



Celebrating Faith,
Learning and Success

St Botolph's C of E Primary School

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Final newsletter of the year

Dear parent/carers,

Well yet again, the end of the year has come hurtling upon us. It's been another really fabulous year with outcomes above national expectation over all year groups taking part in statutory assessments and a large number of very happy and successful events too. Everyone of you contributes to making another successful year alongside our talented staff and wonderful children. I want to take this chance to thank you for your continued support from us all here.

This year 17 children's art work was displayed at Ely Cathedral; we had three children present their Pledges for Nature after winning a spot in the fabulous book; we were awarded a silver phonics award for phonics teaching and learning, we got to the UK Lego Engineering finals, had a glorious picnic, a sweltering fete, our first Christmas Fayre for a while and well too many other moments of success along the way.

St Botolph's leading professional development for schools

Schools

- St Botolph's C of E Primary School
- Dunchurch Boughton C of E Voluntary Aided Junior School
- Firfield Primary School
- Isle of Ely Primary School
- The Norman Church of England Primary School Northwold
- Northwam Primary School
- St Dominic Savio Catholic Primary School
- St Philips C of E Primary School
- Stanground St John's Primary School
- Studley St Mary's C of E Academy
- Sunnyside Primary Academy
- The Duston School
- Kingsfield Primary School
- Oakington C of E Community Primary School



Figure 1 Map of schools where staff have visited St B's

Over the three terms, our school has received visitors from schools situated far and wide including Leeds, Reading, Bristol, and Birmingham, the furthest travelling 166 miles. Many of these have been due to our high-quality curriculum in art, dt, science, history and geography working with the team at Primary Knowledge Curriculum (PKC). Below are some of the comments made by our visitors about what they said were their key takeaways from the visit.

"A lovely calm atmosphere. Key vocabulary being taught in lessons using actions and symbols."

"It's been empowering and inspiring to see the PKC curriculum done well and the impact it's having in your school."

"Wonderful relations with staff and children, confident children."

"The importance of routines, reviewing curriculum time to ensure coverage, consistency and modelling – powerful teaching."

Our pupil ambassadors have also impressed the visitors, providing a lovely confident welcome and also sharing their knowledge of geography. It has given the whole school community a real boost knowing that people are interested in little old St B's.

It's been an honour to work with so many schools on this project and we have been asked to continue this work leading professional development for other schools over next academic year.

Figure 2 Visitors listening to our children speak



Parent survey

Thank you for all of your help completing the parent survey. You've probably forgotten about it but you filled in the form in February at the parent/carers evenings. The results were lovely to read and I have fed them back to our staff

which gave them a huge boost at a busy time of year. Our highest results were around how you felt your child was safe at the school, well looked after and taught well.

Some of the improvements you wanted we have already begun taking decisions on such as improving the house system so the children take part in more house events and can work together earning points. Points will be shared each week in our Values Worship where we also give shout outs to those pupils who have impressed us. Another aspect we will look at is homework, trying to make this a little more consistent. We know some parents want more and some want less so we'll try and make it manageable too.

Leavers – staff and pupils

As we end the year, we will be saying goodbye to Miss Cooper and Mr Hammersley from our teaching team as well as Mrs Carter from our TA team. We will miss them all greatly and wish them well in their new futures.

We would like to wish the children who are moving on to new primary schools in September a warm farewell, we hope they enjoy their new schools.

Our Year 6 leavers have had an amazing year. They all worked hard for their SATS, made amazing memories on the residential and activities closer to home and absolutely knocked our socks off with an outstanding play performance! We wish them the best of luck in their new secondary schools in September and beyond.

End of term arrangements

- Lost property is in the foyer, so with a bit of luck, you could be reunited with items you thought you'd never see again. Any left over at the end of the year will be given to the Friends of St Botolph's who will add the items to their pre-loved section.
- On **Wednesday 23rd July**, please only allow your child/ren to bring in the minimum needed but definitely water bottles and hats please if it is hot and coats if rain is forecast.

Next year

- School meals for the first week back have to be booked by 10pm on Wednesday 27th August. The menus are available now on MCAS for those who will be in Year 1 – Year 6 next year. If you miss the booking deadline, please send your child with a packed lunch from home, we won't be able to add on late bookings.
- Don't forget that next year children in Years 1-6 start back on **Wednesday 3rd September**.

Finally

All that remains for me to say is we hope you and your children have lots of adventures when the holiday arrives.

Thank you for your support.



Mrs Rachel Rayner

Headteacher