



Bottisham Primary School

Newsletter

Friday 11th September 2026

*courage curiosity compassion
commitment respect*

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL

We hope you had a restful and enjoyable summer break. A special, warm welcome to our new families. We are so pleased to have you join us. Similarly, thank you to everyone from the school community who has welcomed me to Bottisham over the past two weeks. It is a privilege to be the new head teacher at this wonderful school, and I look forward to getting to know everyone more over the coming weeks and months.

Ms Brierley



A Change to the start of the school Day

Keeping the children and staff safe is my top priority and as a result I have decided to have the school gates locked from 8am in the morning once Mr Donaghy, our site manager, has done a safety check of the site. Gates will open at 8:45am so pupils and families can start entering once all teachers and staff are in class and ready to take care of them. This will prevent a situation where any children are potentially unsupervised or where staff are not yet able to be outside on the playground to welcome families.

Communication with Parents

Moving forwards, all communication from the school will be sent to parents via the school's management system, Bromcom. Google Classrooms will only be used for sharing homework and for parents and carers to share learning at home with teachers. For enquiries or issues relating to school lunches, please contact School Grid (the external provider) directly.

Next week class newsletters and class information sheets will be sent home: these will provide you with practical information specific to your class, as well as curriculum content for this term.

Letters sent home since the start of term:

- Photograph consent form – please update your consent for photographs.
- Reminder to Year 6 parents to cancel school lunches whilst pupils are at Graham water.
- Choir club
- Reception and Year 6 height and weight measurement letter (this is an opt out letter)



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Key Dates for the Autumn Term...so far!

Wednesday 16th – Friday 18th September: Year 6 residential to Grafton Water

Monday 21st September, 7pm online: PTA AGM

Tuesday 29th September & Thursday 1st October 3:40pm – 6:30pm: Parents consultations.

Monday 5th and Tuesday 6th October: Oak Class balance bike training

Tuesday 13th October: School photographer in – individual photographs

Friday 16th October, 9am-10am: Meet the Headteacher session for parents.

Wednesday 21st October, 5-6pm: KS2 Autumn Disco

Monday 26th – Friday 30th October: Half-term

Monday 2nd November: Staff training day – **SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS.**

Wednesday 4th November, 3:30-4:30pm: KS1 Storytime session.

Friday 27th November: Flu vaccinations take place in school.

Friday 4th December, 4:30-6:30pm: Christmas Fair.

W/B Monday 7th December: Elfridges

Tuesday 8th December at and Wednesday 9th December at 2:15: Year 1 & 2 Nativity

Tuesday 8th December: Rocksteady concert (for parents of pupils in Rocksteady)

Friday 18th December: Break up for Christmas holidays

Monday 4th January: School opens to pupils for Spring Term.

Please note further dates will be added as the term progresses – we will share these with you in good time.



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CHANGE TO PE KITS

Children should now come dressed in their PE kits on PE days. This is so that pupils can come dressed in the most appropriate kits for the weather that day, and to minimize time wasted getting changed so that pupils have more time enjoying their PE lessons.

OUR PE KIT IS:

- White round necked t-shirt
- Black or navy shorts
- Black or navy jogging trousers or leggings
- Trainers or plimsolls
- Black or navy sweater or hoodie – no logos



PE DAYS

Oak: Friday
Hazel: Monday & Friday
Beech: Thursday and Friday
Cherry: Monday & Friday
Birch: Monday & Friday
Elm: Wednesday and Friday
Maple: Tuesday & Thursday
Willow: Tuesday & Thursday

Footwear

Where at all possible, we would like pupils to be wearing black shoes or trainers with minimal logos.



UNIFORM

Our school uniform is an important part of identifying as a member of our school community and we want our pupils wear it with pride.

- Red sweatshirt or cardigan (with or without school logo)
 - Red or white polo shirt (with or without school logo) and
 - Black or charcoal grey trousers, shorts, pinafore dress, skirt or culottes
- Or
- Red and white checked dress

Labelling Uniform

Each year, we end up with a large amount of unclaimed school uniform. To help us return lost items to the right child, please make sure that all coats and jumpers are clearly **named**.

Allergies and Lunches - **NUT FREE SCHOOL**

Please be aware that we have a number of pupils who have severe allergies to nuts. Pupils should **not have nuts or products containing nuts in school**. Please be aware that some products contain hidden nuts. Common products, which often contain 'hidden nuts' include:

- Granola bars & flapjacks
- Chocolate spreads, or chocolate bars with praline in.
- Mixed dried fruit packs
- Brioche with chocolate chips

Clubs

Information for clubs has previously been sent out, but we have attached the flyers again as there are currently spaces in all clubs. Nerf Club has been delayed until the 18th September due to numbers. It will be cancelled after this date if there is no interest.



Harvest Festival Donations

As part of our harvest celebrations, we'd like to invite you to send in voluntary donations for the Cambridge City Food Bank. The Food Bank is a charity that collects and distributes items of food for those most in need in the wider Cambridge community. Please bring any of the items listed below into school and we will then deliver your donations to the food bank. Please hand these to your child's class teacher. Thank you for your continued support with this charity once again this year.

*Items needed include: **squash, pasta, tinned vegetables, jam, long-life milk, noddles, tinned fruit, tinned rice pudding, halal food items, nappies and dog food.***

www.cambridgecity.foodbank.org.uk/support-us/donate-food

Road Safety Competition Results

On Monday representatives from The Parish Council and Police led a special assembly at school. This was to announce the winner of the Road Safety Competition that took place last term. Thank you to all of you who entered. The judges were incredibly impressed with the quality of the entries from pupils at Bottisham.

Overall winner: Jack Teather - Jack's design should soon be appearing on lampposts and wheelie bins around the village so keep your eyes open and try to spot it.

Highly Commended

Teddy Shrubbs, Cecelia Fletcher, Mya Cullum, Madison Ormrod, Natan Skowyrski, Amy Boyce, Alicia Sadler, Lily Peacock, Oscar Tavener, Hanna Kolano, Anabel Mann & Malia Mills

The Importance of Good Attendance and Punctuality

We know that every parent and carer wants the very best for their child. Regular school attendance is one of the simplest and most important ways we can work together to give children the best possible start in life. Every day at school is an opportunity to learn, grow, build confidence, develop friendships and enjoy new experiences.

Why Does Attendance Matter?

Missing school regularly can have a significant impact on a child's learning and wellbeing. Missing just one day of school each week can add up to almost two full years of lost learning by the end of their school journey. Poor attendance can make it harder for children to keep up with their learning, feel confident in the classroom and access future opportunities such as college, training and employment. It is not only about learning in the classroom. When children are absent, they can also miss out on friendships, special activities, school events and the many experiences that make school life so enjoyable.

Every Day Counts

Although GCSEs may seem a long way off, the foundations for future success are built from the very beginning of a child's education. Good attendance habits start early and help children develop the routines, resilience and confidence they need throughout their school life.

At Bottisham, we want every child to feel happy, supported and excited to come to school each day. We understand that sometimes children may face challenges that affect their attendance, **and we are here to help**. If you have any concerns about your child's attendance or wellbeing, please speak to your child's class teacher or Ms Brierley. By working together, we can support every child to make the most of their education and ensure that every school day counts.

Punctuality is an important part of good attendance. Arriving on time helps children settle calmly, be ready to learn and ensures they don't miss valuable learning at the start of the day. Our school day starts promptly at 9am, so please allow enough time for your child to arrive and be ready for a positive start to the day.

Appointments

We understand it is not always possible to book medical and dental appointments outside of the school day. However, if your child has an appointment during the school day, we do require evidence of this. As many things are now electronic and stored on apps, a screen shot of a text message, or from an app is fine. Please email these to the school office when you communicate the appointment time with them. Alternatively, you can show a member of the office team by going in person.



A group of five diverse children are running and smiling on a grassy field. They are all wearing teal Premier Education vests. The background is a dark blue sky with stylized white and yellow sun rays. A large white 'X' shape is behind the children.

**AFTER
SCHOOL**

AUTUMN TERM CLUBS

Bottisham Primary Community School

AUT 1: Starts w/c 7th September, Finishes w/c 19th October

AUT 2: Starts w/c 2nd November, Finishes w/c 14th December



EXTRACURRICULAR CLUBS AT YOUR SCHOOL...

Day:	Activity:	Year(s):	Time:	Price
Monday	Gymnastics	Y1 - 6	08:00 - 08:45	£6 per session
Monday	Dodgeball	Y3 - 6	15:30 - 16:30	£6 per session
Thursday	Performing Arts	Y1 - 6	08:00 - 08:45	£6 per session
Thursday	Cricket	Y1 - 6	15:30 - 16:30	£6 per session
Friday	Nerf	Y1 - 4	15:30 - 16:30	£6 per session



We are pleased to inform you that we will be running the above listed clubs at your school this term for boys and girls of all abilities. Full details are available on our website.

To book, please follow these simple steps:

1. visit www.premier-education.com
2. search your postcode in 'book a course'
3. select your school and click BOOK NOW
4. complete your details and receive email confirmation of your booking.

Please note booking remains open throughout the duration of the course, the price will adjust on the payment page! If your child is in receipt of Pupil Premium funding, the payment can be paid for by the school. If your family circumstances have changed since being awarded the Pupil Premium grant and you feel you could make a contribution or pay the full payment, it would be very much appreciated.

Any questions email info@premier-education.com

CLICK HERE TO BOOK

<https://www.premier-education.com/parents/venue/courses/297/>

Premier Education is the UK's No. 1 provider of sport and physical activity to primary schools, improving children's health and wellbeing through active learning every day!



Based on over 20,000 reviews

**ROCK
STEADY**

A BAND FOR EVERYONE



ROCK AND POP BAND LESSONS IN YOUR SCHOOL



Children learn
to play an
instrument in their
very own band.



Fun and inclusive
in-school band
lessons. No music
theory involved.



Instruments
provided and
no experience
necessary.



Exam-free,
Ofqual-regulated
Trinity music
qualification.



Follow their
musical journey
in your Backstage
account.

0330 113 0330

(Mon-Weds 8am-8pm, Thurs-Fri 8am-6pm, local rate)

rocksteadymusicschool.com



**BOOK TO START
LESSONS THIS TERM!**



BOTTISHAM MUSIC CENTRE



SATURDAY MUSIC SCHOOL

BEGINNER ROCK SCHOOL

ROCK SCHOOL

SMALL BANDS

ORCHESTRA

HALF-TERM WORKSHOPS

INSTRUMENTAL TASTER SESSIONS

UKULELE

SOLO SINGING

3 CHOIRS

KEYBOARD

SAMBA

RHYTHM CUPS

DJEMBE

**FOR MORE DETAILS OR TO JOIN OUR MAILING
LIST PLEASE EMAIL BMC@BOTTISHAMVC.ORG**

**ALL CHILDREN
YEARS 3 - 7 WELCOME**

WILD@ART

≡ CAMBRIDGESHIRE ≡

SNEAK PEEK

AUTUMN 1

We can't wait for an exciting new term of creativity! Here's a little sneak peek of some of the fun and inspiring crafts we'll be making...



ABSTRACT LAYER PAINTING!

Learn how to make beautiful paintings by layering paint and using different techniques.



OPTICAL ILLUSION ART:

We will be creating this magical colour changing design!



MAKE YOUR OWN
WONDERFUL
SLIMY WITCHES
BREW POTIONS
READY FOR
HALLOWEEN!



PLUS LOTS MORE CREATIVE FUN...

DRAWING FROM LIFE WITH WATERCOLOURS



Looking at the artist
Yago Partal and his
cool animal portraits!

PAINTING WITH BROCCOLI!



AND LOTS MORE SURPRISES!



FOLLOW US FOR
UPDATES, INSPIRATION
& MORE!

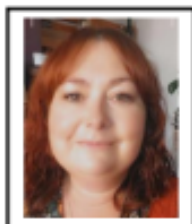


Wild at Art Workshops



wildatartcambridgeshire

Education Inclusion Family Advisor Virtual Drop-In



Michelle West

Education Inclusion Family Advisors offer you an opportunity to ask for information, advice and support on any issue affecting your family life in a relaxed and confidential environment.

These areas include:

- Challenging behaviour
- Routines
- Supporting emotions and wellbeing
- School transitions
- Parenting strategies
- Building resilience and confidence
- Any other family challenges you might be facing

If you would like to talk with Michelle on a 1:1 basis about any of the above issues, then book onto the drop-in on **Thursday 17th September 9.30am-12.30pm**. Sessions are 30 minutes long.

To book on:

- Email michelle.west@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
- Mention "Drop-in" in the subject bar of your email
- Await a Microsoft Teams meeting invite for a 30 minute chat

Meet the Author Event



Bottisham Community Library Presents

MARIAJO ILUSTRAJO

Award-Winning Writer & Illustrator

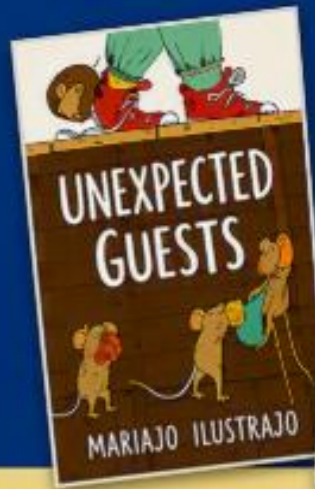
Author of:



Unexpected Guests



Oh, Carrots!



Saturday 3rd October



10:30 AM

Join us for a fun and inspiring morning with Mariajo Ilustrajo!

- Discover her wonderful books
- Hear her read some of her favourite stories aloud
- Learn about her love of illustration
- Take part in exciting draw-along activities



Book Signing Opportunity

Books will be available to purchase and have signed by Mariajo.

Cash only, please.

Donations Welcome

Donations on entry will help support Bottisham Community Library.

Apply now

for a Reception school place for September 2027

If your child
will be aged 4
by **31st August**

You need to
apply **NOW**
for a School
place



SCAN ME

**Apply by
15th January
2027**

For further information please visit
www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/admissions
or contact your local School

Contact the Admissions Team by telephone 0345 045 1370

School Admissions ALC2605, PO Box 761, Huntingdon, PE29 9 QR or
email admissions@cambridgeshire.gov.uk