

# Year 6

Year 6 have had a thrilling, exotic and adventurous spring term! We crossed the Atlantic in our 'Amazon Adventure' topic, where we discovered all the wonders that the Amazon Rainforest has to offer. We kicked off our topic by taking part in a fantastic workshop, run by Simon, an explorer who taught us so much about the Amazon! We learnt about the climate of rainforests; studied animals that live there; the different layers of the rainforest and explored how deforestation is a threat. In addition, we compared the differences between Brazil and England. We were so enthusiastic about our geography topic and enjoyed linking this with our English work. We found out about the consequences palm oil plantations are having on orangutans and wrote a persuasive, formal letter to Rishi Sunak, trying to persuade him to ensure we only import products that are sustainable. As well as a letter, we wrote a creative non-chronological report about an animal of our choice, whose habitat is the Amazon rainforest. We loved reading 'The Explorer', which told the story of 4 children, who were stuck in the Amazon Rainforest and found an ancient city hidden away underneath the canopy! In science, we have studied 'Evolution and inheritance', where we have learnt about why we have similar characteristics to our parents; how living things evolve over time; how they adapt to their environment and we found out about Charles Darwin's theory of evolution. During our RE lessons, Year 6 have been thinking deeply about whether the Creation Story and science are conflicting or complementary and why people may have differing views. We have participated in lots of discussions within the classroom and have produced some fantastic pieces of work. We have all been working hard practising for our upcoming SATS. Thank you so much to parents/carers for all your support at home! We are all looking forward to diving into our last term at Bourne Abbey – we have so many exciting events planned! Wishing you all a very Happy Easter!



## Bourne Abbey PTFA

A massive thank you from your PTFA team for supporting our Mother's Day Pop-up Shop. Wow! It was lovely to see children excitedly choosing their special gifts again this year. We hope you had a wonderful time opening them. You all helped raise an amazing £837.51 to help fund some exciting projects at school. We look forward to sharing more with you soon!



## Mental Health and Wellbeing at Bourne Abbey Church of England Primary Academy

Bourne Abbey has a team of staff and pupils who support our mental health and wellbeing. Mrs Leafe is the Senior Mental Health First Aider who oversees the provision across the school. She is supported by Mrs Farrar and Mrs Croom who can be found each afternoon in the Happy Hub, a room full of amazing resources to support pupils in managing their emotions. Mrs Farrar and Mrs Croom are trained Mental Health First Aiders and Emotional Literacy Support Assistants (ELSAs) and can provide 1:1 or small group support for pupils around a range of areas including bereavement, anxiety or worries. Finally, but most certainly not least, we have a group of pupils in Year 6 who are our Wellbeing Warriors who spread awareness about mental wellbeing across the school. They share ideas pupils can use to support themselves and are also there to listen if any of the pupils in our school feel that they would like to talk to someone, but don't want to talk to an adult.

## IMPORTANT DATES

- Last day of Term 4 - 28th March
- First day of Term 5 - 15th April
- Bank Holiday - 6th May
- Last day of Term 5 - 24th May
- First day of Term 6 - 3rd June
- Training Day - 28th June
- Last day of Term 6 - 19th July



**Our Eco Warrior's Top Tip!**  
Switch off your plug sockets and lights when not in use! Save the world and save your pennies!



# Bourne Abbey Church of England Primary Academy

Striving for Excellence, Caring for All within a Loving and Caring Christian Environment



## Spring Term 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Can you believe that the Spring Term has finished! It has certainly flown by. I am sure you will agree when you read our latest newsletter that we have had a very successful, hard-working and busy Terms 3 and 4. Our Christian Values have been Courage & Perseverance and Compassion & Forgiveness and, as always, the children have tried to be the best they can in living out these values alongside our Character Education Trait, Integrity – making the right choices even when nobody is looking. You can really feel as you walk through the corridors the efforts and endeavours of our children as they continue to flourish at Bourne Abbey.

We are now coming to the end of the season of Lent and our school community has been reflecting on how Christians prepare for Easter. This week, Father Peter and Years 4, 5 and 6, alongside children of Bourne Elsea Park held a beautiful Easter service at Bourne Abbey Church, reminding us of the importance of this time of year.

This term we have welcomed our new priest to our parish, Father Stephen Buckman. I know that Father Stephen is very excited about working with us at Bourne Abbey: we had the pleasure of Father Stephen joining us for our Easter service rehearsal.

Our Easter celebrations in school saw us parade in Easter Bonnets and participate in an Easter themed colouring competition. The children – and parents/carers – never fail to impress us all with their imagination and hard work in making these creations at home. We would like to extend a big thank you to parents and carers for their support in helping the children with these projects.

Our school is filled with extraordinary and talented students and we are proud to see them showcasing their 'God Given Talents' in various ways. Whether it be through music, art, sport or our creative curriculum, our children continue to excel and amaze us with their abilities. There have been three fabulous class assemblies from Years 1, 2 and 5, which not only provided children with the opportunity to demonstrate their dancing, singing and acting, but also celebrated our rich curriculum and their learning, showing that they know more and remember more from their lessons. However, as ever the one thing that shone for me was their confidence and joy at being involved in such opportunities.

The children have also been actively participating in various events and workshops. They celebrated Safer Internet Day by learning about internet safety and responsible online behaviour. Our Year 6 pupils had a fantastic opportunity to explore the rainforest and learn about conservation through interactive workshops and our Year 4 children were spectacular as they took on many challenges showing true courage and determination at our Caythorpe residential.

In his Easter message, Bishop Nicholas eloquently shared with us that Easter is a time of great joy, where we are reminded of the power of surprise, love and hope. These same elements are woven into the fabric of our school community which we witness each day in the corridors and classrooms of this wonderful school. As we celebrate this time of year, we hope that all members of our school community experience the joy of Easter and carry its lessons with them throughout the year. We wish everyone a safe and happy Easter, filled with love, hope and positivity.

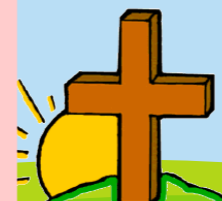
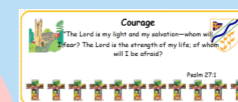
Mr P Houghton  
Acting Head of School

*"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer." Romans 12:12*



## Welcome Father Stephen, Vicar of Bourne

Father Stephen takes up the post of Vicar of Bourne having spent the last few years as parish priest in nearby Corby Glen. When Fr Stephen left school he trained in London and Paris to become a professional musician. He spent the first twenty years of his working life as a conductor and composer. As his children were growing up he stopped performing because of the amount of travelling away from home he had to do and trained as a teacher. He taught in both schools and the University of Sussex. It was while he was teaching that he trained for the priesthood. He was ordained in the Diocese of Chichester and moved to Lincolnshire in 2015 when his wife, Vicky, became a headteacher in the area. Fr Stephen has always enjoyed the excitement of working in schools as both a teacher and a governor. He is hoping to forge an even stronger link between the schools in Bourne and its ancient Abbey Church.

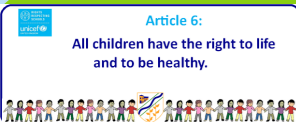


## A Prayer for Lent and Easter from Father Stephen



Dear God,  
Thank you for being our friend and our companion as we journey through every moment of this life.  
Thank you for giving us hope when times are hard and unhappy.  
Thank you for giving us the opportunity to help others.  
Thank you for forgiving us when we say and do things that separate us from you.  
And, dearest God,  
thank you for sending your Son into this world that we might come to share in the true joy of Easter.  
Amen.

Bourne Abbey Church of England Primary Academy  
Abbey Road, Bourne, Lincolnshire PE10 9EP  
Phone: 01778 422163  
www.bourneabbeyprimary.co.uk



## Abbey Ark

What a fantastic term we have had here at Abbey Ark! We began the term learning all about 'Wonderful Winter', where we explored the change in weather and engaged in lots of winter themed learning and activities.

The Happy Hippos have been enjoying favourite stories such as The Gingerbread Man, and they incorporated all aspects of the story into their learning. They decorated their very own gingerbread people, dressed them, and learnt how gingerbread is made by exploring the flour and baking equipment.

The Jolly Giraffes have spent some time over in 'big school', which has been brilliant for transition and putting our school readiness skills into practice early on. They have been exploring the great outdoors, developing those vital fine and gross motor skills.

Both the Happy Hippos and the Jolly Giraffes have learnt about a variety of different celebrations and traditions such as Chinese New Year, Pancake Day, Valentine's Day and Mother's Day.

A popular day for us is always World Book Day, we were thrilled to see all the amazing costumes and we had a fabulous day sharing our favourite stories.

We have had a superb term and would like to wish everyone a very happy and restful Easter!



## Reception

Over the last two terms we have been on an amazing adventure discovering lots about our country - from our local area and the surrounding farmland to our capital city of London! We began our adventure with a royally good 'Royal Day' where we dressed up in our fanciest finery, learned how to be a good monarch and had a royal ball! After learning lots of facts about castles, palaces and the monarchy and taking a virtual tour of London, we celebrated our learning with a delightful tea party- complete with freshly baked scones. Yum!

Our 'Chick This Out' section of our topic has included two incredible real life experiences. We were thrilled to welcome our eggs, supplied by 'The Happy Chick Company', to the Reception unit. The children were full of awe and wonder from the moment the eggs arrived at school, waiting for the wobble and rocking of the eggs until the main event... hatching! Once they were all fluffed up and dried, the children handled the feathery chicks. To add to this excitement, our visit to Sacrewell Farm to learn about animal welfare and ride a real tractor was a real highlight of the year so far. The children

behaved impeccably and were so excited to see lambs, goats, cows, pigs and more! We can't wait for all our exciting learning next term! Wishing you all a very Happy Easter!



## Year 1

Wow, wow, wow! What amazing adventures Year One have been on to explore the unknown! In Term 3, the children delved into toys from the past. They enjoyed exploring toys from the 1950s and comparing them to modern toys. We sailed into

Term 4 by learning some fascinating facts about the explorers Christopher Columbus, Matthew Henson, Amelia Earhart and Neil Armstrong. The children loved making a Spaceman Salad in DT and creating sparkly moon tiles in Art. The term was then brought to a fabulous finale with the children's truly sensational production to showcase all of their learning about the four explorers. What incredibly brave, enthusiastic and talented children you have! Next term, we're looking forward to a long "hard stare" into our Paddington topic and learning about the wonderful world we live in. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support and to wish you all a very Happy Easter!



## Year 2

Term 3 had a blazing start with our introduction to our topic, 'London's Burning, Fetch the Engines!'. Firstly, we had a special visit from the Partake Theatre company, where the children took part in an immersive experience. We experienced the sights and sounds of London burning by dressing up as Londoners in 1666, and retelling the story through narration, mime, chant, music and dance! We then read the tale of Sammy the Street Dog and this inspired our

children to create exciting adventure stories describing The Great Fire from the animal's perspective. We used a range of different sources to learn about the events that took place on that fateful night in 1666 and we all loved learning the catchy songs for our Year 2 assembly, showing our impressive acting skills to portray these significant people from the past. The topic came to a smouldering end when we were lucky enough to have a visit from Bourne Fire Station. We created our own version of Puddling Lane by placing our Tudor houses close together and we even got a tour around the fire engine! In Term 4, we launched our new topic 'What's for Lunch, Bert?' which is based around the brilliant story of The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch. We have encountered some very impressive vocabulary which we have been using to write effective diary entries, pretending to be the very industrious lighthouse keeper Mr Grinling! The children particularly enjoyed designing their own disgusting sandwiches to help Mr and Mrs Grinling to scare the scavenging seagulls from their food! They even tried ingredients such as mustard, sugar, strawberry jelly and pickled onions - what a combination! We wrote a set of clear instructions for them to follow. What a busy and exciting term we have had in Year 2! We are very excited to be starting our brand-new topic 'Shall we go on a Safari?' in Term 5 and 6. We hope you all have a fantastic Easter break!



## Year 3

Terms 3 and 4 have been filled with mystery and excitement. 'There's Two Sides to Every Story' began with a Whodunnit crime scene. We explored the evidence, became suspects, and managed to find the true culprit. Who would've thought that the entire time, The Gingerbread Man had been committing crimes because of mistreatment in his community! We soon put this right and gained an apology from him. Our fairy tale extravaganza did not stop there: alternative versions of traditional tales were our key focus as we challenged stereotypes in our new favourite book, 'Little Red,' by Bethan Woolvin. We have learned how to plan, create, and write twisted tales from Bethan Woolvin herself in our virtual workshop. Our topic this term, 'Digging up the Past,' took us all by surprise. Our classroom tables were covered in bones, mud, berries, and images of a stone age settlement on Bourne Abbey grounds, but it was the mysterious life-size cave that captivated our year group. We courageously crept into the darkness and gazed around in awe at the shadows dancing around us. We spent the day bringing prehistory to life through cave painting, drawing life-style prehistoric beasts, and using our senses to explore the settlement. To immerse ourselves in history further and to help us understand the time periods, we have dug up the story of 'The Stone Age Boy.' Our science this term really was 'Rock 'N' Roll,' where we investigated rocks and used drama to create the fossilisation process. The highlight of our term has been our breath-taking visit to 'Great Wood Farm,' to experience a day in the life of a Neanderthal. We learned survival techniques, including how to whittle a stick and mill some wheat to make scrumptious bread dough, which we then cooked on an open fire before building shelters in the forest. As a team, we would like to say a

huge thank you to all children, parents and carers, siblings, and many others who help our children complete their take-care homework, reading, and TTRS learning. We hope you have a fantastic Easter holiday!



## Year 4

Wow, Year 4! What an amazing term of fantastic learning this has been. Much of our curriculum has focused on the bleakest, coldest but most beautiful areas of our world: the polar regions. In English, we began by journeyming back to 1914, to Antarctica, where we learnt about the treacherous expedition Ernest Shackleton and his crew took and the marvels this continent had to offer. Taking on the role of Shackleton, the children were able to show their amazing powers of persuasion by firstly writing an enticing job advert to recruit suitable crew members and then writing and performing a motivational speech, persuading the crew to continue the expedition. The children certainly were encouraging and inspirational in their work. Immersing ourselves further into the wonders of the North and South Pole, and combining geography, science and English, we discovered the types of animals that have adapted to living in such extreme conditions and we shared our learning by writing some fascinating non-chronological reports. Alongside all this exciting English, geography and science work, Year 4 have had great fun developing their swimming skills; tried a whole range of PE skills and found some interesting ways to learn about fractions, in maths. Most recently of all they revealed what a courageous and resilient bunch of children they really are, as they challenged themselves with problem solving, climbing and exhilarating activities at Caythorpe. We really couldn't have asked for a more polite, caring and positive group of children to take away on their first residential. Of course, the children who stayed at school were equally as brilliant: working cooperatively, creatively and with such enthusiasm.

I would like to take this opportunity to say a 'well done' not only to the children for their positive attitudes and superb work but to all the adults at home, who have provided such wonderful support with homework, learning times tables and being ready for swimming each week. Thank you so much! We can't wait for what the summer term has in store in our 'Holding out 4 a Hero' topic! Happy Easter to you all!



## Year 5

What a fun and interesting term we've had in Year 5! We dived into our exciting Who Let the Gods Out topic, in which the children have been learning, across the curriculum, about a range of myths and legends. In particular, we have studied Theseus and the Minotaur, which has led to some fantastic setting descriptions. We have also studied a vast amount about the lives of the Ancient Greeks: chronology, archaeology and analysing sources of evidence, interesting knowledge on their city states, human and physical geography related to Greece. We baked tasty (ish) Greek flatbread, which had some very interesting combinations of ingredients! The highlight was undoubtedly the fantastic Year 5 performance of Troy Story. What a production, the children were phenomenal. Maths-wise, the children have worked incredibly hard on their times tables, as well as tackling the monstrous topic that is fractions, decimals and percentages- mind blowing! Science has been very hands on this term and we have conducted a variety of practical experiments linked to materials and their properties - What a State. The children loved this element of science and displayed some awesome scientific understanding.

It has been a fast-paced term but the children have shown resilience and maintained their hardworking and positive attitude, achieving a great deal that they can be proud of. We are looking forward to the summer term with the learning and adventures it holds. Happy Easter!

