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School Update

Bourne Abbey CofE Primary Academy
Friday 28th November 2025

Abbey Academies Trust

Dear Parents/Carers

This week has been filled with hands-on learning, celebration, and creativity across our school. From exploring road safety in Reception to discovering engineering in Year 5, pupils have embraced new experiences with enthusiasm and curiosity. We're delighted to share some of the wonderful moments that made this week so special.

Road Safety Week in Reception









Reception were thrilled to welcome Graham, our school crossing patrol officer, to school! He showed the children the special equipment he uses to help everyone cross the road safely and reminded us of the important safety rules: STOP, LOOK, LISTEN. Back in the classroom, we explored different ways to stay safe when crossing the road, and the children enjoyed watching the *Hedgehog Crossing* safety video. They showed fantastic understanding and enthusiasm throughout the session!

Baking of Challah Bread



Last Thursday, the Collective Worship Council, baked fresh challah bread! While baking, they worked together, listened to each other, shared ideas, and helped one another - practicing teamwork and communication. We baked this bread to share at our Shabbat afternoon, the following day. It is a special time of rest, reflection, and togetherness. See below what a fabulous time we had celebrating Shabbat.




Shabbat





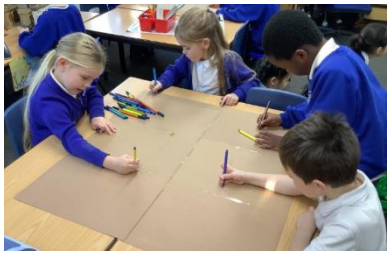




On Friday 21st November 2025, our school came together to experience a whole-school Shabbat afternoon, celebrating rest, reflection, and community. While we are a Church of England school, we believe it is important for our pupils to learn from and experience the traditions of other faiths. This event gave our children the chance to explore values that are important across many cultures and religions, including rest, kindness, gratitude, communication, and togetherness.



During the afternoon, pupils took part in electricity-free activities, played board games, created their own games to share, and enjoyed a small piece of challah bread freshly baked by our Collective Worship Council. This shared experience allowed children to slow down, reflect, enjoy time with friends, and celebrate the importance of community and sharing.



It was such a joy to walk around the school and see children across all year groups so engaged in the activities. Classrooms were buzzing with conversation, creativity, and laughter, and the atmosphere reflected the inclusive and supportive ethos of our school.



Events like this allow our pupils to develop empathy, understanding, and respect for others, while also connecting with the values that underpin our school vision: helping every child to flourish, be valued for who they are, and enjoy a stimulating and challenging learning environment.







Festive Creations in KS1 Theme of the Week Club



For our final Theme of the Week club, KS1 enjoyed an afternoon of festive fun. The children made their own baubles, paper chains and Christmas cards, filling the room with colour and creativity. There was plenty of concentration, teamwork and happy chatter throughout. It was a lovely, cheerful way to finish the club together.

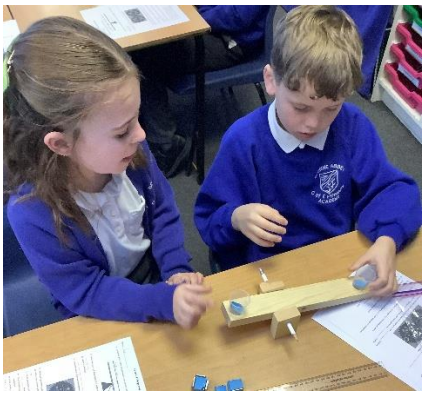


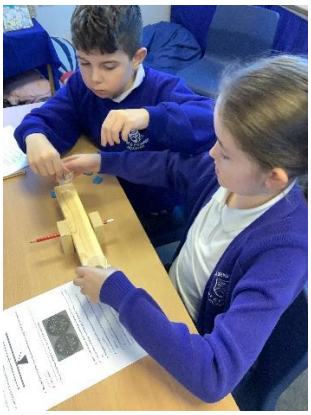
Gears, Levers and Pulleys in Year 5

5T took their first big step into the world of engineering during an exciting hands-on workshop exploring gears, levers, and pulleys. The simple machines that power much of the world around us.

Designed to spark curiosity and build confidence in STEM subjects, the interactive workshop invited students to experiment, build, and problem-solve as real engineers. Pupils worked in small teams to construct moving models, test mechanical systems, and discover how everyday machines make work easier.







Journey Back in Time: Year 6 at Beaumanor Hall

Year 6 arrived at Beaumanor Hall buzzing with excitement, ready to step back into the 1940s. What followed was a fun, hands-on day that brought World War II to life in a way they'll never forget.



The children were fascinated to learn that Beaumanor Hall once played a secret role in intercepting and decoding enemy messages. With help from the instructor, they listened to Morse code, raced messages to the "decoders," and worked together to crack codes. The look on their faces when they solved them was priceless! "I love beans" clearly used a decoy…



Next, the children found out what it was like to be an evacuee. They were given identity cards, explored ration books, and even used old shillings and pence to "buy" items from a wartime shop. It really helped them imagine what life was like for children their age during the war.

Down in the dark cellars, they got a sense of what an air raid might have felt like and the sound of the Moaning Minnie. With the sound of bombs in the background, they learned about different shelters and saw gas masks used at the time. It sparked some thoughtful conversations about bravery and how tough life was back then.

The whole experience was incredible, and it helped Year 6 understand just how resilient and resourceful people had to be during World War II. It was a powerful, eye-opening and emotive day that they'll remember for a long time.



Starbooks in Year 2

Our Starbooks Cafe event in Year 2 was a wonderful celebration of reading, where parents joined their children to share stories and give their ratings on popular fiction and non-fiction books! It was lovely to see so many parents and carers attend across the 3 classes. We even had to branch out to the shared area! We could see how much the children enjoyed it from their huge smiles as they entered the classroom, to their groans when it was time to pack away! A massive thank you to all the parents/carers who joined us today.









Attendance

When is a child too poorly for school?

Good attendance is really important for children's learning, progress and confidence. Now that the weather is getting colder, we're seeing more seasonal illnesses such as coughs and colds, but children don't always need to stay off school when they're unwell. For clear guidance on when a child should stay at home and when they can still attend, please see the NHS advice on childhood illnesses, Is my child too ill for school? - NHS.

Upcoming dates:

Saturday 29th November is Bourne Light Switch on where our singing squad will be performing at 2.30pm.

Wednesday 3rd December is the last swimming of Autumn Term for Year 5.

Thursday 4th December at 11am is Year 1, 2 & 3 Christmas Carol Service in Abbey Church (parent/carers are invited)

Thank you to all pupils and staff for contributing to such a positive and enriching week. We look forward to many more exciting learning opportunities ahead.

Kindest regards,



Anna Petrie
Acting Head of School
Bourne Abbey CofE Primary Academy