



Billingborough Primary School Newsletter

January 2025
enquiries@billingborough-cit.co.uk
01529240437

Happy New Year! Welcome back to a new school term.

On behalf of the staff at Billingborough Primary School, I extend a warm welcome back to all our wonderful pupils and their families as we return for the Spring Term. I hope you all enjoyed a restful and rejuvenating Christmas break filled with joy and cherished moments with loved ones.

We are thrilled to be back and eager to embark on another exciting term of learning and growth.

We are committed to providing a nurturing and stimulating environment where every child can thrive. We encourage open communication and a strong partnership between home and school. Please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher or myself if you have any questions or concerns.

We look forward to a successful and rewarding term ahead.

Staffing Updates

HAPPY
New Year

We would like to share some news regarding our staff team.

We are sad to say goodbye to Mr Lugin, who has recently left the school. Mr Lugin has been a valuable member of our staff team, first as a Sports Apprentice and more recently as a Teaching Assistant. We would like to thank him for his hard work, dedication, and the positive impact he has had on our children. We wish him all the very best in his future endeavours, particularly as he embarks on some exciting travel plans.

We are delighted to welcome three new members to our staff team:

- Mrs Cullum
- Mrs Hicks
- Mrs Wilkins

Mrs Cullum and Mrs Hicks will be joining the Buzzards Class team, while Mrs Wilkins will be joining the Barn Owls Class team. We are confident they will be fantastic additions to our school and we warmly welcome them to our school.

We look forward to working with our new colleagues and continuing to provide the best possible education for all our children.

School information

Parking

As the school year continues, we kindly request your cooperation with school parking procedures during drop-off and pick-up times. Please remember:

- Do not park on the yellow zig-zag lines outside the school. These areas are designated for the safety of pedestrians, particularly our children.
- Be mindful of other road users. Please drive slowly and cautiously, especially around the school entrance.
- Consider alternative drop-off/pick-up options. If possible, walk, cycle, or use public transport to avoid congestion and improve air quality.

We understand that drop-off and pick-up times can be busy. However, by working together, we can ensure the safety and well-being of all children and staff.

Dogs

This is a friendly reminder that no dogs are permitted on school grounds at any time, including during drop-off and pick-up.

While we understand that many of you have dogs as beloved pets, bringing them onto school property can:

- Disturb learning
- Pose a potential safety hazard to children, particularly those with allergies
- Create anxiety for some children who may be afraid of dogs.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in this matter.

Forest School

We are delighted to announce that our exciting Forest School lessons will continue every Thursday! Forest School offers countless benefits for our children, including:

- Developing key skills: Children learn about nature, develop physical skills, and improve their problem-solving abilities.
- Boosting confidence: Exploring the outdoors builds independence, resilience, and a sense of achievement.
- Promoting well-being: Spending time in nature reduces stress, improves mood, and increases vitamin D levels.
- Fostering a love of the outdoors: Forest School helps children develop a deep appreciation for the natural world and a sense of responsibility for the environment.

This Half Term:

- Water Voles Class & Barn Owls Class: Please come to school dressed in your full Forest School clothing. You will have the opportunity to change into your school uniform later in the day.
- Roe Deer Class: Please come to school in your school uniform with your Forest School clothes in a bag to change into.



School information

Fire Safety

On 6th January, the Fire Service will be visiting our school to deliver engaging fire safety workshops to Year 2 and Year 6 children.

These interactive sessions will teach children valuable fire safety knowledge, including:

- Understanding fire hazards in the home and school.
- The importance of having a home escape plan.
- Learning how to safely evacuate a building in case of fire.
- The dangers of playing with fire.

These workshops are an important part of our commitment to keeping our children safe.

Office Email

Please be advised that the email address for the school office has recently changed.

Our new email address is enquiries@billingborough-cit.co.uk.

We understand that some parents and carers may have contacted the school office via email over the Christmas holidays. If you sent an email to our previous address during this time, we kindly ask that you resend your email to the new address:

enquiries@billingborough-cit.co.uk.

We apologise for any inconvenience this change may cause.

LEGO Therapy

To further enhance the support we provide to our children, several of our dedicated teaching assistants are currently undergoing specialised training in LEGO Therapy.

LEGO Therapy is a unique and engaging approach that utilises the power of LEGO building to:

- Improve social skills: Children learn to communicate effectively, cooperate, and resolve conflicts constructively within a playful setting.
- Develop fine motor skills: Building with LEGO bricks enhances dexterity, coordination, and spatial awareness.
- Boost self-esteem: Successfully completing LEGO projects fosters a sense of accomplishment and confidence.
- Enhance cognitive skills: LEGO building encourages problem-solving, critical thinking, and creative exploration.

By investing in this valuable training, we aim to equip our teaching assistants with the skills and knowledge to effectively utilise LEGO Therapy as a valuable tool to support our children's social, emotional, and academic growth.

We are excited about the positive impact this training will have on our children's learning experiences.

If you have any LEGO bricks or LEGO sets that are no longer played with, we would really appreciate them for school.



School information

Healthy Choices

As the new term begins, we would like to remind you of a few important school policies to ensure a healthy and safe environment for all our children:

- **Nut-Free School:** We are a nut-free school. This means we kindly request that you refrain from sending any products containing nuts or nut traces to school with your child. This includes:
 - **Packed lunches:** Avoid including peanuts, tree nuts (almonds, walnuts, cashews, etc.), nut butters, and any products that may contain traces of nuts. Please avoid Nutella or similar products for sandwich fillings.
 - **Snacks:** Ensure any snacks brought to school are nut-free.
- **Healthy Snack Choices:** Children are encouraged to bring a healthy snack to enjoy during playtime. Some healthy snack options include:
 - Fresh fruit (cut into appropriate sizes)
 - Vegetables (carrot sticks, cucumber slices)
 - Rice cakes
 - Whole-grain crackers
 - Dried fruit (raisins, apricots)
- **Water Bottles:** We encourage all children to bring a refillable water bottle to school each day. Please ensure these bottles only contain water.

By following these guidelines, we can create a safe and inclusive environment for all children, especially those with nut allergies.

Healthy Relationships Day Workshops

On 14th January, we will be holding a series of engaging workshops for children in Years 2-6 to celebrate Healthy Relationships Day.

These workshops will cover a range of important topics, including:

- **Emotions:** Understanding and expressing our own emotions, and recognising and respecting the emotions of others.
- **Boundaries:** Learning to set and respect personal boundaries, and understanding the importance of consent.
- **Respectful Communication:** Developing effective communication skills, including active listening and assertive communication.
- **Conflict Resolution:** Learning healthy strategies for resolving disagreements peacefully and respectfully.
- **Identity:** Exploring and celebrating our own unique identities and respecting the diversity of others.

School information

Lunches

Providing children with nutritious meals is crucial for their overall growth and development. A healthy lunch provides the energy and essential nutrients needed to sustain them through the afternoon and support their learning.

School Dinners:

Our school dinners are provided by Ideal Meals and are designed to be nutritionally balanced. They offer a variety of delicious and wholesome options that meet the nutritional needs of growing children.

Packed Lunches:

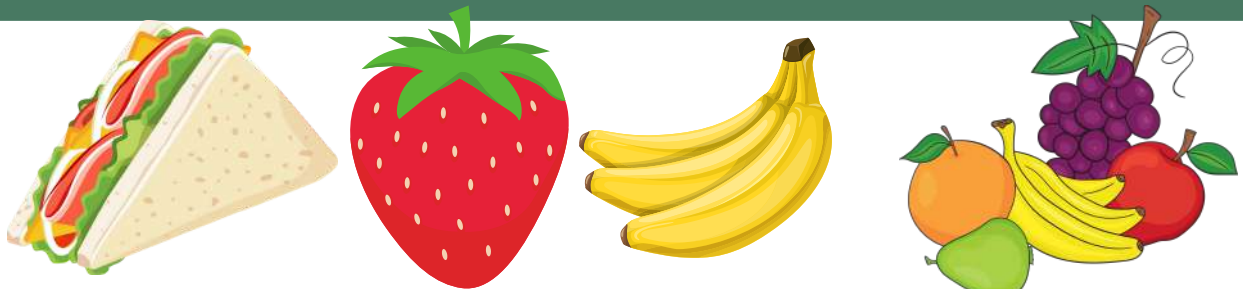
For those who choose to send a packed lunch, we encourage you to prioritise healthy and balanced options. Some excellent choices include:

- Sandwiches:
 - Whole-grain bread filled with lean protein (chicken, tuna, egg) and plenty of fresh vegetables.
- Wraps:
 - Similar to sandwiches, but using whole-grain tortillas.
- Salads:
 - A variety of fresh vegetables with a small amount of lean protein (grilled chicken, tuna).
- Fruit and Vegetables:
 - Include a generous portion of fresh, seasonal fruits and vegetables.
- Yoghurt:
 - Plain or Greek yogurt with a sprinkle of seeds or berries.

Please avoid:

- Sugary drinks:
 - Replace sugary sodas with water or diluted fruit juice.
- Processed foods:
 - Limit or avoid packaged snacks, sugary cereals, and excessive amounts of processed meats.
- Excessive amounts of sweets and treats:
 - Occasional treats are fine, but should be limited.

By providing our children with healthy lunches, we are investing in their future health and well-being.



School information

Introducing Our New School Values: Curious, Creative, Compassionate

We are excited to announce the launch of our redesigned school values!

We believe that these three core values – Curious, Creative, and Compassionate – will guide and inspire all members of our school community.

- **Curious:** We encourage all our children to be inquisitive learners, eager to explore the world around them. This includes:
 - Asking insightful questions in all subjects.
 - Conducting investigations in science and exploring different cultures in history.
 - Developing a love of reading and exploring new ideas through literature.
- **Creative:** We foster a culture where children feel confident to express themselves and develop their imaginations. This involves:
 - Engaging in imaginative play and storytelling.
 - Experimenting with different art forms such as painting, music, and drama.
 - Developing problem-solving skills and finding unique solutions to challenges.
- **Compassionate:** We strive to cultivate empathy, kindness, and respect for all. This includes:
 - Showing kindness and understanding towards others.
 - Learning to resolve conflicts peacefully and respectfully.
 - Contributing to the local community through acts of service.

Throughout the term, we will be integrating these values into all aspects of school life. You will see them reflected in our lessons, assemblies, and school events.

We encourage you to discuss these values with your children at home and help them understand how they can embody them in their everyday lives.

We look forward to learning, growing, and flourishing together, guided by our shared values of Curiosity, Creativity, and Compassion.

