

Newsletter 1: September 2021



Dear parents and carers,

It has been an absolute pleasure to welcome all of the children into school this week. The school is once again filled with the vibrant buzz of learning and delightful chatter of excitement and fun. There is a real air of calm, happiness and enjoyment.

We are all looking forward to a year full of fun and enjoyable experiences; a year in which we will do everything we can to help all children fulfill their potential and make great progress in their learning.

Yours sincerely,

Simon Morley
Headteacher

Coronavirus: new guidance

As explained in the welcome letter sent out before the start of term, we are now following the updated Department for Education (DfE) [guidance](#) for schools. The children are no longer grouped into protective “bubbles” so mixing across age groups is permitted. We are maintaining a high level of cleanliness and hygiene and we are ensuring that classrooms and other learning spaces are well ventilated.

Please do not send your child into school if they have any of the three main coronavirus symptoms (high temperature, new continuous cough, a loss or change to sense of smell or taste) or if they have tested positive via an LFD or PCR test (please follow advice provided by NHS Test and Trace). You can contact us to report a positive test by emailing covid@bostonwest.anthemtrust.uk.

For more information, please visit the [COVID-19: safety page](#) of our school website.

New school email address

Our school email address has changed to info@bostonwest.anthemtrust.uk. Please use this address to email us, if needed, from now on.

School uniform

We have noticed that some pieces of school uniform have not been named. This makes it difficult for children and staff to identify the owner of uniform, such as cardigans or sweatshirts, which may have been taken off during the school day. **Please therefore ensure all items of clothing are named.**

Start/end times

A reminder that, in line with the new DfE guidance, staggered start times have been removed. All children can now arrive at the same time. We are using three different entrances (one for FS, one for Y1/Y2/Y3 and one for Y4/Y5/Y6) and gates are open between 8:45 – 8:55am. School ends at 3:15pm for children in foundation stage and key stage 1 and 3:25pm for children in key stage 2. The children will leave via the same gate they entered in the morning.

Forthcoming key dates

September

- 17 11+ verbal reasoning test
- 24 11+ non-verbal reasoning test

October

- 1-4 Y6 PGL residential weekend
- 8 Individual photographs taken
- 12 Harvest festival
- 21 End of term 1

November

- 1 Term 2 begins

Please ensure that you do not take holidays during term time.

To see a full list of term and holiday dates, visit our website or click [here](#)

*Follow us on Twitter:
[@BostonWestAcad](#)*

*Find us on Facebook:
facebook.com/BostonWestAcademy*



Children in year 2 have been making natural storyboards based on the book “Here We Are” by Oliver Jeffers

A warm welcome

It has been a delight to welcome the new children into foundation stage. This week, they have been attending part-time but from next week they will be in school all day!

This academic year, we have welcomed some new members of staff to the team:

- Miss Weavin is a new teacher in foundation stage.
- Mrs Greenfield is a new teaching assistant, also in foundation stage.
- Miss Dawson (FS) and Miss Watkins (KS1) have joined us as apprentice teaching assistants.
- Miss Scott will be working alongside our year 4 team as a trainee teacher.

A warm welcome to them all! Visit the [Meet our staff](#) page of our website to see a full list and pictures of all staff in school.



Children in year 3 enjoyed playing team building games with a parachute!

Google Classroom

We will continue to use Google Classroom for homework and to provide remote education for any child who tests positive and therefore needs to self-isolate. The new Google Classrooms will soon be up-and-running for the new school year. If you do not have access to suitable devices in order to access Google Classroom at home, please get in touch as we can lend you a tablet which you can keep at home for as long as you need. Although we would encourage all children to use Google Classroom, we do not want it to be a barrier to completing homework, so please do get in touch with your child's class teacher if you are going to struggle to use Google Classroom and they will discuss the situation with you and make alternative arrangements if necessary.



Children in year 4 created their own class logos using natural resources.

Parking and safety

At pick-up and drop-off times, the roads within the immediate vicinity of school can become quickly congested and unsafe for the children arriving by foot, bike or scooter to school. Please avoid travelling to school by car unless essential. If you do need to travel by car, please park at the Peter Paine Performance Centre (Boston College). There are plenty of parking spaces and it's just a short walk from there to school. Please be mindful of, and courteous towards, our neighbours and never park across (or in) a local resident's driveway.

The section of the school car park nearest the school is a designated "safe zone". Between 8:40-9:00am and 3:10-3:30pm no vehicles will be permitted to move in this area making it a safe place for parents and children to stand whilst waiting. The section of car park nearest the road however will continue to operate as a functioning car park. Taxis and other vehicles will continue to access this area and so caution is advised. Please do not stand and wait in this section of the car park and make use of the footpaths where possible. Please note, parents' cars are not allowed in the staff car park unless specific permission has been given.

Harvest festival: Tuesday 12 October

We are pleased to let you know that our harvest festival will take place on Tuesday 12 October. We would be very grateful for donations of tinned or dried food which will go to [Centrepont Outreach](#) and used in emergency food parcels for homeless people. More information will be sent out nearer the time.

Foundation stage news

Foundation stage have had a wonderful time starting their school journey at Boston West. They have thoroughly enjoyed exploring the base, engaging in all of the activities and making lots of new friends.

Key stage 1 news

Year 1 have had a fantastic start to the new year and have enjoyed exploring their new classroom and outdoor area. They are very eager to learn more about this term's topic 'Harvest' and to explore where different foods come from. They have also played some balancing team games in P.E. and explored printing using paint in art and design.

Year 2 have had a wonderful start to the year and have all settled in well. The children have been very enthusiastic about this term's topic 'Fire and Ice' and thoroughly enjoyed starting their learning about the Great Fire of London.

Key stage 2 news

The children have all settled in well in year 3. They have enjoyed looking at the book "Flotsam". They have explored the vocabulary and worked on their inference skills then progressed to editing sentences and creating their own.

Year 4 have settled in incredibly well to life in a new school building and have been showing great perseverance and attitude towards their learning. So far, the children have been focusing on recapping their year 3 knowledge in maths and English and have begun learning about life in Ancient Egypt.

Year 5 have had a fantastic start to the new term! On the first day, they created their very own time capsules to open at the end of the year. They worked collaboratively to measure each other's heights and have thought very carefully about targets for the year. We can't wait to see all that they achieve!

The children in year 6 have settled into their new surroundings well and are already engrossed in their WW2 topic. They are really enjoying listening to our class book, "Letters from the Lighthouse". In addition to this, the children have all worked collaboratively to design class logos using natural resources for their teachers.

Is your child eligible for the pupil premium?

All children in foundation stage and key stage 1 receive free school meals. Children in key stage 2 may be able to get free school meals too if their parents receive certain benefits. Not only this but our school will receive the additional pupil premium funding (£1345 per child). It's therefore really important for all eligible parents to register for pupil premium, even if your child is in foundation stage or key stage 1 and already receiving free meals, so that our school can get the correct level of funding. If you think you may be eligible, please check by logging in to the [Parent Portal](#). For more information, please visit the [Pupil premium](#) page on our school website.



Children in year 6 have been working outside using natural resources to bring their designs to life.

The importance of great attendance

After the last couple of difficult years, we are hopeful that we can enjoy this school year without too much disruption. We have worked hard to plan a curriculum which will help all children to meet their potential and make great progress. However, your child will only benefit fully from everything we have to offer if they are here every day. **Good attendance directly links to children's learning and progress.** So, please work with us (for example, by only booking holidays out of term time) to maximise your child's potential by ensuring they attend school every day.

We appreciate that there might be times when children are unwell and cannot attend school and, of course, children must not come to school if they test positive or have symptoms of COVID-19. Additionally, there may be, from time to time, exceptional circumstances which prevent children from attending. However, whenever children are not at school, they miss out on important learning opportunities and this can be detrimental to their progress and development. Thank you for your ongoing support.