School Update

Bourne Abbey CofE Primary Academy

Friday 8th May 2026

Abbey Academies Trust

Dear Parents/Carers

It has been a busy and exciting week at Bourne Abbey, with plenty of inspiring experiences and achievements to celebrate. We are proud to share some of the highlights from across the school with you.

From –60°C to Hero: Meeting the Incredible Nigel Vardy!



Year 3 were incredibly lucky to meet the inspiring mountaineer Nigel Vardy, who shared the story of his expedition to Mount McKinley, one of the toughest mountains in the world to climb. Twenty-five years ago, Nigel faced extreme cold, fierce storms, and life-threatening injuries, yet he refused to give up.



He encouraged us to stay curious, support one another, and learn from our mistakes. We laughed when he warned us never to eat yellow snow, and when he told us that chocolate can break your teeth at –30°C!

Nigel brought along his old radio and diary, showing us how important it is to record our experiences. Even after becoming seriously ill, he made a promise: "I will climb again." True to his word, he later returned to Alaska to thank the people who helped him. Nigel's final message to us was simple but powerful: "Be the best that you can be." And that's exactly what we plan to do!

Visit from The Diocesan and Director of Education



On Wednesday, we welcomed Paul Thompson, Diocesan Director of Education for Lincolnshire, for our Diocesan Annual Adviser visit. Our incredible tour guides led Mr Thompson around the school, proudly sharing all the wonderful things that take place at Bourne Abbey.

They spoke confidently about Collective Worship, Reflection areas, Agents of Change, Pupil Voice, and much more. The children were true ambassadors for the school, enthusiastically explaining how much they enjoy being part of the Bourne Abbey community. Mr Thompson commented that our school is a very special place and praised the wonderful education our children receive.

Tiny Creatures, Big Discoveries!





Reception explored mini-beasts and where they live. The children discussed how mini-beasts are small animals that live outdoors in a range of habitats. During a mini-beast hunt, Reception discovered creatures such as woodlice hiding under logs and in damp, dark places. The children began to understand that mini-beasts choose environments that help keep them safe. Reception also completed a bug study, where the children closely observed mini-beasts and created their own detailed drawings. They identified key features such as legs, wings and body shape, demonstrating strong observation skills.

The children then worked independently to build their own bug hotels using natural materials. Reception carefully created dark spaces and small hiding gaps, helping them to think about what mini-beasts need to survive.









UNICEF

ARTICLE 14 (freedom of thought, belief and religion)
Every child has the right to think and believe what they choose and also to practise their religion, as long as they are not stopping other people from enjoying their rights. Governments must respect the rights and responsibilities of parents to guide their child as they grow up.



Upcoming dates:

Monday 11th May – SATs week for Y6 – these are statutory assessments and all Y6 pupils must attend school to access the tests

Wednesday 13th May – Y5 Changing Me parent workshop - 3.20p.m.

Monday 18th May - Y3 online safety workshops

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

Kindest regards,

Anna Petrie
Head of School
Bourne Abbey CofE Primary Academy