



BASSINGBOURN
VILLAGE COLLEGE



Weekly Mailing 3.03.23

It has again been a busy week, but very fun week in school with a number of activities happening to promote World Book Day and the importance of reading. There are a number of activities that families can do at home if you would like to join in over the weekend and can be found here:

<https://www.worldbookday.com/families/>

I want to congratulate all of our Year 7s who took part in the Spelling Bee before half term as well as a massive well done to our semi finalists who were announced this week and on to the next round in April!

This week information has been sent out to Year 8 & 10 regarding our plans for Curriculum Day on Tuesday 21st March. We are very excited about activities taking place in school to develop our outdoor classroom and develop positive outdoor spaces for our students. If you do have items such as trowels, garden spades, garden forks or wheelbarrows that could be used on the day we would be very grateful.

Finally, tickets for both the Dance Show (17 March) and Prom (30 June) have now been made available via Wisepay. Tickets for the Dance Show are limited due to the seating in the Hall so do book early to avoid disappointment.

World Book Day

To celebrate World Book Day on Thursday we had a number of activities running throughout the week. In mentor time students have had the opportunity to discuss 5 books that have shaped them, take part in our staff reading book hunt as well as join in our World Book Day Quiz. In addition, our Year 7s were invited to add 3 items to their uniform to create a character from a book for their fellow students to guess - even some of our teachers decided to join in!

If you would like to purchase a World Book day book from a supporting shop, the digital token can be downloaded here: <https://www.worldbookday.com/secondary-digital-token/>





Sports Clubs Timetable

Please find below our new Sports Clubs timetable which has been shared with students and starts next week.

Sports Clubs – March 2023		
	Lunchtime 1-1.30pm	After school 3.20-4.20
Monday	Year 9/10 Basketball (DB) Year 7/8 Dodgeball (MB)	Handball club (all years) – MB/DB
Tuesday	Badminton club – Year 8 (HI)	Years 7 & 8 Girls Netball – HG/HI Years 9&10 Dodgeball – MB Year 7&8 Boys Football – DB
Wednesday	Badminton club – Year 7 (HG)	FIXTURE NIGHT Years 9,10 & 11 Girls Netball – HG/HI
Thursday		Year 9 Football – DB Years 7,8 & 9 Badminton Club – MB (only 25 spaces, sign up with Mr Budd)
Friday	Year 7&8 Girls Football (HI) Year 7&8 Basketball (DB)	Years 10 & 11 Football – DB

Online Safety - Alan Mackenzie, SafeICT Consultancy Ltd

Screen time is a very subjective area, different people will have different opinions. In this 4 minute video I give you my opinion about screentime and some advice. Below the video link I have also added some links which you should find useful.

<https://vimeo.com/487629635/f125d6875e>

Useful Links:

The debate about screentime - Professor Sonia Livingstone is one of the most knowledgeable people in the UK when it comes to screentime and other issues that affect children. In this article she shares some useful insights: <https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/parenting4digitalfuture/2019/02/08/from-policing-screen-time/>

Screentime – getting the balance right for different ages of children:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/issues/screen-time/>

Warning from the Child & Adolescent Substance Use Service

The National Police Chief's Council (NPCC) and Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID, formerly Public Health England) have recently raised an alert following increasing reports of harm from nitrous oxide misuse.

NOS is an odourless and colourless gas inhaled from balloons, or - far more dangerously - directly from canisters, for its psychoactive effects. In addition to the already widely reported risks of accidents while under the influence and of direct harm from the cold gas, there are increasing hospital reports of young people with serious nerve damage that may be lasting. This is probably associated with the increasing availability of larger canisters of gas and people using more of it, perhaps without really keeping track of just how much more they are using. NOS inactivates vitamin B12 leading to nerve damage.

As a psychoactive drug, NOS is controlled under the Psychoactive Substances Act, meaning its possession is not an offence but supply is.

Parents and guardians need to be aware of the dangers of illegal use of nitrous oxide and, though legal to possess, people should not assume that nitrous oxide is safe to use. This may be especially true when people drive and inhale the gas.

CALM SPACE - Thursay 9th March



Communications sent home this week:

- Obstacle Training - OAA block - Year 7, 8 & 9
- Diphtheria, Tetanus, Polio (DTP) and Meningococcal ACWY (MenACWY)
- Safer Schools Newsletter
- Year 8 Curriculum Day
- Year 10 Curriculum Day Trip
- World Book Day - Thursday 2nd March
- Wednesday 1st March arrangements

- Year 11 Data Point/Report
- Football Club - change of day

Wishing you all a relaxing weekend.

Ms V Poulter

Principal

Respect, Resilience, Responsibility