

Dear parents and carers,

As a mum I will remember my children bringing home pictures or drawings and them being put up on the fridge door. Parents want to encourage their children, however old they may be, to do their best and have pride in their work. There are times when children, and adults, encounter a challenge and find whatever is being attempted difficult especially if the "something" isn't achieved the first time. It could be fastening buttons independently if you are 4 years old or following the sat nav on an unfamiliar journey if you are older!

Over the last 18 months we have been working hard in school to encourage resilience in all of the children. "Growth Mindset" may be a phrase you have heard your children mention in relation to solving problems or having another go when they make an error.

Each classroom has a Growth Mindset display which take many forms. It could be a change your words change your mind set, or a first aid box giving problem solving strategies or children's writing showing their understanding of Growth mind set. Whatever the display looks like, it is used to encourage children to keep working at challenging problems so that they develop a positive, can do attitude to learning so that they develop their skills and knowledge.

If you would like to learn more I will be holding an information meeting on Monday February 27th at 2:15 to explain what Growth Mindset is based on, and how you can use it with your children to make them resilient learners for life.

All schools receive visits from improvement advisors from Kent County Council. We have developed a positive and very successful relationship with our advisor. Often her advice is a response to changes in educational thinking and research which then affects our practice in school. Feedback including marking is a focus in schools at the moment. At Borden we have always spent a lot of time working with children or talking to them about their work. Research has shown that this is a very effective way of having impact upon the development of children's work. Written feedback is also given and this needs to have a positive impact on children's work too.

So, on parent's evening next term you will see a different type of feedback being used in children's books. Staff mark in green pen using a star to indicate something good, more than the expected. An e indicates something that requires editing so it could be a spelling, punctuation, capital letter etc. Children respond in a red pen so that their editing is clear against previous work. This is still work in progress but the belief is that children will have to think more leading to a larger impact on their learning and achievement.

Sheila Dunk Head of School



Attendance Winners of the Week!

Beech Class

It's cold down there!

On Monday 30th of January Cherry, Maple and Willow Classes welcomed a modern explorer into school. Peter Kirsch works for the British Antarctic Survey Team. He came into school to share his knowledge of the two Polar Regions. He told us about:

- Different animals including seals, penguins and whales.
- The clothing that they have to wear which is well padded and thick to keep them warm. It is bright colours so that the people can be easily seen against the snow.
- The buildings, which are on stilts, are on skis so that they can be moved.
- The jobs that people do are varied and they have builders, mechanics and cooks as well as scientists.
- There are good communications with families but it can make the people feel homesick.
- You have to be able to get on well with all sorts of different people.
- You need to be very organised as there are no shops. You have to take everything with you and if you forget something you have to do without it, borrow it or find something else to use instead.

Thought for the week... Into Your hands I commend my spirit.



TRAVELLING BOOKS

The Book Fair will be in the school hall from Monday 6th of February until Thursday 9th. The fair will be open in the mornings from 8:30am and after school.

There will be a range of books to suit all tastes and ages as well as pencils etc to purchase. Please come and have a look.

Are you up for a Tough Mudder?

Mrs Furze is organising a team to compete in the Tough Mudder event in September. Not only will it be a fun event but you could also raise money for the school. Please see the notice board for more information.

If you are interested either see Christina or email christina_furze@hotmail.co.uk.



Studybugs

Thank you to the 43% of parents who have signed up to the Studybugs app to be able to report their children's illnesses. It is working well and the office staff love it too!

6th—9th Feb, Travelling Book Fair week

7th Feb, Safer Internet Day

13th—17th Feb, Half Term

2nd March, World Book Day

3rd March, School Nurse drop in session

Fri 10th Mar, Reports issued

22nd & 23rd Mar, Parent/teacher talks (Willow class 22nd)

Fri 24th Mar, Red Nose Day