



Dear Parent/ Carer,

We have been taking part in Children’s Mental Health week. This year’s theme is ‘know yourself, grow yourself’. During assembly children have been thinking about how to look after their mental health, what makes them happy and understanding their emotions. In class children have taken part in a variety of activities to support their understanding of mental health. Please see page 4 for some top tips for families.

Next half term we have parents’ evenings (see diary dates). Please be aware that this year teachers will not be sending home an interim written report in advance of parent meetings. We have made this change in consideration of staff wellbeing and workload. All information will be shared with you verbally during parent consultation meetings. Full written reports will be sent home at the end of the summer term as usual.

Mrs Stoddart

Dear Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra (BSO),

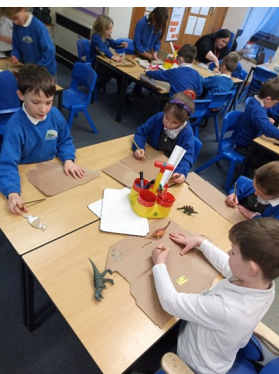
I hope this letter finds you well. I would like to thank you greatly for this extraordinary, heart warming, amazing experience at your astounding show, “Explore the Orchestra: Sea Stories”.

I was awe-inspired by the magical music and loved joining in with the body percussion and listening to the music. Others preferred to sing along or add in their own actions. It was one of the best experiences I have ever had.

It was fun joining in with some of the songs you made up (including Out In The Blue and Enchanted Isle) and some other songs (even some that I knew!). I loved being reeled in by the melodies and vibrant volumes of the musical instruments of the orchestra.

I learnt a great deal from your wonderful performance and it has enlarged my interest in music. I can’t express my huge thanks enough because it was such a talented, brilliant, greatness of a show!!! I really hope we can come and visit again for one of your next performances soon.

Yours sincerely,
Flynn, Year 6.



Last week Class 2 had a go at making their very own sculptures. They used cardboard to design and make their own dinosaurs!
Miss Farrimond

Diary Dates

Forest School

Wednesdays

- Class 3 12th February
- Class 2 26th February
- Class 1 5th March
- Class R 12th March
- Pre-school 19th March
- Class 6 26th March
- Class 5 2nd April

Half Term Break

Monday 17th to Friday 21st February

Class 3 start swimming

Monday 24th February

Parents’ Evening 1

Thursday 6th March
5pm to 7.30pm

World Book Day

Thursday 6th March
Children are invited to come to school as their favourite book character.

Parents’ Evening 2

Tuesday 11th March
3.40pm to 6pm

Class R Teeth and Bones Workshop

Friday 14th March

Parent Forum

Friday 14th March at 2pm

Year 6 Residential to Charterhouse

Tuesday 18th to Friday 21st March

Year 5 Sports Festival at Kingsmead

Thursday 20th March

Easter Break

Monday 7th to Monday 21st April.

House Points	Weekly Total	Half Term
London Plane	258	675
Cork Oak	310	830
Blue Cedar	294	841
Horse Chestnut	259	727

OUTSTANDING LEARNERS OF THE WEEK



Preschool	Phoebe for your growing independence in everything that you do.	★ ★
Class R	Elodie for your absolutely fantastic writing!	★ ★ ★
Class 1	Otto for your excellent effort writing your story.	★
Class 2	Bodhi for your contributions to class discussions and being eager and enthusiastic about completing challenges in Maths!	★
Class 3	Patrick for your great start on your 'defeat the monster' story. You have described the setting and characters in an imaginative way.	★
Class 4	Harper for your focus and hard work. Well done.	★ ★
Class 5	Samuel and Amelia for demonstrating excellent skills and care for others at Forest School. Aubrey for your participation and progress in your learning.	★ ★
Class 6	The whole of Class 6 for your fantastic behaviour and participation in your trip to see Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra.	★



Last week at Forest School, Class 5 learnt all about survival basics. We built a shelter with rope and tarpaulin. We wrapped the rope around the tree and we put the tarpaulin over it and we used wood to hold it up. We also did a scavenger hunt where we had to find natural items in the school grounds as well as investigate and find various types of twigs. Afterwards, we had very chocolatey hot chocolate and marshmallows, while India and Alfred lit a fire to keep us warm. It was very wet and muddy so many of the class were covered in mud by lunchtime! When we were playing, Martha found a hedgehog. Miss Downer and Mr Wedderkopp explained the importance of not disturbing the hedgehog while it is hibernating. So, Amelia and Alfred watched over it while India and Martha made a new space away from the play area for the hedgehog. Very carefully and without touching it, Mr Wedderkopp moved the hedgehog to its new home. We all had a great morning! *Martha and Nellie C*

Class 4 had a lovely Forest School session this week with Mr Wedderkopp. We started the day with a nature walk around the school grounds identifying trees. The children were then asked to find a spot in the trees to look at and listen to nature. This supported the mindfulness work we have completed in class for Children's Mental Health week. After this, we completed a nature treasure hunt and finished the morning by making dens and roasting marshmallows over the fire. Thank you to Mr Wedderkopp for our session and the Brazier family for donating coffee bags which will be used around the school grounds to support flowers and trees growing this Spring.



Mr Penny



Classes 1 and 2 had a wonderful hands-on workshop presented by The South West Heritage Trust today. They consolidated their learning about local history knowledge of dinosaurs. They enjoyed painting their own fossils, creating dinosaur imprints in salt dough, making dinosaurs with moving parts and even dressing up as dinosaurs!

Ms Boullin and Miss Farrimond

Class 5 have been learning about First Aid in preparation for their practical training after half-term. This week they learnt about 3 types of bleeding: nosebleeds, severe bleeding and internal bleeding. They learnt the signs and symptoms, how to administer First Aid in the event of bleeding and when appropriate to call for emergency help. To further their understanding of the components of blood, the class worked in groups to complete a demonstration using food and craft items. Cereal pieces were used to represent the red blood cells, mini marshmallows to represent the white blood cells, pom poms to represent platelets and dyed water to present the plasma. All the children had fun and enjoyed their learning!



Miss Downer



On Wednesday 5 February, Year 6 girls and boys played some football matches. When we got to the school where we were playing (St George's)

we got really excited and started to practice on the pitch. Not long after Miss Story announced who the captain was, which was Ocean. Then we started playing the match and Ocean was goalie for the first half. Soon St Georges scored a goal really well. Not long after Boo scored an amazing goal and the score was 1:1. Then it was half time and we swapped goalie, which was Olivia, but when we were practising Olivia got injured and she had to be sent off for 4-5 minutes, so Willow went in goal. Amelie got a jaw-dropping goal and then... Isla had to defend her face with her hands because the ball would have hit her in her face, which meant we had a penalty and St George's got a goal. When we finished and we did Players' Player and it was Amelie.

by Ocean and Olivia



On Wednesday 5th February 8 boys went to St George's catholic school to play a friendly 7 aside football match: Elliot (C), Charlie, Ben, Bentley, Sidneyn, Toby, Kit, Luke were the

players. The refs were Miss Storey and Mr Coupe. They refereed one half each and were very good refs. The match was 35 minutes long and we won 3:1 Charlie scored two goals in the first half and Elliot scored one in the second half St George's scored one in the second half. The Opposition's Player of the Match was Elliot and the Team's Player of the Match was Charlie, both of them played very well.

by Elliot and Charlie



Some children from Class 3 spent time in Pre-School sharing stories with younger ones this week. At the start of the Reading Buddy journey, they were able to share their love of exploring new books and making the stories come to life. The children in Pre-School were mesmerised and loved the older ones helping them. Thank you, Charlotte, for hosting us, we're looking forward to sharing more books in the future!

Ms Brooke



Over the past couple weeks, we have been making an igloo and learning about how these are made in real life. We have used numbers and counting with representation of there only being space for 4 inside. We have added

some lights inside that looks like the twinkling stars and the children have enjoyed sitting in the dark looking at the lights with each other.

Charlotte



On Monday 3th February some Year 6 students went to Kingsmead School to play in a friendly basketball tournament. When we all arrived we split into two teams. Team A had 5 players and Team B had 6. After that, we played against each other to warm up (Team A had Miss Storey so it was 6 v 6). After we listened to the rules, we did some warm ups with Louis from Taunton Tigers. They were fun. We all learned something new. My favourite thing was dribbling backwards. When we got into the games, that is where the real fun began. Our teams were dominant as my team won every game (Team B) and Team A won every game except two where they drew. The scores of Team B were 6/0, 2/0, 4/1, 2/1 and 6/1 and Team A scores were 1/0, 5/1, 0/0 and 0/0. Thanks for organising this for us, Miss Storey.

by Bentley and Ben



As part of Children's Mental Health Week, Class 1 and their buddies in Class 5 have been working together to make fortune tellers. They identified lots of different emotions they might feel and discussed ways of dealing with some of the trickier

ones. Thank you, Class 5, for being so kind and caring with Class 1.

Ms Boullin

TIPS FOR FAMILIES

Place2Be's
CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

1 Encourage journaling

Just like Riley, encourage your older children and young people to express their emotions and thoughts through journaling. It can be less confronting than speaking out loud and is a helpful way to process what is going on.

2 Make space for reflection

When children and young people reflect on their different emotions, it can help them better understand themselves and what they need. Go for a walk, drive, or try some mindful colouring or baking together.

3 Be visual

Use imagery, such as emojis or flashcards to help children and young people recognise and label their feelings.

4 Practice mindfulness

Try mindful activities, and quiet family time, to enjoy being in the present moment. This can help children and young people be aware of their thoughts and emotions and learn a useful new coping technique.

5 Communicate

Feedback is crucial for helping us see our blind spots and gain greater insight. Children and young people are no different. Creating safe and supportive ways to share your own experience with your child can help them understand themselves and their impact on the world around them.



If you're a parent or teacher, you'll find loads of useful advice to help you support the brilliant young people in your lives – from FAQs to downloadable packs. [Here4You.co.uk](https://www.here4you.co.uk)



M&S | YOUNGMINDS



Young Designer Competition

Fighting for young people's mental health

M&S and YoungMinds have teamed up calling on young people across the UK to get drawing and take part in a competition to design a new hoodie or sweatshirt for the chance to have their design sold in M&S stores across the UK to support YoungMinds' work. For more information follow this link:

<https://mnsyoungdesignercompetition.powerappsportals.com/>



SUMMER SAILING COURSES



Please visit www.wimbleballsc.com to book a course.

Youth Sailing Scheme - RYA Levels 1 to 4

5 days for £225 Run throughout the summer holidays
Adult -National Sailing Scheme - 4 days £205 Run on two consecutive weekends in May, July and September

The minimum age for Level 1 (beginner) course is 8 years



RYA Training Centre

The Taunton Scout & Guide

Scouts GANG SHOW Girlguiding

QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 1st March 2025
West Monkton Village Hall

Bar open from 6:30pm
Quiz 7pm - 9pm
£4 per person | Maximum of 6 in a team

Email tauntongangshow@gmail.com TODAY to book your teams place

Back by popular demand!

The gang invite family, friends and fans to join in this general knowledge quiz!