

Friday 6th December 2024

**We are a Caring, Celebratory, Courageous, Christ-inspired
Community, rooted in love.**



Dear All,

It certainly seems like Christmas has arrived at BJS and what a way to kick-start it by having a wonderful Christmas Fayre last Friday; a massive thank you once again for your support, whether it be through your generous Mufti Day donations, the buying of raffle tickets, volunteering to help the PTFA or by coming along. It was a splendid occasion and incredible to see the school 'buzzing' with so many of you. Thank you also to our wonderful BJS choir, beautifully led by our talented Mrs Pantrey. The Christmas decorations have now spread throughout the school with classrooms looking festive; the school Christmas Post Box is being well-used and the wonderful singing of our children can be heard, practising their Christmas songs and carols for our church service in just under two weeks. Some of you have enquired as to how long the school Christmas Post Box will be available in the hall. The last delivery of cards will need to be Wednesday 18th December – the same day as our church service, Christmas jumper and dinner day.

Incredibly, whilst preparations were underway in school for the Christmas Fayre last Friday, we were also playing host to Right Reverend Debbie Sellin who became the Bishop of Peterborough earlier this year, and Father Matthew Robinson, Rural Dean of Brackley. Since beginning in post, Reverend Debbie has visited many schools within Northamptonshire and wished to visit us and look at the relationship between BJS and the Church, which she did through a tour of the school and meeting with some



wonderful representatives from all year groups. She was extremely complimentary about her visit, commenting on how calm and settled the school felt and that our ethos was "wonderful," with the children clearly happy and eager to both share and talk about their learning. She was most impressed that, despite the Christmas Fayre being imminent, the children were excited but still calm and managing their excitement levels. They really were fantastic ambassadors for BJS. Well done children!

Year 4 Visit to Ellesmere Court Residential Home

On Tuesday of this week, our Year 4 folk spread some festive cheer within the community by walking to Ellesmere Court during the afternoon. Mrs Murphy and Miss Buckingham who arranged the visit said that the children were, “absolutely wonderful,” and sang beautifully. The care home kindly – and unexpectedly – gave the school a cheque for £50 by way of showing their appreciation for the visit which will certainly be put to beneficial use for the children. Well done Year 4!



Open Classroom Afternoon

We are very much looking forward to our second Open Classroom Afternoon on the 13th December. As per previous correspondence, **gates will open at a slightly later time of 2:10pm and then close again 2:50pm.** This gives you a wonderful opportunity to sit alongside your child and have them talk you through their learning from the school year so far. Below are details previously circulated but are still to be followed please.

- All mobiles are to be switched off and kept out of sight. They are not to be used within classrooms. This is for Safeguarding purposes.
- The gate (used at the start and end of the day) will be opened at 2:10pm and shut again at 2:50pm.
- Entrance to the school is through your child’s cloakroom door.
- Only two adults maximum visiting a child please as we have some children who may potentially find the experience overwhelming, and classrooms will become very busy!
- We appreciate that with work commitments not all parents will be able to attend so in the event of this, please do extend the invite to grandparents instead.
- You **will** have time to visit more than one classroom if you have more than one child at BJS but **all children must remain in their own classrooms until you take them home.** We cannot permit children to leave a classroom to go with you to another classroom. Once you have visited all your children’s classrooms, you are welcome to go back to each cloakroom door in turn and collect your child.
- Please make sure your child’s class teacher knows you are taking your child home as there will be a register for you to sign as it may be an early collection.
- Movement from one classroom to another **must be done around the outside of the building** and not by walking through school. Parents of children in 5PR, 5MM and 6LS need to enter the building through the same door their children use in the morning, which will lead you through the School Reception area. Mrs Craske will be on hand in the reception if you get lost! Parents of children in 6KW will meet their children in the hall and not their classroom as health and safety regulations do not permit us to have large numbers of people upstairs. 6LS will be in their classroom this time.

- If your child is being collected by someone other than you on the day, **you must inform your child's class teacher or the school office.** We will not let a child leave with an unauthorised adult.

Katharine House Hospice Santa Fun Run

If you have not already done so, can we please remind you about donations for the fun run which can be made online using the link below. We are still a considerable way off our target and it would be amazing if we could reach our goal of £550, so our school could fund a special Christmas dinner for all the patients on an inpatient ward.


[Brackley Junior School is fundraising for Katharine House Hospice - Banbury](#)

Other sporting news: On Wednesday 20th November, a team of eight gymnasts from Year 3 took part in a coaching session held by Brackley Gymnastics Club at the leisure centre. Hailey, Connie, Rosie, Ivy, Barnaby, Benedict, Bonnie and Seren developed skills such as cartwheels, forward rolls and tuck jumps. They challenged themselves further by completing these skills over blocks, springboards and horses into crash mats. They were awarded School Games Values certificates for great teamwork and encouraging other schools. Seren, Bonnie and Connie also received medals for their execution. Very well done!

BJS Christmas Church Service

Just a reminder that this will start at 9:30am and will last approximately 50mins to an hour. As with Harvest, the service will **not** be ticketed. Children are welcome to come to school in their festive-wear or Christmas jumpers as it is also our Christmas dinner day, however, we ask that the children are suitably smart for attending church. Some of our older Pupil Parliament Reps. will be inside the church door for the collection at the end of the service which will go to the church in the name of community.

School Attendance:

CLASS	SINCE 4 TH SEPT.	WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE . . .	CONGRATULATIONS TO . . .
3JE	94.04 %	<p>. . . currently stands at 95.52%.</p> <p>We are perilously close to dropping below national expectation.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p>The national expectation is 95%.</p> </div>	
3EG	95.37 %		
4LF	92.93 %		
4AW	96.66 %		
5MM	94.81 %		
5PR	95.90 %		
5BFG	96.28 %		
6KW	96.14 %		
6LS	97.64 %		

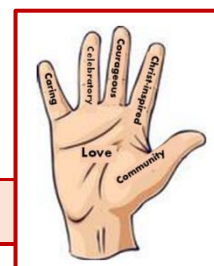
Well done AGAIN 6LS! You are definitely a 'hardy bunch'!

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Akers
Headteacher

Our BJS Stars of the Week

A mighty well done to . . .



Date	29.11.24	06.12.24
Year 3	Ruben, Rupert, Max & Remi	Rosie, Charlie, Chloe & Bella
Year 4	Sophie, Romilly, Sophie & Joshua	Francesca, James, Jax & Skyla
Year 5	Isaac, Mark, Harry, Damien, Juan & Talia	Darcie, Chloe, Emily, Olivia, Jacob & Lily
Year 6	Jude, Mia, Cromisha & Aaron	William, Percy, Freya & Baskar

UPCOMING DATES FOR THE TERM			
Date	Event	Where	Time
13 th December	Open Classroom Afternoon	Your child's classroom	2:10pm – 2:50pm
16 th December	Santa Fun Run	School field	During the school afternoon
18 th December	Church Christmas jumper/ festive-wear day Christmas dinner	In church In school In school	Throughout the day
20 th December	Last day of term		3:10 pm
7 th January	Start of Term 3	School	8:30am

Please see the email sent home on Thursday 14th November for additional details of Term 2 festive events.