



PRIMARY WORD

We should be the best we can be for we are all God's Masterpiece

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Head Teacher - Neil Tyler

Events for week beginning Monday 4th December 2023

Day	Time	Event	Venue	Taken By
Monday 4th	15.30-16.30	YR1-4 Freestyle Soccer	School Field	Freestyle
	15.30-16.30	YR3/4 Atomic Science Club	Mrs Elston's Classroom	Atomic Tom
Tuesday 5th	12.15-13.00	YR4/5 Home Learning Club	Miss de Rossi's Classroom	Miss de Rossi
	18.15-20.00	Taekwon-do	Main Hall	Mr Bonfield
Wednesday 6th	09.00-11.00	YR3, 5/6 Guitar	Library	Mr Smith
Thursday 7th	09.00-11.20	YR3/4 Guitar	Library	Mr Smith
	11.00-15.40	Boys & Girls Football Finals	Daventry Sports Park	Mrs Reynolds
	13.10-14.10	Woodwind	Library	Miss Retford
	15.30-16.15	KS2 Choir	Main Hall	Mrs Marsh/Varrier
	15.30-16.30	YR1-4 Freestyle Dodgeball	School Field	Freestyle
	17.30-19.45	Taekwon-do	Main Hall	Mr Bonfield
Friday 8th	 Mufti Day—In exchange for Christmas Fair Donation 			
	09.00-10.20	Violin	Library	Mr Ebrahim
	12.15-12.45	Beginners Recorder Club	Miss Duckworth's Classroom	Miss Duckworth
	12.30-15.00	Selected YR5 Swimming	The Mounts	Mrs Reynolds
	15.30-16.30	YR3-6 Freestyle Dodgeball	School Field	Freestyle
Saturday 9th	12.00-14.00	  Christmas Fair  		
Sunday 10th	10.30-11.30	Brixworth Community Church - Informal Service	Main Hall	Rev Andy Lloyd-Williams

PTA Christmas Cards / Gifts

Please note that if you placed an order for your child's Christmas card design all ordered cards and gifts were sent home with your child last week.

Year 5/6 Football Club

Please be advised that the Year 5 & 6 after school football club will be suspended for a few months due to the weather and the darker evenings.

Christmas Card Post Box

The Christmas Card Post Box is now out and located at the top of the ramp.

To help with the delivery of the cards please make sure that all cards clearly show the full name and class of the receiving child.

Christingle

Foundation Stage Children are attending their Christingle service on Tuesday 19th December at All Saints Church.

Parents and friends are welcome to join the service and should meet at the church by 10.30am.

If any parents are able to accompany us walking to and from the church please inform your child's teacher.

Kingswood Christmas Lunch Menu

Please be advised that if you are not ordering a Christmas lunch for your child, the only alternative lunch option through Kingswood Catering is a sandwich packed lunch. Please feel free to provide your child with a packed lunch from home if you would prefer.

Poppy Appeal

We raised £274.39 for the Royal British Legion.
Thank You



Key Stage 1 Christmas Performance Tickets

Tickets were sent home with your eldest child on Wednesday. Due to the space allocated in the hall we can only provide two tickets per family for each performance.

Unfortunately due to numbers and the possibility of restricted viewing we can not accept younger children being seated on parents laps.

We are unable to provide anyone with additional tickets, therefore if you do have any spare tickets please feel free to pass these on to whoever may need an additional space.

Tickets must be produced to gain access to each performance.

Christmas Raffle Tickets

Raffle tickets have been sent home with your child this week. We would be extremely grateful if you can sell any raffle tickets for the Christmas raffle being drawn on

Saturday 9th December.

Tickets are 40p each or £2 per book. Please return all cash and stubs by
Friday 8th December.

If you require further tickets please contact your class teacher or the school office.

Parent Governor Role

A ParentMail has been sent out today advising of a parent governor role. If you wish to apply please complete the candidate form and return it to:

governors@brixworth.northants.sch.uk by **Friday 15th December.**

Assembly Theme Week Commencing 4th December 2023 Advent

Celebration Assembly

Congratulations to the following children who have won awards for consistently



Spiritually

Zephyr M
Mason W

Socially

Immy B
Zephyr M
Mason W

Academically

Kian L
Jack B
Edith M
Zephyr M
Immy B
Mason W
Eva F
Verity L

Physically

Zephyr M
Mason W

Emotionally

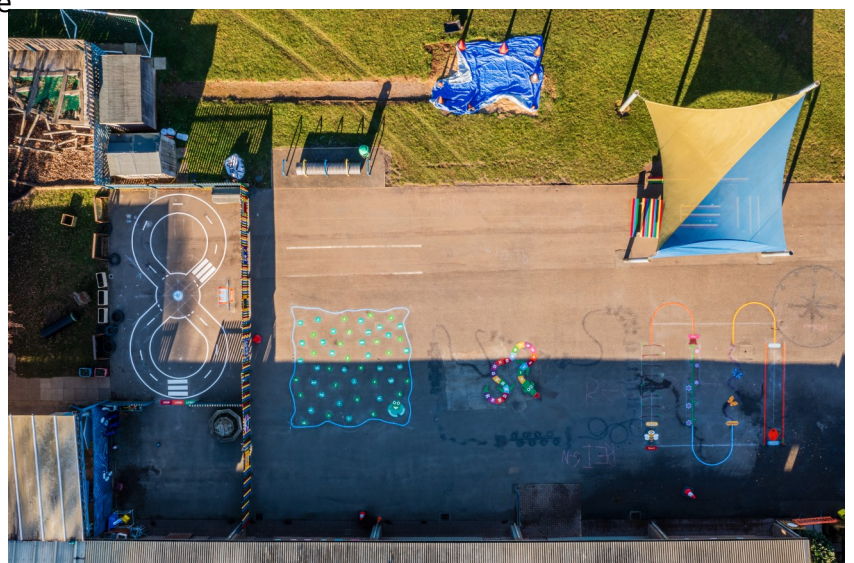
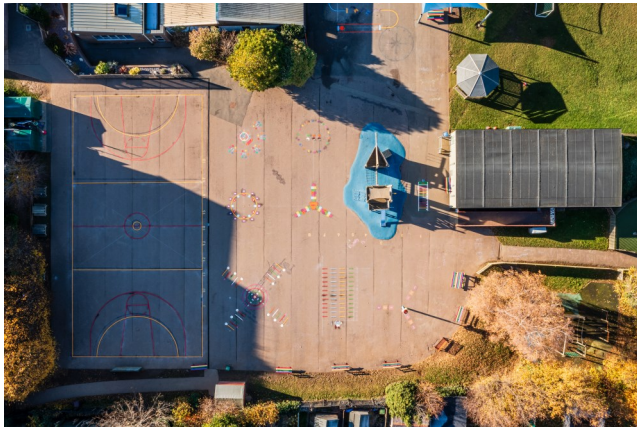
Zephyr M
Mason W

Playground Enhancements

You may have noticed that our playground is looking a lot brighter this week and this is due to the addition of our wonderful new markings designed and paid for by the PTA. As you can see from these drone images we have a new bicycle track in our Foundation Stage area which the children have thoroughly enjoyed testing out this week. We also have a lovely new basketball and netball court, along with a phonics pond, hopscotch, duck duck goose and a 25m nature trail.

In addition to this, the quiet garden has received a lot of love and attention with it's new freshly jet washed paving slabs and over 150 new plants and bulbs were purchased by the PTA and planted by Matthew R in year 2, Amelia R in year 5 and Layla P in year 4 along with the help from their parents. Welford Christmas Tree Farm kindly donated the Christmas tree pictured.

Thank you to everyone involved. All of these enhancements are greatly appreciated!



Boccia & Kurling Festival

On Thursday 23rd November selected children from KS1 travelled to Moulton Secondary School to take part in a Boccia and Kurling Festival. The festival was planned to introduce the children to new sports and to give them an opportunity to take part in an activity they may not have experienced before. The children loved having a go with the new skills introduced to them and they even had time for a game against another school at the end of the afternoon.



CHRISTMAS — FAIR —



Brixworth Primary School PTA Mufti Day - Friday 8th December

Next Friday - **Friday 8th December** - the children are invited to come to school in their "Mufti" in return for a donation for the Christmas Bazaar being held on **Saturday 9th December 12pm to 2pm.**

Donations we would love to receive are:

1. Bottle Tombola – Any bottle of Wine, Beer, squash etc
2. General Tombola – Unwanted Gifts, Candles, Toiletries (new and unused)
3. Sweeties – Bags of sweets and chocolates.
4. Soft Toy Tombola – An excuse to thin out the teddy collection!

Please note this year we will not be collecting donations of books or used toys.

Also a polite reminder that tickets for the Bazaar and Santa's Grotto are available to purchase prior to the event using the following link:

[Brixworth CEVC Primary School PTA \(pta-events.co.uk\)](http://pta-events.co.uk)





Higher Level Teaching Assistant Vacancy

This position is 31.50 hours per week, 39 weeks of the year.
Salary £26421 FTE (Actual £19262 pa)

We are looking to appoint an enthusiastic, caring and dedicated Higher Level Teaching Assistant, with experience of Key Stage Two, to join our team from January 2024. You will work with our teachers to raise the learning and attainment of our pupils, promoting their independence, self-esteem and social inclusion.

The successful candidate will:

- ◇ Have the safety and wellbeing of our children at the centre of all they do
- ◇ Have a commitment to supporting children
- ◇ Show empathy and compassion to the social, emotional and mental wellbeing of all our children
- ◇ To complement the teachers' delivery of the national curriculum and contribute to the development of other support staff, pupils and school policies and strategies.
- ◇ To undertake specified timetabled teaching duties and supervise whole classes during short-term absences of teachers, including PPA.
- ◇ To provide support for pupils, the teacher and the school in order to raise standards of achievement for all pupils by utilising advanced levels of knowledge and skills when assisting with planning, monitoring, assessing and managing classes, and to encourage pupils to become independent learners.
- ◇ Support the school's Christian Ethos and work towards our vision of every member of our school family being the best they can be.

In return, we can offer you a great team of professionals, children and a supportive school community. We will provide you with excellent opportunities to develop professionally.

The selection process will consist of an interview with members of the senior leadership team, a short observed activity with a group of pupils and an interview with the school council.

Applications should be emailed to the school at: office50@brixworth.northants.sch.uk by **9.00 am on Friday 8th December.**

Interviews will take place week commencing 11th December.

We are committed to safeguarding in our school and promoting the welfare of all our children and adults in our community and we expect all members of our staff to share this commitment.

For more information about our wonderful school, please look at our website:
<https://www.brixworthprimary.org.uk/>

We recommend candidates phone the school and arrange for an informal visit with the Headteacher.

Application packs can be downloaded from our school website.

At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one platform of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

SUPPORTING CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH

10 Conversation Starters for Parents

Talking about mental health to children is sometimes hard. To the point that we can put off raising the subject, not wanting to unearth problems or raise overwhelming subjects that we perceive our child is too young or not ready for. But rather than keeping children in the dark, this guide is designed to help you confidently talk about mental health, so they feel comfortable talking about their own worries and end any stigma before it begins.



National
Online
Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

1 LISTEN

This sounds obvious, but it is not something we are always great at. Active listening is where we listen without interrupting or making judgements and shows interest in what is being said. If your child feels listened to in the 'smallest of problems' they will become confident that you will listen when the 'biggest of problems' arise.

2 ASK TWICE

The campaign from time to change is great. <https://www.time-to-change.org.uk/support-ask-twice-campaign>. Be tenacious about your child's wellbeing. Children instinctively know when your questions and support come from a place of wanting to help and care.

Are you sure?

3 THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS A STUPID QUESTION

This advice also relates to the first point. If your child can ask you any questions about the smallest of things and you listen and answer without shaming or belittling, then they will have more confidence to ask the biggest of questions.

4 BE OPEN AND HONEST

Children appreciate honesty, particularly if you are having to share information or talk about a difficult subject. For example, you may be talking about death or loss; 'It's very sad that Nana has died' or 'I feel sad that Nana has died'. How you talk about a subject will differ depending on their age and developmental maturity. Talking about death to a younger child for example will be different to that of an older teen, as their experience and understanding of death is different.

5 KNOW WHEN TO SEEK HELP

Assess the severity of the mental health difficulty you are noticing. Is the difficulty making it hard for your child to function regularly throughout everyday life? How frequently is your child affected, how long does it last and how persistent is it? Are they having problems controlling the difficulty? Talk to your child about your concerns and that it is likely they will need further support beyond family and friends.

6 TALK ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH NATURALLY

Speak about mental health as part of everyday life, so that talking about our feelings and those of others is normalised. If the usual 'are you ok?' is not creating an opportunity for dialogue then say something like 'I know when something like that has happened to me I felt like this... is that how you are feeling or are you feeling something else?'

7 EMPATHISE

'It makes sense that you would feel this way, it is understandable'. Children often worry about things that we, as adults, might see as trivial or silly. However, for them at their age and stage it is a big concern and they need our kindness and care when they show their vulnerability and share their worries.

8 HELP YOUR CHILD FEEL SAFE

Teens particularly feel that by talking about their worries or concerns that this will make things worse. Reassure your child that you will discuss a plan of action together and what may or may not need to happen next. If they are a younger child, it is likely you will need to lead the conversation and explain next steps.

9 MIND YOUR LANGUAGE

Be mindful of the language you use at home to describe and talk about mental health. Stigma often arises from misconceptions and a choice of language which is harmful. Using the word 'mental', 'man-up' or other such words in a derogatory way won't encourage your child to talk about their mental health for fear of being belittled.

10 IT IS OK TO SAY 'I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO NEXT'

Adults do not have all the answers but often children think they do. It is ok to acknowledge that what your child is experiencing is not something you have come across before or know anything about, but that you will work it out together and seek help together.

Meet our expert

This guide has been written by Anna Bateman. Anna is passionate about placing prevention at the heart of every school, integrating mental wellbeing within the curriculum, school culture and systems. She is also a member of the advisory group for the Department of Education, advising them on their mental health green paper.



Sources of Information and Support

Your GP

Young Minds <https://youngminds.org.uk/v>

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/stress-anxiety-depression/>

<https://www.actionforchildren.org.uk/news-and-blogs/parenting-tips/2016/november/a-simple-guide-to-active-listening-for-parents/>

<https://www.themix.org.uk/mental-health>