



Batford Nursery School
& Day Care

Batford Nursery School Newsletter

End of Half-term

As we approach the end of this half-term I want to start by sharing with you how proud I am of the team here at Batford for their enormous effort and dedication to keeping the school fully operational during a global pandemic which, as you can imagine, has been no easy task. I would also like to thank all the families and children for their commitment and support whilst attending school or engaging in home learning.

The children never cease to amaze us with how well they manage change. The new children that started with us in January have settled so well into nursery life and are enjoying all the activities, learning and are beginning to form new friendships.

Covid Update

The school has now received our quota of lateral flow tests and the staff have begun testing on a regular basis. In the event of a staff member testing positive for COVID 19 the school will contact you via email to inform you if your child is required to self-isolate and your child's bubble/room has to close.

The school risk assessment is reviewed regularly please see the following link if you would like to view it on the website <https://batford.sites.schooljotter2.com/home-1/coronavirus>

Half-term

If your child tests positive during the half-term holidays please report it to the school via the dedicated email address covid@batfordnursery.herts.sch.uk so that the school can respond appropriately.

Support for Families during Covid

For many families this is a very challenging time, especially when juggling work, home schooling and day to day life in lockdown. Family Lives offers a confidential and free helpline service for families in England and Wales. You can call them free on 0808 800 2222 for emotional support, information, advice and guidance on any aspect of parenting and family life

<https://www.familylives.org.uk/>

NSPCC - offers support and advice.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/coronavirus-advice-support-children-families-parents/>

NHS - Every mind matters gives top tips and support on mental health

<https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/>



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Themes we have explored this half-term

- **Snow & Ice** - The weather has given us the opportunity to learn about changes in the environment. The children have been exploring snow and ice and observing what happens when it melts. The children had great fun painting the snow and creating new colours as well as throwing snowballs in the Forest School garden.
- **Birds** - The children and staff really enjoyed participating in the RSPB "Big Garden Birdwatch". In school we created a bird hide which some of the children enjoyed; they used binoculars to view the birds in the forest school garden.
- **Buildings** - The children have been looking at images of different buildings and have used the builder's role play construction area to build and create structures.
- **Values** - Children have been talking about our Batford owl values and what these mean. The Batford owl values are:-
 - Look after things
 - Be helpful
 - Good listening
 - Be kind
 - Do things for myself
 - Good thinking
- **Chinese New Year** - It is the "Year of the Ox" and the children have explored cultural celebrations. They have enjoyed dragon dancing, Chinese writing and stories. They are also making Chinese lanterns this week.





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Remote Learning

The team have continued to provide activities and tasks that can be carried out remotely via Tapestry. Please continue to engage in your child's online learning journal as it enables us to maintain a home school partnership and your key workers can celebrate achievements and set next steps for learning. Please refer back to our remote learning offer letter that we emailed on 22nd January and can also be found on our website under the COVID section.

2021 September Admissions & New Parents Virtual Open Day

If you know someone whose child turns 3 by the 31st August 2021 please let them know our Admissions is open until 1st March 2021. Please ask them to look at our Virtual Tour that is now on our website and contact admissions@batfordnursery.herts.sch.uk or telephone 01582 713872 for further information and to complete an application.

Spotlight on our Governors



My name is David Pickford and I have been living in Harpenden for 12 years now.

I have been a governor for Batford Nursery School for nearly 4 years and am currently standing in as Vice Chairperson. Before that, I was a parent governor with the Harpenden and Rural Children Centres and a link governor to the school.

My background is in engineering and I now manage the performance and digital strategy of a large district heating business for a national energy provider. My focus as a governor at Batford Nursery School has been to lead the Green Schools initiative, be part of the resources committee overseeing finances & budgets and oversee building infrastructure, including health and safety.

I have two daughters of junior and secondary school age, so being part of a school setting, especially Batford Nursery School with its passion for childcare, education and wellbeing, drives my ongoing desire to continue these high standards in everything I can do within my role as governor.



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Reminders

- Friday 12th February 2021 - Batford Nursery School & Day Care are closed for an Inset Day.
- Easter Holidays - last day of term is Friday 26th March returning Tuesday 13th April.

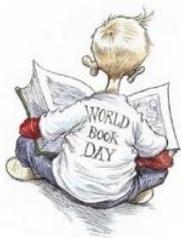
Ofsted Parent View

This provides you the opportunity to tell Ofsted what you think of your child's school. It is always helpful to gain your views of our school. We would appreciate it if you could use the link below to access the site and give your feedback.



<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/login?destination=/give-your-views>

Future Events - World Book Day Thursday 4th March



We will be sharing favourite bedtime stories with children on this day and they are welcome to come to nursery dressed in their pyjamas.

