

Newsletter 2: October 2021



Dear parents and carers,

As we head towards the end of term 1, it is an opportunity to reflect on the first part of the new academic year. Although the coronavirus is still very much with us and we must remain vigilant, it has been wonderful to return to some sort of normality in school with the children able to mix freely and enjoy some of the things they have missed over the last year or so.

Although some normality has returned, the virus continues to cause some disruption and still prevents us from doing everything we would normally do which is why I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support.

Term 1 ends on Thursday next week and the new term begins on 1 November.

Yours sincerely,

Coronavirus update

Since we all returned in September, we have had several positive cases of COVID-19 in school. We have notified you each time so that you have been kept up-to-date with all new cases of coronavirus we have been made aware of. We think this is important so that you can remain vigilant and look out for possible symptoms in your own child.

Please remember: do not send your child into school if they have any coronavirus symptoms 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. Thank you for your ongoing support and working with us to keep cases as low as possible in school. For more information, please visit the [COVID-19: safety page](#) of our school website.

Rotary shoeboxes

At Monday's assembly, we were joined by John Wright from Rotary. He talked to the children about donating a box of presents to spread a little happiness to those in need who live in parts of Eastern Europe. Many children have already collected boxes to fill. If you do choose to fill a box, please return it no later than **Thursday 21 October**, the last day of term. They will be collected after half term.

Healthy school

Please remember that we are a healthy school and therefore unhealthy snacks such as crisps, chocolate and sweets are not allowed as break time snacks. Fruit, vegetables and rice cakes are all good break time snack options (ie nothing with added sugar, salt or fat). For children who do not have hot meals, we would encourage you to provide your child with a healthy lunchbox. Please remember, sweets and fizzy drinks are not permitted. Juice is permitted at lunchtime but water bottles, for use during the school day, are for plain water only and should not be filled with juice or flavoured water. From time-to-time, there are opportunities for the children to enjoy sugary treats in school but this is rare and limited. We would therefore ask you not to send in cakes or other sweet treats on your child's birthday as we will be unable to share them in school.

Forthcoming key dates

October

21 End of term 1

November

1 Term 2 begins
2 Parents' evening
3 Parents' evening
8 Y3 trip to Flag Fen
11 Evening tours for prospective parents
15 Afternoon tour for prospective parents
16 Afternoon tour for prospective parents

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](#)

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facebook.com/BostonWestAcademy*



Children in year 4 had a great day exploring the lives and traditions of Ancient Egyptians

Google Classroom

Google Classroom, in all year groups, is now up-and-running. We will be using it in school as well as for home learning activities and when/if children need to access remote education. Please make sure you are able to log into your child's new account. We have plenty of tablets we can lend if you are in need of a device. Please contact the school office if you would like to borrow one.

Farewell, Mr Bradford & Miss Trainer

Last week, we said farewell to Mr Bradford. He has left to undertake a degree at university. Mr Bradford worked first as a PE and sport apprentice then as a teaching assistant and lunchtime supervisor. Next week, Miss Trainer, one of our lunchtime supervisors, will also be leaving. We would like to thank Mr Bradford and Miss Trainer and extend all best wishes to them now and in the future.

Eco Sunday: 7 November

Do join us if you can for a couple of hours on Sunday 7 November between 10am-12pm for our [Big Autumn Tidy-Up](#). Our expert staff will be on hand to delegate gardening jobs around our school grounds, suitable for children, ex-pupils, parents/carers and grandparents. Many hands make light work and it's great fun too. It's really important for us to know who's coming so please [email](#) us to let us know. All welcome!

Parents' evenings – 2/3 November

We would like to invite you to attend an appointment with your child's class teacher at our forthcoming parents' evenings which take place on Tuesday 2 November and Wednesday 3 November between 3:40 – 6:40pm.

We had hoped to offer a choice of either face-to-face meetings or video appointments as feedback in a survey we carried out suggested that some parents prefer the video call whilst others preferred the face-to-face meetings. However, with the number of positive cases currently in school, we are going to err on the side of caution. Meetings on both evenings will therefore be **video appointments** using School Cloud.

At the meeting, the class teacher will provide you with an update on your child's progress and will discuss how well your child has settled into their new year group. During the meeting, you will also have the opportunity to talk about how your child is getting on socially and with regards to his/her personal development.

All teacher-led clubs on Tuesday 2 November will not take place due to the parents' evenings. Appointments will last for 10 minutes so that each teacher is able to fit in 30 appointments over the two evenings meaning that every parent/carers can book one. Please note, when meeting via School Cloud, the meetings end automatically after exactly 10 mins so please be prepared for this as it can appear slightly abrupt! If you cannot access School Cloud, please request a telephone appointment. If you think your meeting will need to last longer than 10 minutes as you have something specific you would like to discuss, please get in touch and your child's class teacher will arrange a separate meeting with you to discuss the specific issue.

Appointments will be open from Monday at 9am. To book an appointment, go to <https://bostonwest.schoolcloud.co.uk/>.

Our eco explorers enjoyed making aromatic potions by collecting natural materials



Children in year 5 have been learning all about the phases of the Moon

Foundation stage news

The children have been focusing on the story of 'Handa's Surprise'. They have enjoyed working together to role play the story and learning how to create a story map. They were very excited to try some of the fruit from the story and enjoyed using it for printing.

Key stage 1 news

The children in year 1 have learnt about how and where different fruit and vegetables grow in their topic 'Harvest'. They will also be baking bread at the end of the term to explore how food is made ready for the shops. They have enjoyed learning about the different seasons by looking around our school grounds for signs that autumn has come. They have made a great start to Phase 5 graphemes in phonics and our new focus reading groups.

The children in year 2 have been busy writing a diary about the Great Fire of London from the baker, Thomas Farriner's, perspective. They also enjoyed Kenya day this week where they learnt to sing and play the chime bars to an African song! You can watch their performance on Google Classroom.

Key stage 2 news

Year 3 had a fantastic time experiencing winter. They all put on their hat, scarf and gloves and then huddled round the fire for hot chocolate and marshmallows. They were all so excited and are ready to start writing their winter poems this week.

Year 4 had a brilliant day of history learning about mummification and the famous pharaoh Tutankhamun. They took part in an outdoor trail cataloguing items that were found in King Tut's tomb. They travelled back to 1922 to meet Howard Carter and were shown around Tutankhamun's tomb. They learned about artefacts that were found in the long-forgotten tomb and learnt how to mummify oranges.

Year 5 have had an exciting few weeks exploring their space topic. The wonderful planetarium joined us in school where the children learnt more about the planets, the moon and the stars around us. They delved deeper into the phases of the moon and created their own version of the lunar cycle by using collaboration skills.

The majority of the year 6 children spent a fun-filled weekend at PGL Caythorpe where they took part in activities such as: canoeing, abseiling, rifle shooting, orienteering and problem solving. They made special memories and built strong relationships with one another. In addition to this, the children have continued to enjoy the WW2 theme. They were turned into evacuees for a morning and have also been learning about the Blitz and the Battle of Britain using a range of primary and secondary sources.

Safety in the car park

As you know, 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. Please however be mindful of the fact that staff vehicles are parked in this area and ensure that your children are not running, biking or scooting close to them. Thank you for your support with this.

Harvest

Thank you to everyone who donated food for our harvest assembly. All contributions have been collected by Centrepont Outreach, a charity for disadvantaged and homeless in Boston. We really appreciate your generosity.

Children in year 6 helping with your generous harvest donations



PGL residential

Most of the children in year 6 enjoyed a fantastic weekend at PGL where they got to experience many different adventurous activities. They had to work well as a team and support and care for one another. It was a fun-filled weekend enjoyed by everyone. To see pictures, visit the [gallery](#) on our school Facebook page.

Starting school in September 2022?

We would like to invite anyone whose child is due to start in reception in September 2022 to join us for a **guided tour of the school**. Tours will take place on: **Thursday 11 November** at 5pm and 6:15pm, **Monday 15 November** at 1pm and **Tuesday 16 November** at 1pm. If you have friends who may be interested, please encourage them to come along too. Please contact school to book your place.