

BCPS News 10.02.23



Welcome to this fortnight's edition of our school newsletter!

Friday 10th February 2023

Headteacher Update



It's been a lovely end to this half term with lots going on in school this week. The whole school has been thinking about how to stay safe online as part of Safer Internet Day on Tuesday and have also been finding out ways to keep happy and healthy as part of Children's Mental Health Week. On top of that we have also taken part in the NSPCC 'Speak Out, Stay Safe, assemblies which have been fun but also conveyed an important message about personal safety and what to do if you feel worried or scared about something that is happening to you.

We are pleased to be welcoming back Mrs Heijne, our Deputy Head, who will be returning from her maternity leave after half term. We are incredibly grateful to Mrs Swift who has been Acting Deputy Head in her absence and will return to her role as Assistant Head of Early Years and KS1.

We hope that you have a lovely half term break and are able to enjoy some spring sunshine .

Mrs Johnston

Spring Term 2023 Diary Dates

Thursday 5 th January	School opens to pupils
Friday 13 th January	Y6 Cool Choices session
Monday 16 th January	Burwell House residential trip (Y4) – information event
Friday 20 th January	PTA Film Night
Monday 23 rd January	Diversity Role Models Workshop – Y5/6
Tuesday 24 th January	O2 Choir visit
Thursday 2 nd – Friday 3 rd February	Y4 residential visit to Burwell House
Monday 6 th February	Children's Mental Health Week
Friday 10 th February	PTA Valentine's Cake Stall
Monday 13 th – Friday 17 th February	Half term
Friday 24 th February	PTA Young Apprentice event – Y5/6
Tuesday 28 th February	Parent / Carer Consultations
Thursday 2 nd March	Parent / Carer Consultations
Friday 3 rd March	World Book Day
Tuesday 14 th March	Sycamore Class Assembly
8 th – 10 th March	Y6 Grafton Water residential visit
Friday 10 th March	PTA Mother's Day Gift event
Friday 17 th March	KS1 visit to Mountfitchet Castle
Monday 20 th March	Y5 Bikeability
Monday 20 th March	YR Village Walk
Wednesday 22 nd March	World Water Day
Thursday 24 th March	Anglian Learning Y5/6 Cross Country competition
Tuesday 28 th March	Y3/4 Production
Wednesday 29 th March	Willow visit to Wellcome Genome Campus
Thursday 30 th March	Maple & Sycamore visit to Wellcome Genome Campus
Thursday 30 th March	Anglian Learning Y3/4 Music Event @ West Road
Friday 31 st March	Last day of term

Safer Internet Day



On Tuesday 7th February we celebrated Safer Internet Day. The theme for this year was 'Let's Connect' and focussed on encouraging children and young people to talk with trusted adults about what they do when they are online and if there is anything that has made them feel uncomfortable or scared. Our whole school assemblies provided the children with the opportunity to share the different ways that they access the online world and to think about who they would talk to if they had a problem online. Talking with the children about online safety is important but can be challenging as a parent. The NSPCC have a number of resources which are useful for parents to support these conversations.

[NSPCC - Keeping Children Safe Online](#)

Y4 trip to Burwell House

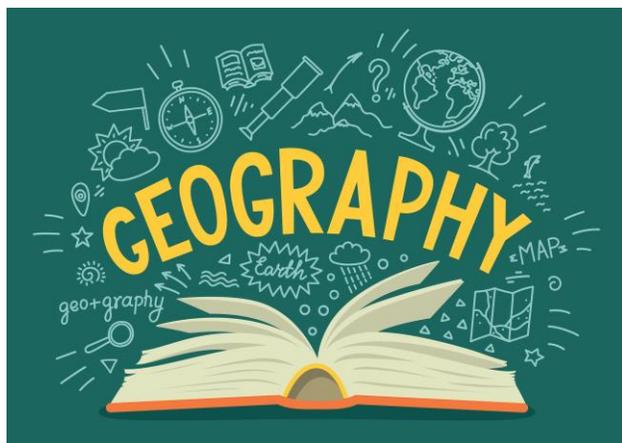


Last week, the children in Y4 went on their first residential visit with school to Burwell House. This one-night stay is a brilliant opportunity to introduce the children to residential trips whilst being close to home so that they are prepared for the longer trips in the upper KS2 year groups.

The children took part in a range of team-building activities in the wonderful grounds of Burwell House. They showed excellent listening and co-operative skills - particularly on the infamous Burwell Challenge! The staff were incredibly impressed with the children's behaviour and manners whilst away. Well done to everyone involved!

A special thank you also to the staff that went on the visit - Mr Legge, Mrs Childs, Mrs Stocking, Mrs Isbell and Mrs Preston.

Subject Spotlight: Geography



Geography Subject Lead: Emily Cridland

How is the geography curriculum structured?

The primary geography curriculum has four key strands, which are:

- Locational Knowledge (where places are and how to find them using maps and other resources)
- Place Knowledge (the characteristics of places and their similarities and differences)
- Human and Physical Geography (geographical features and processes driven by both natural and human activity)
- Geographical Skills and Fieldwork (the use of maps, aerial views and plan perspectives, the development of navigational skills and experiential observation and enquiry)

There is a local, national and international element to geography teaching in each mixed-year programme, with the geographical scope of study building on prior learning and expanding as children move through the school. Children move from exploring the immediate school environment and small areas of very contrasting locations in Reception and Key Stage 1 to making three-way comparisons between global locations using more sophisticated data in Upper Key Stage 2, for example. Sustainability and conservation are threads that weave through the geography curriculum in our school as those are issues that will increasingly impact upon our children and about which they are passionate at Bottisham. The school's Eco Council further supports this focus with recent initiatives including the planting and maintenance of the community orchard and planning for Earth Day each year.

How is the geography curriculum delivered?

At Bottisham Primary School, each termly or half-termly topic is driven by either a geographical or historical focus. This places the humanities at the heart of our curriculum with the aim that our pupils develop a strong foundational understanding of, enthusiasm for and curiosity in the world around them and make meaningful links between the humanities and other curriculum subjects. Geography is taught as a discrete subject within the topic however, to ensure that children fully understand what the subject encompasses. A whole school definition of geography has been developed to be shared regularly with children.

“Geography is the study of places and processes on Earth and the relationships between people and their environments.” – Whole-school definition of geography

Three terms of geography teaching are covered during each two-year rolling programme. Progression is ensured by sequencing units carefully within each yearly cycle of teaching to build on key ideas within that year and children will experience different elements of the geography curriculum in each year of their mixed-year experience. Key vocabulary is identified and then classified for each unit of geography teaching and shared with pupils and parents in school and on Google Classroom.

Children revisit prior learning through lesson starters and connections between linked units of work, for example learning about the four countries and capital cities of the UK in Key Stage 1 is revisited and deepened in Key Stage 2 with a unit on the human and physical geography, including economic activity, of counties, regions and major cities of the UK. A basic understanding of the journey from field to fork and the provenance of food in Key Stage 1 in the ‘World Kitchen’ unit supports learning about Fair Trade and its associated issues in Year 5/6.

We feel strongly at BPS that learning in geography should be experiential and based upon real, topical issues where possible, with opportunities for enquiry-based fieldwork in the local area and the development of mapping skills in context, for example through recent investment in the ‘Cross

Curricular Orienteering' package in PE. Visits from local organisations such as Anglian Water further provide cost-effective enrichment to the curriculum. Technology including publishing and presentation software, Augmented Reality, Green Screen and interactive mapping software such as 'Digimap for Schools' are used to support, embed and deepen learning further. We have recently launched the Y5/6 Anglian Learning inter-schools geography quiz with other primary schools in the trust to raise the profile of geography further and we are keen for this to become an annual event.

How can I get involved?

If you are a keen geographer, have lived or travelled abroad or perhaps work for an organisation that may be able to support our geography teaching or provide resources related to issues around sustainability and conservation, we are always keen to bring our teaching to life! Please contact ecridland@bottishamprimary.org if you are able to offer any support. Thank you!

Medication in school



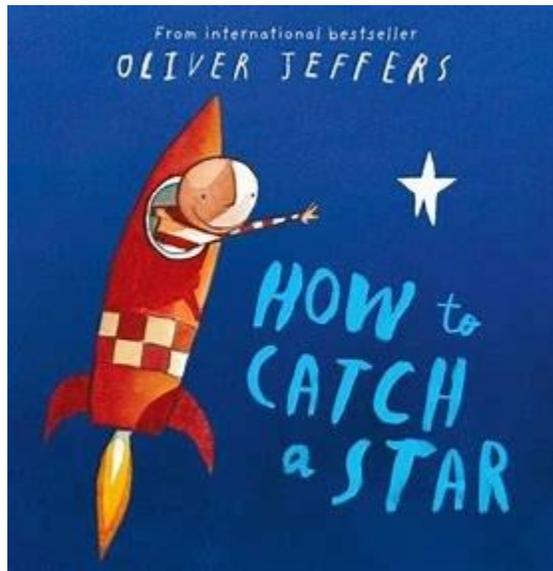
If your child needs to have medication administered during the school day, this should be brought by a parent or carer directly to the school office. The office team will provide you with a form to complete with details of the medication. Prescribed medication must be in the original container or packaging with the pharmacy label clearly identifying the child's name and dosage instructions. For liquid medication, an appropriate dosing spoon or syringe must be included.

- Where children have been prescribed antibiotics, we will administer in school those requiring 4 doses a day. This would normally be one dose during school time.
- In the case of medication requiring 3 doses per day, we ask that this is administered outside of the school day if possible.

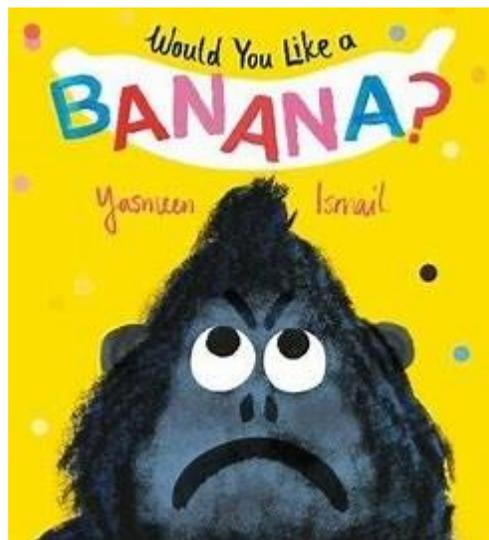
Thank you

Recommended Readers

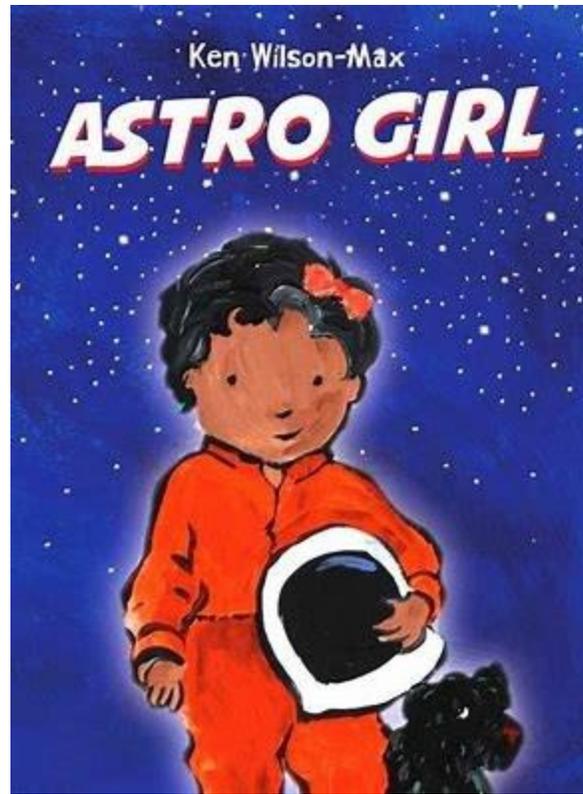
Here are some books that we've been enjoying in school this half term!



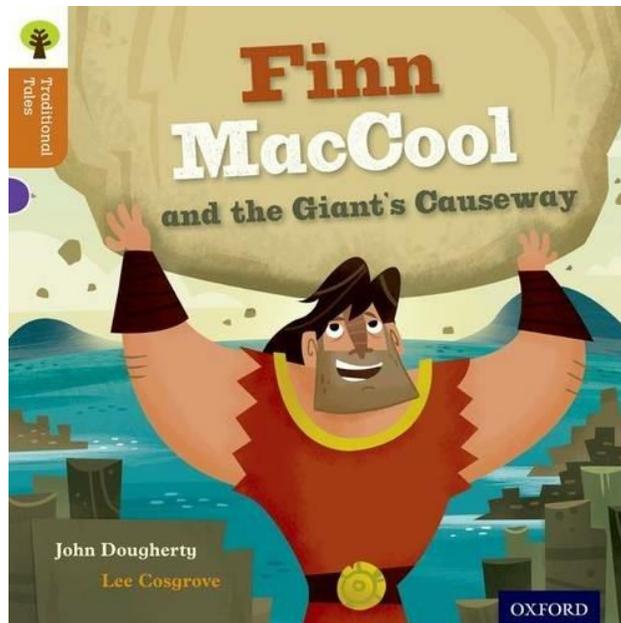
1 - Nursery & Reception



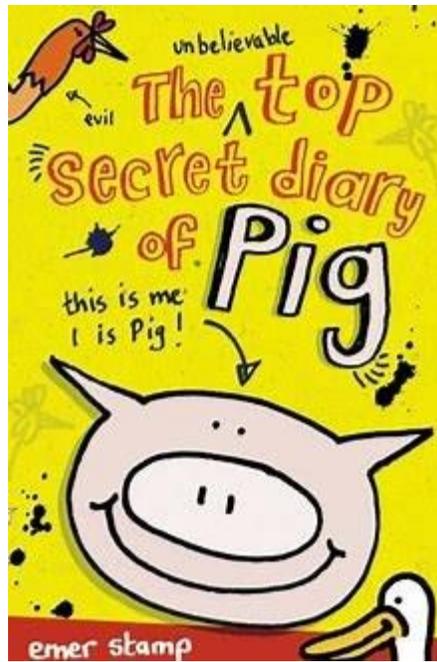
2 - Nursery & Reception



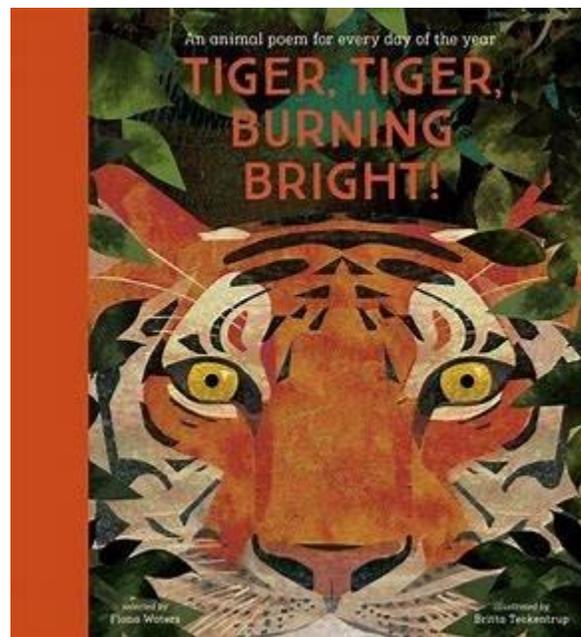
3 - Nursery & Reception



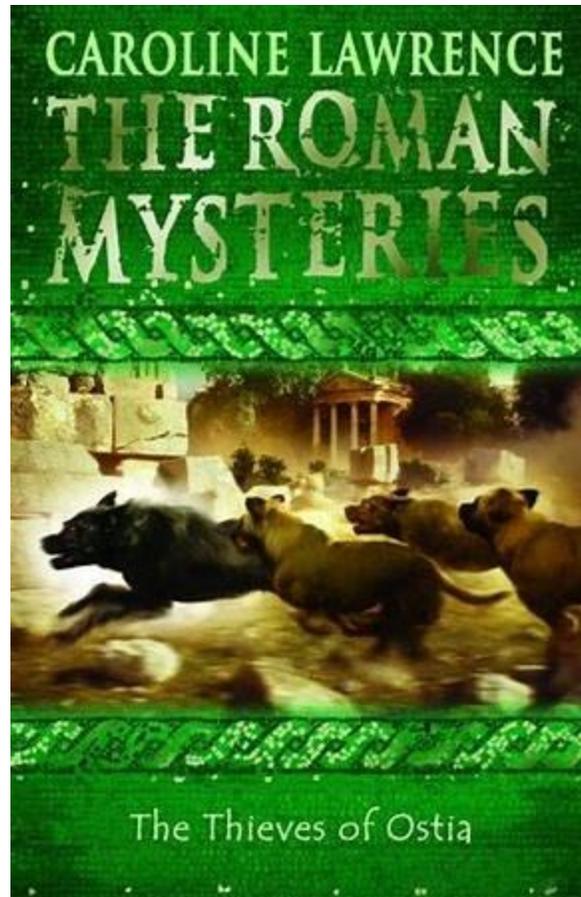
4 - KS1



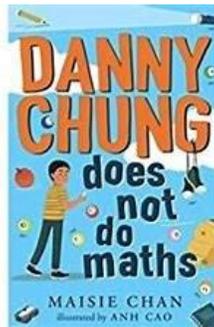
5 - KS1



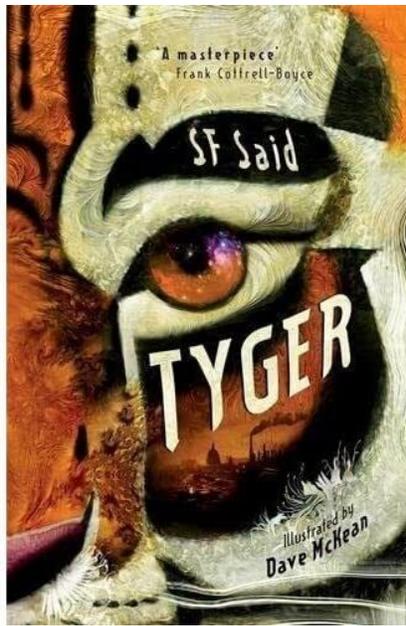
6 - Y3/4



7 - Y3/4



8 - Y5/6



9 - Y5/6

Digital Art





These beautiful pictures were created by the children in Sycamore Class. Inspired by the work of David Hockney, they used a digital art package on the I pads to create these images.

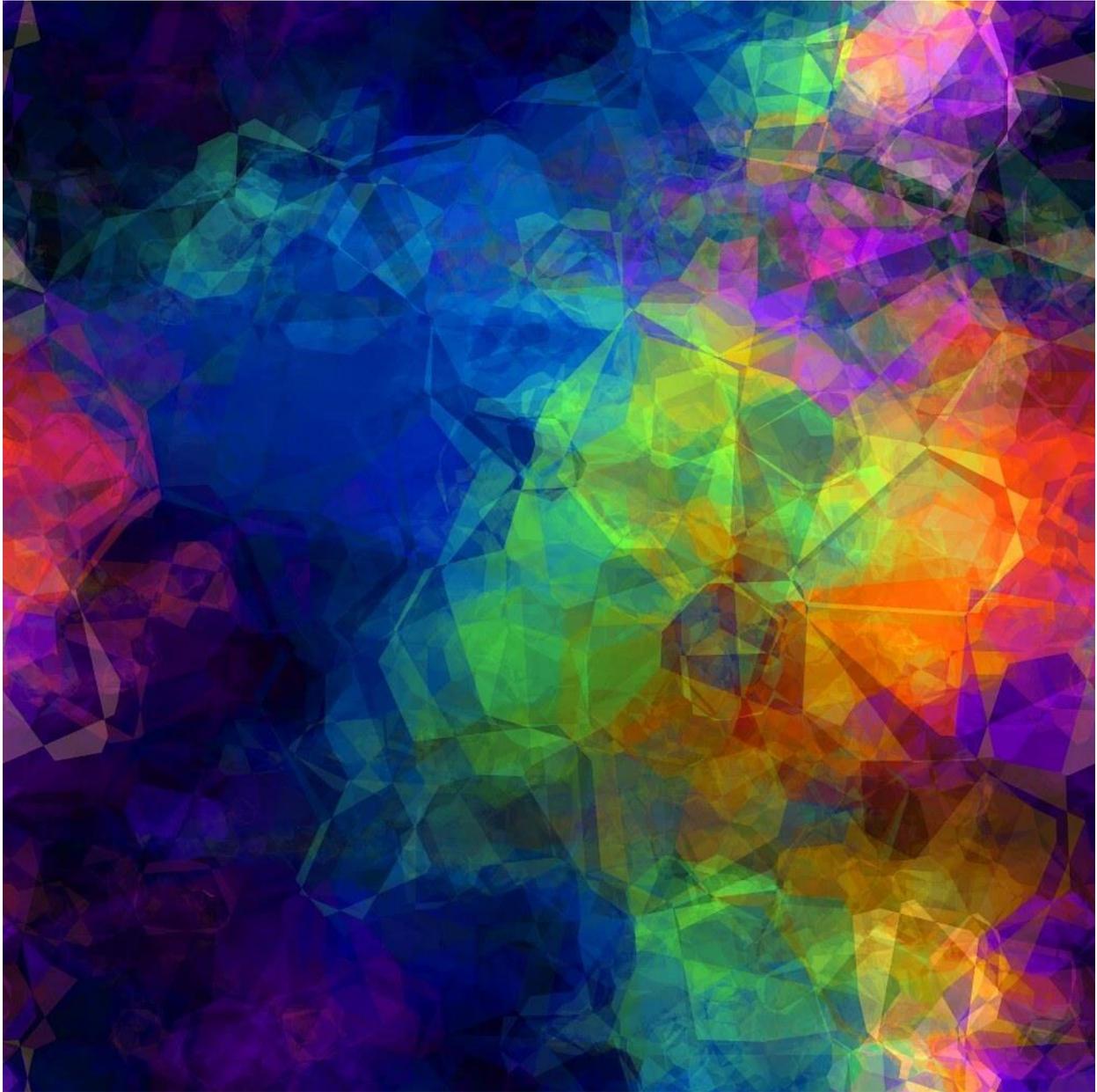
Are you worried about a child, family or friend?

Child Protection involves taking steps to safeguard children and young people at risk of, or suffering from neglect, physical, emotional or sexual abuse. It also means protecting children from witnessing Domestic Abuse and Violence as well as supporting families who are in financial or medical difficulties. It is vital that **everyone** takes personal responsibility to look after children, families and friends and report their concerns. If we all watch out for each other then we will ultimately support and protect the future lives of our children.



If you have a concern about the safety and welfare of a child at our school, you can email our confidential address on safeguardingconcerns@bottishamprimary.org.

Term Dates 2022-23



Autumn Term 2022

Thursday 1 September - Professional Day (school closed to pupils)

Friday 2 September - Professional Day (school closed to pupils)

Monday 5 September - Start of term

Monday 24 October to Friday 28 October - Half term

Wednesday 21st December - End of term

Spring Term 2023

Wednesday 4 January - Professional Day (school closed to pupils)

Thursday 5 January - Start of term

Monday 13 February to Friday 17 February - Half term

Friday 31 March - End of term

Summer term 2023

Monday 17 April - Professional Day (school closed to pupils)

Tuesday 18 April - Start of term

Monday 1 May - May Day Bank Holiday

Monday 29 May to Friday 2 June - Half term

Monday 5 June - Professional Day (school closed to pupils)

Wednesday 19 July - End of term

Contact Us



Please get in touch if you have any queries - our office team will be happy to help

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