Issue: 21
11th February 2022

THE BISHOPS' SCHOOL NEWS

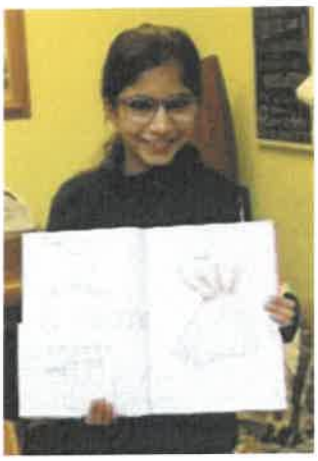
# Dear Parents/Carers and Children,

This has been Mental Health Week, so I hope that you have all been ok. In school every day has been a juggling act with staff suffering illness, mainly Covid, but our cases have been coming down a bit, and the staff have covered all the absences brilliantly—so we are thankful and hopeful! I hope that your half terms are free of it and you can find time to relax and enjoy the beginnings of Spring in the fresh air.

Meet Claire Gillen – she is our Art Therapist and supports children and families who need some emotional help. On Wednesday she gave a talk to our KS2 pupils about being mentally healthy. Today's non-uniform day is for her organisation – BCCS, Brentwood catholic Children's Society, who are a brilliant organisation working across Essex for all young people in need (and their families).

What makes us happy? Here it's frequently your children! Working hard, being creative, playing happily, enjoying learning and making things, being upside-down and balancing – all life skills!

**Live Fully, Laugh Often, Learn Deeply,
Love as God Loves You and Let Your Light Shine**



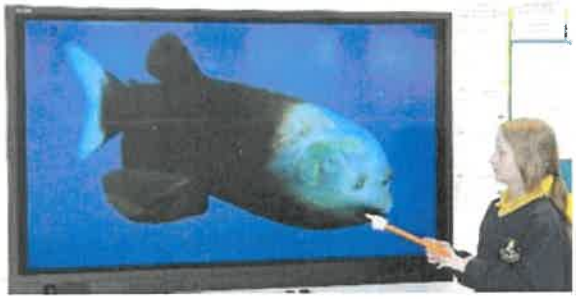
BEE
HAPPY!

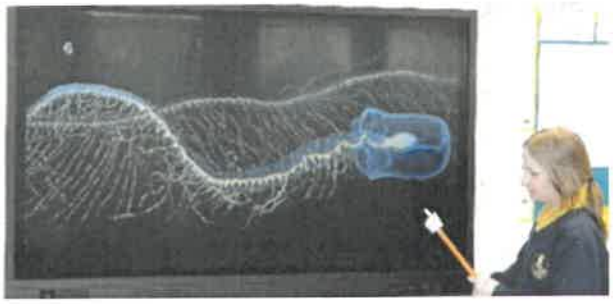
Ailani, Cadi and Willow-Grace are so happy to have raised over £100 for the School Building Project and Cancer Research by making and selling bookmarks. Giving and 'making a difference' are such powerful ways to create joy. Thanks to all who bought the bookmarks – we hope they are in daily use!

Year 6 pupils have been studying volcanoes – making them, painting pictures of them, and learning about their geology and impact around the world. Here are some great watercolour paintings, and volcanoes in the making:

World Thinking Day is the Tuesday after half term. The theme of this international Guiding Day is 'Our World, Our Equal Future: The Environment and Gender Equality'. Any pupils who are members of the guides, brownies, cubs or scouts may wear the uniforms for these organisations to school on this **Tuesday (22nd February)**, and do so with pride!

Patrick joined us in Year 6 and has enthralled us with his knowledge of sea life. This week he gave an illustrated talk to his class and finished with a quiz about which of these creatures are real and which not: try it yourself!





## The answers!

Not real (from Subnautica game); Not real (same)
Real (Barrel-Eye); Real (Goblin shark)
Not real; Real (Giant Siphonophore)
Not Real (from Sequel to Subnautica!)

This was also a slide about
old sea creatures!

Non-Uniform Day today has raised a fantastic £390.76 in aid of BCCS– thank you for your support.

## Goodbye....

This week marks the end of Mrs Forte's long and dedicated service to The Bishops' over the past 18 years. She has devoted herself to keeping the school financially in order, managing the office, the website, the catering, Little Fingers, the pay of all the staff, and just about everything that is needed for the school to function! We wish her well in her new role, and we are so grateful for all her work at Bishops', and for the continued support she gives us while we await the appointment of a new School Business Manager.

Also leaving us is Miss Brooks. She has worked all over the school, as a Mid-Day Assistant, as a cleaner, and as a relief Learning Support Assistant. We wish her all the very best for the future.

Meet the 'The Bishops' Inspire and Empower Zine' group – who have been researching young people who have changed the world – and created this magazine about them which has headed out across the KS2 classes. Well done! – and thank you Mrs Zoia for your inspiration!

## Footie Match

The newly formed Yr 6 Mixed Football Team marched nervously over to Springfield on Monday and came away with a 4 - 4 draw, frustrated not to have won.
The result seemed fair as, although Bishops' led 3 - 1 and 4 - 2, the game swung from end to end with both teams having plenty of chances, but plighted by both of the in form goalkeepers. Parents & families, it was great to have you back on the sidelines supporting the team, thank you!

## Lunchtime Menu: Week Beginning Monday 21st February 2022

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Meat Free Monday*<br><br>Freshly made Pizza with a variety of Toppings<br><br>Served with Mixed Salad<br><br>Fresh Fruit Selection & Yoghurt | Sausage & Tomato Pasta<br><br>OR<br><br>Veggie Sausage & Tomato Pasta<br><br>Served with Sweetcorn<br><br>Frozen Yoghurt | Roast Turkey & Yorkshire Pudding<br><br>OR<br><br>Roasted Quorn Yorkshire pudding<br><br>Served with Roast Potatoes, Cauliflower & Broccoli<br><br>Fresh Fruit Selection & Yoghurt | Jacket Potato With Cheese, Tuna, Beans<br><br>OR<br><br>Vegetarian Sausage Roll<br><br>Served with New Potatoes & Fine Green Beans<br><br>Chunky Flapjacks | Breaded Fish Fingers Served with Chunky Chips & Peas<br><br>OR<br><br>Curried Vegetable Samosa with Mango Chutney Served with Rice & Peas<br><br>Fresh Fruit Selection & Yoghurt |

## The Bishops' PTA

The PTA would like to take this opportunity to Thank **Mrs Forte** for all her support over the years with our events and behind the scenes, we are extremely greatful and you will be very much missed within the school community.

Have you got plans for half term?
**Adventure Island tickets** are available, priced at £15 each. Please email the pta if you would like any and we will arrange payment and collection.

There are still spaces available for **Art and Sip** on 23rd Feb, it is £35 per ticket. Bookings will close Wednesday 16th Feb so please do email if you would like a space.

We hope you all have a wonderful half term and look forward to seeing you all after the holidays, or speak to one of us in the playground.

Many thanks, The PTA

Email: thebishopspta@gmail.com
Find us @BishopsPta, or
The Bishops' School PTA on Facebook

## Activity Clubs

There are **spaces available** on some of our before and after school activity clubs. If your child is interested in signing up for next half term, please see **Community News** on our website for details.

## Best Attendance Last Week

Class — 2M — 94.2%

Class — 3B — 97.6%,

Well Done!

## Vacancy: School Business Manager

Hours: 37 hours per week , 39 weeks (term time) plus 2 weeks

We are seeking to appoint a skilled team player and leader to manage the school's financial and business life. Good humour, problem-solving instincts, a shrewd business mind and kindness are all important characteristics for this role.

The primary responsibilities and requirements for this role are detailed in the Job Description but the successful candidate will have:
*Proven financial and accounting skills; Knowledge of accounting systems, budgeting, and management preparation of accounts and statutory reporting; Knowledge of HR and payroll management, including safeguarding and recruitment procedures; Excellent ICT skills; A flexible approach to working; Excellent written and verbal communication skills, especially in presenting financial information to the Senior Leadership Team and Governors; Have (or be working towards) a recognised School Business Management qualification or an equivalent business/finance qualification.*

Visits are welcome and recommended. Please contact the school office on 01245 460107 or email admin@bishops.essex.sch.uk to make an appointment. For a copy of the Job Description please visit https://www.essexschoolsjobs.co.uk/ or contact the school office.
*Closing Date: Sunday 20th February 2022*

To apply for this vacancy please visit http://www.essexschoolsjobs.co.uk/
The governors and staff are committed to the safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. Appointments are subject to satisfactory references, DBS and medical checks.

## ***Looking Ahead***

**Tuesday 22nd February**—Church Service for Group 1 led by 3B, in the school hall and via Zoom, 9.20am;
World Thinking Day—Cubs, Scouts, Brownies & Guides to wear their uniforms to school

**Wednesday 23rd February**—PTA Art & Sip Event, 7.30 to 9.30pm

**Friday 25th February** - 1YD's Class Assembly in the school hall and via Zoom, 9.20am

## Absence Reporting

Illness—**please report all on the day absences to the school office by phone or email**
Medical appointments—please provide a copy of the appointment letter **in advance**
Leave of absence—please complete a leave of absence form **in advance** for planned absences—forms can be obtained from our website or the school office
Thank you
Telephone: 01245 460107 / Email: admin@bishops.essex.sch.uk

**Please checkout the community page on our website, ('News/General News')** for information on:
Useful organisations, children's activities, community events and local businesses