

# BOURNE ABBEY CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY ACADEMY

Executive Headteacher: Mrs S J Moore

Head of School: Mrs S Buttress

Abbey Road  
Bourne

Tel: 422163

Fax: 393780



15<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

## Happy New Year!

Welcome back to the beginning of another exciting Bourne Abbey school year. A warm welcome to new staff, new children and new families.

We have had a very exciting summer at school! Dulux have decorated our entire main school and used specially chosen colours on 'focus' walls which will enhance learning for our children. The Student Council chose these colours from a choice of 2 palettes which were suggested by a colour consultant from Dulux.

Everywhere that has been decorated has also been totally re-carpeted and new vinyl flooring has been laid too. We have also invested in bright and exciting new furniture in classrooms and shared work areas, refurbished our school Library and purchased 210 iPads for our children!

I hope the children have been coming home and telling you about our 'new look' school and feel as excited as staff and governors! I would like to say a huge thank you to our governors who have supported this massive refurbishment and also to all our staff team who worked extremely hard in the holiday to make sure everything looked fantastic and was ready for the children coming back to school.

Most importantly though, we would all like to thank our wonderful Site Manager, Mr Michael Pateman, as without him we could not have undertaken this huge project. Mr Pateman has definitely got the Bourne Abbey 'WOW factor!'

Watch this space for more refurbishment news this coming year in Year 6, Year 5, Nursery and Kindergarten!!

Thank you also to all of you, who have sent your children back to school looking fabulous and very smart in their uniform and school shoes.



## Awards, Awards, Awards...

Well I couldn't write a newsletter without news of more awards for Bourne Abbey could I?

### International School Award (ISA)



I am delighted to inform you that Bourne Abbey has achieved the prestigious International School Award, which is sponsored by the British Council. We are accredited from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020.

Why is it so important to include internationalism in our curriculum? Well at Bourne Abbey, we truly believe that by encouraging our children to embrace different cultures and practises, a sense of open-mindedness and deeper understanding will be developed. By teaching our children about the lives of others in our ever-expanding world, not only will they be aware of ongoing global issues but will be inspired to find out about the world we live in and ultimately be more prepared to participate in our global society.

Managed by the British Council, the International School Award (ISA) is a supportive and motivational framework that guides schools through their international work. Internationalism is an intrinsic part of the curriculum at Bourne Abbey. It is through the international element of our Creative Curriculum that we are able to ensure our children have a well-rounded and open-minded approach to other cultures and identities. The ISA is a recognition of a school's work in preparing our children for the global society we live in. It is through the international aspect of their learning that the ISA aims to help children become excited and inspired about the ever-changing world and interested in current global issues.

Work that has already taken place in our school to encourage the discovery of our amazing world has included exploring French culture and practices, diving into the world of Chinese New Year celebrations and our older children exchanging illustrations of what they could see from their classroom windows with our partner school in Lebanon, an extremely invigorating activity that not only introduced our Year 5 children to life in Lebanon but allowed initial communication to take place between them and children of a similar age who live completely different lives. Now that's amazing learning!

Here are some of the assessor's comments; *"It is commendable that your school has embarked on and achieved Internal School Award Accreditation within one year. The time scale has produced highly insightful and detailed Impact Evaluation which shows very clearly the benefits of embedding an international dimension to your school's curriculum and whole-school ethos to promote citizenship across your school community.*

*Your pupils have gained knowledge of other countries and aspects of their cultures whilst having the opportunity to address some issues and developing attributes and skills of citizens. You also convey the excitement and friendships resulting from collaborative project work with partner schools in other countries, as well as highlighting the professional development benefits for teachers - curriculum planning skills to embed an international dimension, and increased and intercultural awareness gained by carrying out the international work in itself".*

Well done to our ISA Committee and Madame Rowe, who has worked so hard to coordinate such an impressive range of work as an International Leader.

## Eco Success



Our Eco-School initiative is surging forward and we have achieved the Bronze Award and should receive news of our Silver Award this term. This year we are aiming to get the full Eco-Schools accreditation which is 'Green Flag' status.

Eco-Schools is a global programme engaging millions of children across 64 different countries, making it the largest environmental schools programme in the world.

Eco-Schools empowers children, raises environmental awareness, improves the school environment and also creates financial savings for schools. It engages the wider local community and links to the curriculum. The programme encourages children of all ages and abilities to work together to develop their knowledge and environmental awareness.

Well done to our Eco Team and Carbon Ambassadors as well as our team of Environmental Curriculum Staff Leaders, who I am sure will have lots of exciting projects to share with you this coming year.

Please watch this space for news of an Arts Mark Platinum award which we have recently submitted an application for!

## Attendance



A huge thank you for your magnificent effort with attendance last year. We managed to achieve 96.5% which is rated by Ofsted as 'Outstanding'. This year we are once again aiming for at least 97% and with your continued support and effort I know we can achieve this.

We are continuing with our bronze, silver and gold certificates at Christmas, Easter and end of the school year for children who achieve 100% attendance. At the end of the school year we will have our 'Tea Party' with a special guest and entertainment for children who have achieved 100% for the whole year. We will also continue to have weekly awards for classes and individual children in our Achievement Assembly. At the end of the Autumn Term there will once again be a family prize for 100% attendance. A name will be drawn out of a hat in December to win a Christmas Hamper. Good Luck everyone!

**Please also remember we understand that some children, through no fault of their own, may not be able to attend school every day, so we also have awards for weekly attendance and of course many other achievement rewards too.**

## 'Take Care' Homework

In our continued efforts to improve our school, last year we reviewed our provision of homework. Using staff, pupil and parent/carers' views we made several changes which aimed to make homework a strength of the school.

Thank you for all the time and effort you put into supporting the school's 'take care work' ethos and helping your child with their homework, especially when it is a more creative idea that comes home. I know it may sometimes seem a bit of an imposition, but believe me, the work you share in this way, the value you attach to it and the example you set is extremely valuable and can benefit your child not just now, but right into secondary school and even beyond. We really have seen some amazing pieces of 'take care' homework!

If however, homework is ever becoming frustrating, upsetting or generally counterproductive, please just drop the teacher a line.

## And finally...

We are currently reviewing our three year Academy Improvement Plan by seeking views and suggestions from pupils, staff, governors and parents/carers. Please could you complete the suggestion sheet enclosed with this letter and return it to the front office by Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2017. We will be using them to help us move further forward this year as we strive to create the very best curriculum and school that we can.

Thank you for completing our recent parents/carers questionnaire which we are currently analysing. Please remember Parent View gives you chance to tell Ofsted what you think about your child's school. The survey can be completed at any time; you don't have to wait until the school is being inspected. We would welcome you all to share your views of our school on Parent View [www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk)

Once again all of us at Bourne Abbey are looking forward to a successful, exciting and happy new school year. We start this term with our Christian Values of 'Creation' and 'Respect & Reverence' which are perfect as we reflect on our 3Rs;

- Respect & Take Care of Ourselves
- Respect & Take Care of Others
- Respect & Take Care of the Environment

***'Nothing in all creation can separate us from God's love.' Romans 8:39***

In my role as Executive Headteacher, I have to share myself across two school families which I know can be sometimes frustrating as you don't see me in the playground at the start of each day. At Bourne Abbey we have appointed a non-teaching Deputy Head, Mr P Bellamy. Mrs Buttress our Head of School and Mr Bellamy will both be available for Meet and Greet each morning. If they are unable to do this another Senior Leader will take on this role.

Please though do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns or worries at any time. Thank you once again to everyone who contributes to the life of our school.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Sarah Moore  
Executive Headteacher



As a RRS (Rights Respecting School – UNICEF) this upholds the following articles from the UNCRC (United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child):

#### UNICEF

- Article 29: Every child has the right to be the best they can.
- Article 28: Every child has the right to an education.
- Article 2: Everyone has equal rights whatever their race, religion, ability, whatever they think or say or whatever their family.