Bottisham Primary School

Newsletter

Friday 16th October 2026

courage curiosity compassion commitment respect

This Week in School

This week, staff and pupils were visited by the Director and Deputy Director of Primary Education, as well as the Director of Inclusion, from Anglian Learning Trust. The purpose of the visit was to carry out a review into how well the school is doing, alongside senior leaders. The team were very impressed by pupil knowledge in history, geography and RE. They also commented on how enthusiastic pupils are about their learning in the lessons they saw, and how lunchtime behaviour is much improved. The pupils conducted themselves exceptionally well in pupil voice sessions. Another strength noted was the strong relationships between pupils, staff and families, and how safe and nurtured pupils feel.

Key Stage 1 Village Walk

Year 1 and 2 put on their explorer hats and headed out around Bottisham as part of our Geography topic, Where We Live. Armed with their observation skills, the children searched for human and physical features, identified a variety of homes and discussed how different buildings are used within the community. They also kept a close eye on the roads to spot and count the many types of transport travelling through the village!

Attendance – why we care so much

Being in school regularly is about much more than academic learning. It gives children daily opportunities to build friendships, develop positive relationships with trusted adults, feel part of their school community and experience the routines and successes that build confidence and belonging. Attendance and wellbeing support one another: when children feel safe, known and that they belong, they are better placed to attend, engage and thrive. Please be reassured, that if your child is in school with mild illness, such as coughs and colds, teachers will make adjustments for them, if you let the class teacher know. However, we do find that once in, most children feel better as they are distracted by their learning and friends.

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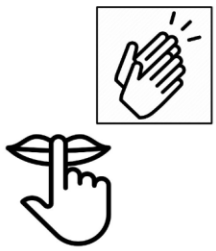
At Bottisham, we recognise that building a positive school and learning culture is key so that all children feel safe, nurtured and can be in the optimal mental state for learning. We make sure that our routines and transitions ensure excellent behaviour and attitudes to learning so there is a sense of pride in our school that is shared by staff, pupils and their families. We know that if we automate the routines so they are embedded in long term memory, this will free up children's working memory; thus limiting any unnecessary load placed on pupils by distractions. Our new whole-school routines will be embedded in all classrooms year after year and understood by all staff and pupils.

The first routine that all staff and classes worked on was:

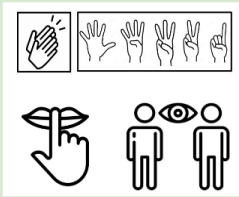
"Stop at a signal"

1. Stop what you are doing when you hear the signal.
2. Respond to the signal (e.g. clap back or show hands).
3. Turn and look at the leader.
4. Body calm, hands still.



We stop at a signal straight away so that:

- We are ready to follow the next instruction.
- We focus our attention on what is being said.
- We can show respect towards adults and for everyone's learning.
- We don't waste learning time.



KS2 Halloween Disco

Don't forget that next week on Wednesday 21st October, 5-6pm is the Key Stage 2 Halloween Disco run by the PTA. Fancy Dress is optional, but welcome.

Head Lice & Nits

As per the email sent out this week, please check your child's hair regularly for lice and nits. Please see, this useful information by the NHS as to what to look out for. NHS Guidance on Nits and Lice - what to look for

Letters sent out this week

-Languages spoken at BCPS

-Show and Tell Year 2

-History off the page Year 4,5 & 6

-Headlice

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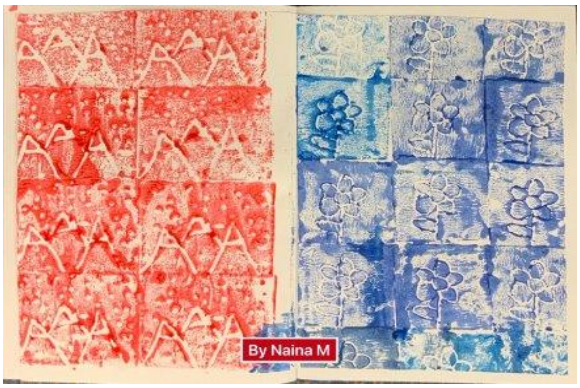
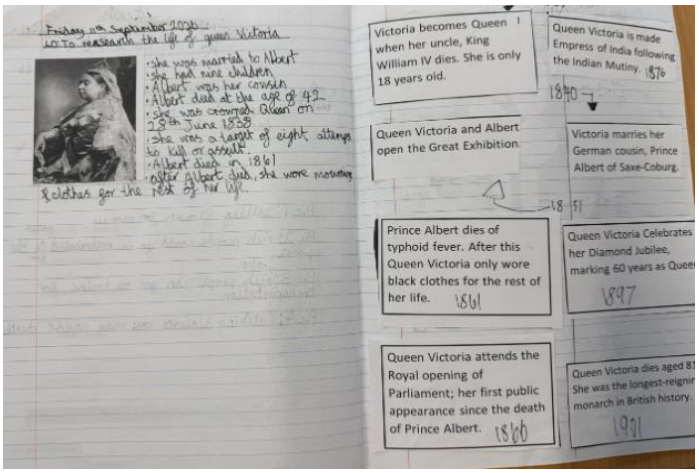
This week in Willow Class



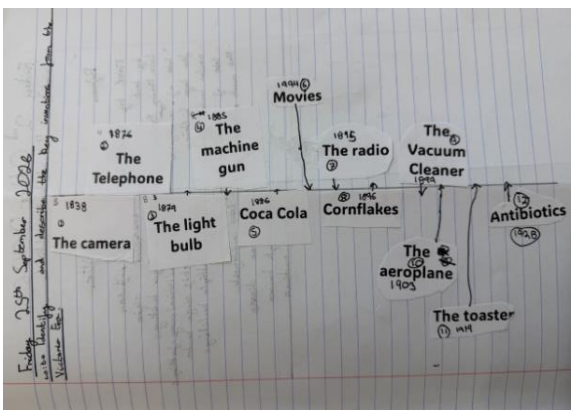
History

In History, we have been learning about Victorians. We looked at key events from the reign of Queen Victoria. Our favourite learning so far was about the Industrial Revolution. People usually think straight to trains, engines and electricity, but did you know that the vacuum cleaner and Coca Cola were also first patented during Victorian times?



Art

In Art, we explored the work of William Morris, focusing on his beautiful wallpaper designs inspired by nature. Using motifs such as leaves, flowers and vines, the children created their own repeating tile patterns. They then combined these tiles to design unique wallpaper samples, showcasing creativity, pattern-making skills and an understanding of Morris's artistic style.



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Key Dates for the Autumn Term

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 and Wednesday 9th December at 2:15: Year 1 & 2 Nativity
Tuesday 8th December: Rocksteady concert (for parents of pupils in Rocksteady)
Thursday 10th December: Christmas Jumper Day
Thursday 10th December: Christmas Craft Afternoon – Oak Class
Thursday 10th December, 6-7pm, Holy Trinity Church: School Carol Service.
Friday 18th December: Break up for Christmas holidays
Monday 4th January: School opens to pupils for Spring Term.

WILD @art

Art and Craft After School Club

Year 1-6

Bottisham Primary School

Wednesdays

3:30 to 4:30pm

£9.50 per session

Bookable in blocks only

Bookings: wildatartworkshops.com - "Book a club"

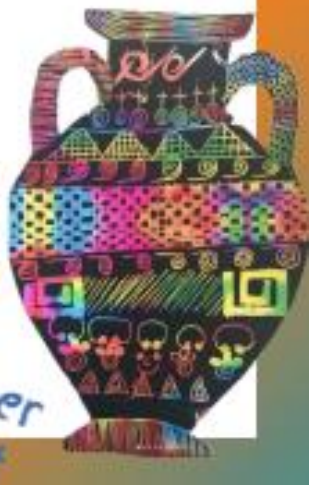
For queries: victoria.wildatart@gmail.com

For exact running dates please see booking platform

Wild at art workshops

wildatartcambridgeshire

Mosaic Painting Collage Clay Printing Paper Craft



WILD @ art
CAMBRIDGE

Ofsted

NEXT TERM

SNEAK PEEK!

Balloon Rainy Day Craft

Christmas Pebble Craft

Pop Up Autumn Scenes

Exploring the artist Salvador Dali and his amazing elephants!

OTHER ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

Making grabber toys,
Rangoli patterns
and carol singer craft.

Education Inclusion Family Advisor Team Countywide Online Workshop Offer

The EIFA team would like to present our workshops on a variety of parenting and family issues for November.

Please ensure you book onto each workshop individually by clicking on the link or scanning the QR code and completing the registration form. If you don't receive the booking link, please check your spam/junk folder. A reminder email will also be sent to you an hour before the workshop.

Managing Challenging Behaviour	Tuesday, 10 November 2026, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Managing Challenging Behaviour or
Supporting Your Child with Angry Feelings	Thursday, 12 November 2026, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Supporting with Angry Feelings or
Supporting Your Child with Sleep	Tuesday, 17 November 2026, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Supporting Your Child with Sleep or
Supporting Your Child with Feelings of Worry	Thursday, 19 November 2026, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Supporting with Feelings of Worry or
Managing Sibling Rivalry	Tuesday, 24 November 2026, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Managing Sibling Rivalry or
Supporting Your Child with Angry Feelings	Thursday 26 November 2026, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Supporting with Angry Feelings or

If you have any questions about our workshops, or the EIFA service in general, please contact earlyintervention@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

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Supporting Your Child with Feelings of Worry	Tuesday, 1 December 2026, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Supporting Your Child with Feelings of Worry or
Managing Challenging Behaviour	Thursday, 3 December 2026, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Managing Challenging Behaviour or
Managing Sibling Rivalry	Tuesday, 8 December 2026, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Managing Sibling Rivalry or
Supporting Your Child with Angry Feelings	Thursday, 10 December 2026, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Supporting with Angry Feelings or

If you have any questions about our workshops, or the EIFA service in general, please contact earlyintervention@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Bottisham Music Centre
@ Bottisham Village College

Lode Road, Bottisham
Cambridge CB25 9DL
Tel: 01223 811250
BMC@Bottishamvc.org
Bottisham Music Centre

EA/mlc

Oct2026

Dear Parent/Carer

October Half Term Music Workshop

Summary of Actions	**Deadline**
October Half Term Music Workshop: 10am to 4pm, Monday 26 and Tuesday 27 October Online sign-up and further information https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/yRMRbADnDh	Closing dates for applications: Wednesday 21 Oct 2026

In September 2024 we launched the brand new Bottisham Music Centre (BMC) based at Bottisham Village College. BMC is open to all budding musicians currently in school years 3-7. Our holiday workshops cater for all abilities, from complete beginners to experienced musicians, and we are pleased to announce that booking is now available for our October half-term course (Monday 26 and Tuesday 27 October).

This is a 2-day course in which students will take part in workshop sessions that will develop a wide range of music making skills and provide opportunities to learn and perform with other young musicians. Many of our groups cater for complete beginners, whilst others require some experience. Our balanced programme ensures that we are able cater for everyone. The workshop will culminate in a performance to family and friends to showcase our work at the end of the second day.

The following sessions are available. Choose **one** activity from each group:

Group A
- **Rock School** (Keyboard, Guitar/Ukulele, Bass, Drums): Work on playing a popular song to perform alongside Rock choir
- **Rock Choir**: Sing as a group with our Rock School band

Group B
- **Improver Bass**: For those with experience or tried previous bass tasters – 3 spaces
- **Tuned Percussion**: Learn to play melodic parts using a range of tuned percussion instruments eg Glockenspiels, Chime bars or Boomwhackers
- **Rhythm Bounce**: Making rhythm patterns using bouncing balls – 12 spaces
- **Bucket Drumming**: Learning drumming patterns using upturned buckets
- **Solo Singing**: Sing a solo line or two in a group song – 9 spaces

Group C
- **Beginner Bass**: For those new to bass guitar – 4 spaces
- **Beginner Keyboards**: For complete beginners or recently started – 12 spaces
- **Orchestra:** For players of brass, strings, woodwind or percussion.
- **Samba Drumming**: Rhythmic patterns and movement using drums and percussion
- **Harmony Choir**: Learn to sing in parts or learn simple harmonies

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Bottisham Music Centre

Group D

- **Improver Bass**: For those with experience or tried previous bass tasters – 3 spaces
- **Improver Keyboards**: Group keyboard session. Min 6 months experience required
- **Djembe Drumming**: Group African drumming patterns
- **Body Percussion:** Body beats and movement patterns
- **Beginner Recorder**: Instruments will be provided
- **Musical Theatre Choir**: Sing songs from your favourite musicals

Please note that some of our groups have a limited capacity and places will be allocated on a first come first served basis. All groups are subject to change depending on numbers.

Important information:

When: Monday 26th & Tuesday 27th October 2026

Time: 10.00am-4.00pm (with Parent concert at 3.15pm on Tuesday 27th October)

Where: Music Department, Bottisham Village College, Lode Road, Bottisham CB25 9DL

Who: All aspiring & experienced musicians, currently in Years 3-7

How to sign up: https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/yRMRbADnDh

Total cost for 2-day workshop: £70 per child, Sibling discount: £120 for 2 children from the same family

Online Payment:

Account Name:	Anglian learning t/a Bottisham village college
Account Number:	43596184
Sort Code:	201768
Reference:	BVCMS, followed by Child's First Initial & Child's Surname

For further information or questions, please contact Mrs Emma Andrews
BMC@bottishamvc.org

Yours sincerely,
Mrs E Andrews
Centre Manager
Bottisham Music Centre

cubs

1st Bottisham Cubs

Be Part of Something Great!

Adventure • Friends • Skills for Life

Monday Nights
6:30pm – 8:00pm

Children need to be
8 – 10 years old
to join

At Bottisham Scout Hut

All are Welcome!

We do lots of exciting activities, including...

- Learning new skills
- Hikes
- Developing leadership and team work skills
- Working towards badges

Camping at weekends or holidays

External activities and local visits, like Clip 'n Climb!

For more information, contact

cubs@1stbottishamscouts.org.uk

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

Premier Education

Trustpilot

Based on over 20,000 reviews

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.

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!

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/

Trustpilot

Based on over 20,000 reviews

Apply now

Cambridgeshire County Council

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