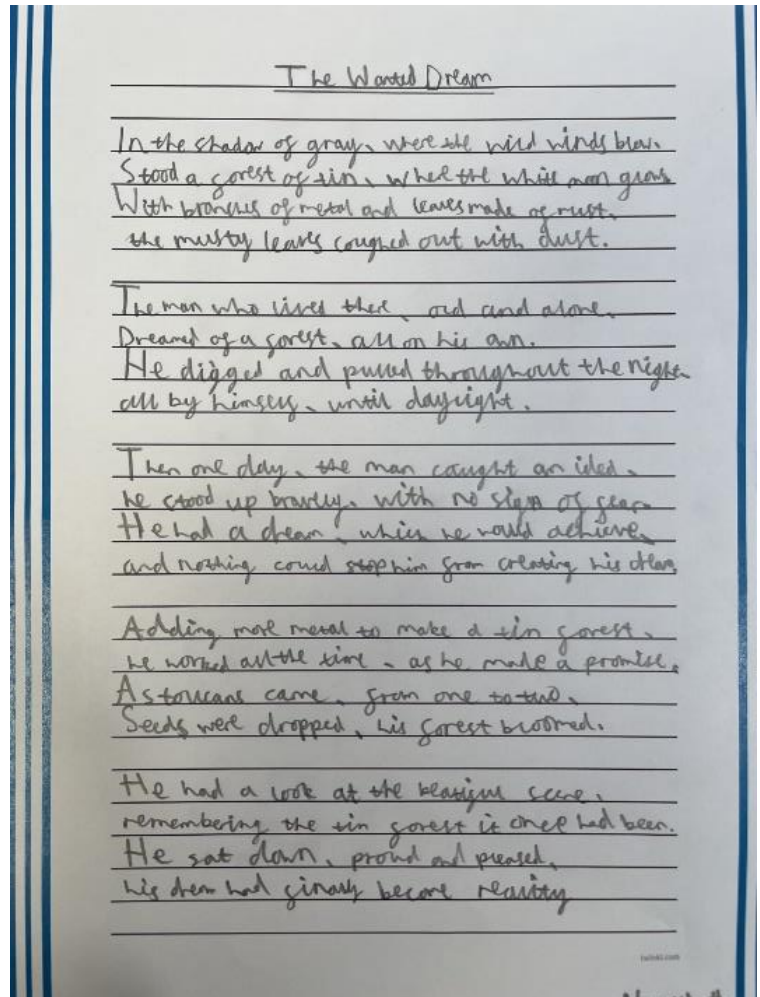
Year 4 with Miss Heyer and Miss Walker

This month, Year 4 has been buzzing with excitement and creativity! Rehearsals for our upcoming class assembly in February are in full swing, with everyone practicing their lines and perfecting their roles. In English, we've been diving into the art of poetry, focusing on expressing emotions and bringing words to life. Our inspiration



has come from the beautiful story *The Tin Forest*, which has sparked our imaginations and led to some

incredible poems. From capturing the hope and longing of the main character to painting vivid pictures of transformation, Year 4's poetic talents have truly shone through. Here is an example of one child's poem.



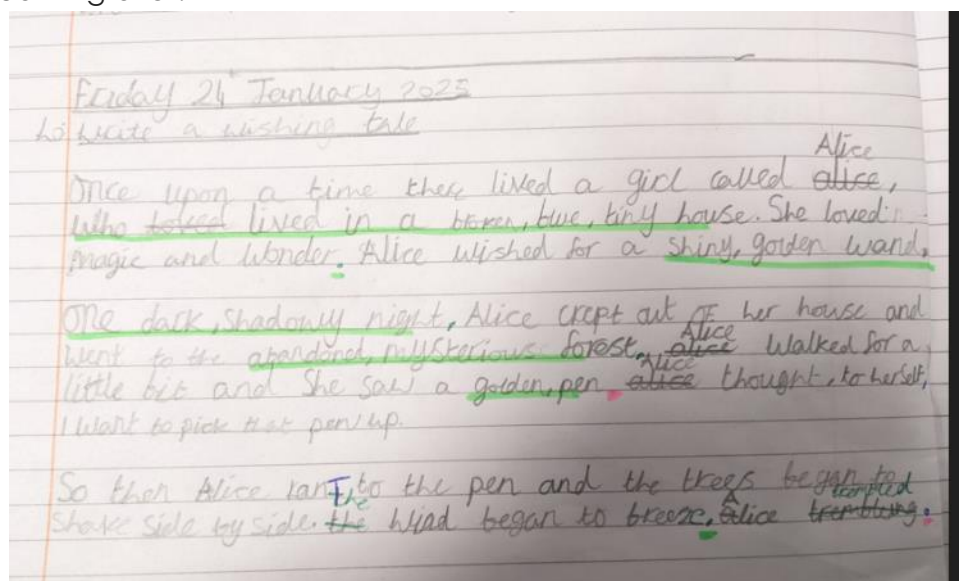
Nageeb Hussein Y4

Year 5 with Mr Newton and Mrs Thomas

This month, Year 5 have been learning a lot.

Reading: The Year 5 star reading pair this month are: Safa and DeeDee. Well done to both for excellent effort in reading! Please can you ensure that you are reading at home with your child as much as possible.

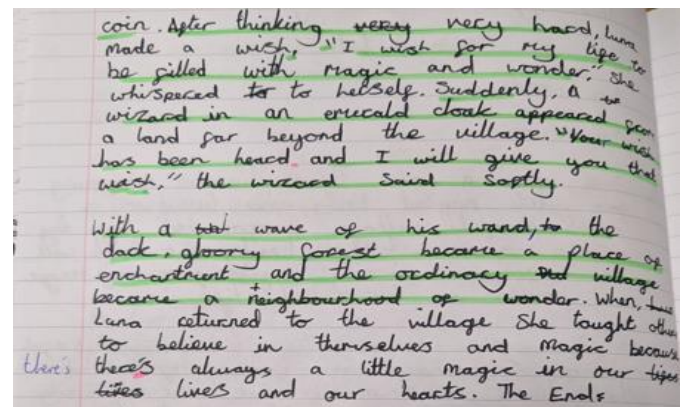
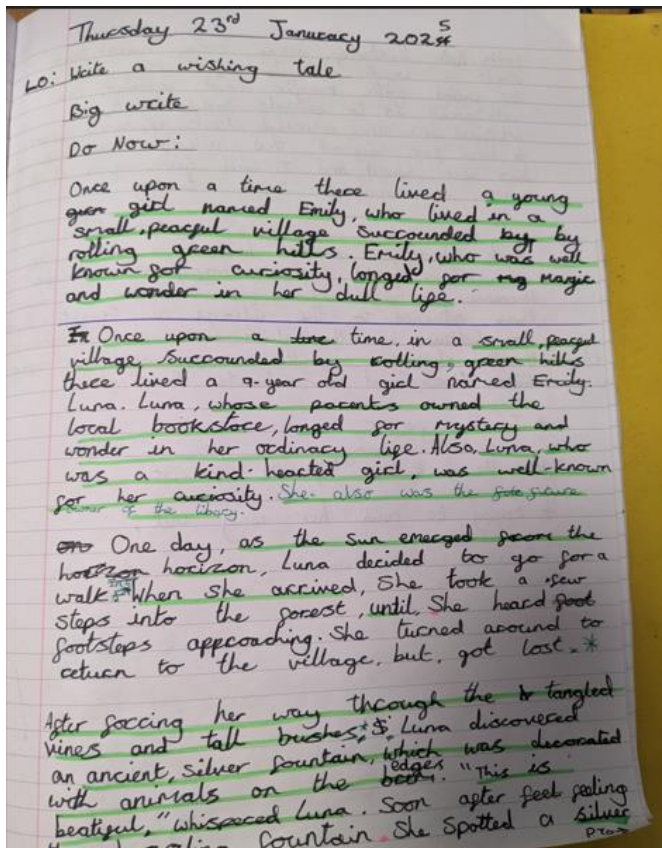
Maths: Please can you keep learning all the times tables up to the 12 times table with your children. Also, who will be the first child in Year 5 to complete Platinum?



Writing: Year 5 have been writing some wishing tales recently. I have been very impressed with some of their stories. Please find attached two of their stories from Jasmine and Eva.

Science: Year 5 have been enjoying their science experiments this half term. Here is a photo of some children in Year 5 doing their magnets experiment. They have been testing different materials to see if they are magnetic.

We look forward to another month of learning



Year 6 with Miss Withy and Mrs Hathaway

Lino Printing – Elizabeth Catlett

Year 6 explored the art of **lino printing**, inspired by the works of renowned artist **Elizabeth Catlett**. Known for her bold prints highlighting themes of identity and social justice, Catlett's work encouraged us to create designs with strong messages and striking visuals.

We began by studying her influences and sketching designs that reflected themes of community and resilience. With our ideas finalised, we moved on to the exciting (and slightly nerve-wracking!) process of cutting the lino. Using special lino-cutting tools, we carefully carved our designs, ensuring that the areas to remain white were cut away while the raised parts would hold the ink. This step required patience and precision, and we quickly learned the importance of cutting away from our hands to stay safe. The unique textures created by the cutting tools added character to our designs, much like the expressive details seen in Catlett's work.





Finally, it was time to bring our designs to life! Using rollers, we evenly applied black ink onto the raised surfaces of our lino blocks. Then, we pressed the lino onto paper, either by hand or



using a printing press. Watching our designs transfer onto the paper was magical! Each print was unique, with slight variations that made them even more special. We created multiple prints to experiment with ink coverage and pressure, just as professional printmakers do.

The project taught us patience, creativity, and the power of art to tell a story. We're excited to share our work and celebrate the legacy of Elizabeth Catlett!

Mrs. Bharj - Primary Pastoral Lead

Dear children,

As you know, I always say:

♥ **If you show kindness, then kindness comes back to you.**

♥ **If you show respect, then you will be respected too.**

Every small act of kindness—like sharing, helping, or saying kind words—makes our school a happier place. Let's challenge ourselves everyday: **Can you do one kind thing for someone?** It could be a smile, a compliment, or helping a friend.

Remember, kindness is like a boomerang—it always finds its way back to you! 🌈

Why is Kindness Important?

- It makes people feel happy and valued.
- It helps build strong friendships.
- It creates a positive and caring environment.
- It spreads joy—kindness is contagious!

A simple way to remember kindness is: "Treat others how you want to be treated."



Who's ready to spread kindness today? 😊

Primary Dates for Your Diary

Wednesday 5 th February 2025	Year 4 Assembly
Monday 17 th – Friday 21 st February 2025	Half-term
Monday and Tuesday 3 rd & 4 th March 2025	Parents Evening
Friday 7 th March 2025	World book day – Non uniform, dress up as your favourite book character
Monday 10 th – Monday 17 th March 2025	Book Fair
Wednesday 2 nd April 2025	Year 2/3 Assembly
Monday 14 th – Friday 25 th April 2025	Half-term

PE Kit

Please ensure that your child is sent to school in the correct PE kit outlined below. Please ensure everything is labelled as well.

Can I also remind parents that children should be wearing **black school shoes or plain black trainers** only to school.

Black/blue shorts/joggers/leggings
Plain white t-shirt
Blue/black jumper
Black trainers
PE bag



Nearly New Uniform Rail

Just to let parents know that we have a pre-loved uniform rail in school, including shoes. This houses many items that have been donated to school (PE kits, summer dresses, trousers, skirts, etc). If you are in need of any items, please come and help yourself to clothing or send a note on dojo and we can pass clothes onto your children. We appreciate uniform is expensive and that children can lose items too. We do not charge for this uniform as it has been donated free of charge.