

# The Brockton Bulletin

13<sup>th</sup> October 2023



—Diocese of—  
Hereford

THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND

## The parable of the Sower of seed

The Parable of the Sower was told to the crowd that had gathered around Jesus. Jesus tells the story of a sower who scattered seeds on four different types of soil. The first type of ground was hard and the seed could not sprout or grow at all and became snatched up instantly. The second type of ground was stony. The seed was able to plant and begin to grow, however, it could not grow deep roots and withered in the sun. The third type of ground was thorny and although the seed could plant and grow, it could not compete with the number of thorns that overtook it. The fourth ground was good soil that allowed the seed to plant deep, grow strong, and produce fruit.



## Autumn Term Dates

### October

**Wednesday 25th October**  
FOBs Autumn Disco 3.30pm  
**Thursday 26th October**  
Last Day of Half Term  
**Friday 28th October**  
PD Day - NO CHILDREN IN SCHOOL

### November

**Monday 6th November**  
Children back to school  
**Wednesday 8th November**  
Class 1 Parent Lunches 12pm  
**Wednesday 15th November**  
Class 2 Parent Lunches 12pm  
**Thursday 16th November**  
FOBs Bags for school collection  
**Wednesday 22nd November**  
Class 3 Parent Lunches 12pm  
**Friday 24th November**  
Non-uniform day donation for Christmas hamper  
**Tuesday 28th November**  
Parents meetings from 3.30pm  
**Wednesday 29th November**  
Parents meetings from 3.30pm

### December

**Wednesday 6th December**  
Carol Service @ Church Stretton 6.30pm  
**Wednesday 13th December**  
Class one Nativity 1.45pm @ Brockton  
**Thursday 14th December**  
FOBs Christmas film night 3.30pm  
**Friday 15th December**  
Pantomime @ Oakengates Theatre  
**Wednesday 20th December**  
End of Term

# Fortnightly Message from

**Mrs Hunt**

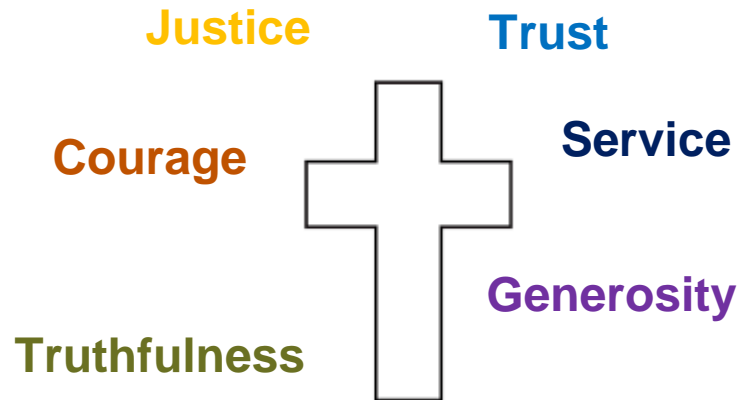


It has been a very busy start to the term as the children have come back from their summer break (it seems a long time ago) energised and ready to learn. We have started into a busy programme of events with some excellent performances from our Key Stage 2 pupils at the first of this year's cross-country season races at William Brookes School and pupils from Class 3 enjoying an activity afternoon, also at Willam Brookes, as part of the secondary transition programme.

We hope that you enjoyed our Harvest Service at Bourton yesterday; there was as always an excellent standard of singing and great narrators from Class 3.

Thank you for your patience as we have experienced the challenge of several staff being absent due to Covid since the start of term. I am grateful to all of our staff for their flexibility in covering for absence and ensuring that our pupils do not miss out as far as we are able.

## Our Christian Values



**This half of term our  
Christian value focus is**

**Generosity**



# Our School Menu

**WEEK 1** *Fresh Dining*

	MONDAY Everyday favourites	TUESDAY Mid-week roast	WEDNESDAY Mid-week roast	THURSDAY Mid-week roast	FRIDAY Take-away day
<b>SAMMY SWEETCORN SAYS...</b> <i>'Enjoy your lunch'</i>	<b>OPTION 1</b> Pork Sausages & Gravy	BBQ Chicken	Roast Chicken with Stuffing & Gravy	Spaghetti Bolognese	Chicken Nuggets
	<b>OPTION 2</b> Jacket Potato with Cheese & Baked Beans v	Vegetarian Sausage Roll v	Cheese & Potato Pie v	Vegetable Goujons v	Pizza Selection v
<b>CARBS</b>	Mashed Potatoes or Crusty Bread	Pasta or Diced Potatoes	Roast & New Potatoes	Garlic & Herb Bread or Potato Wedges	Potato Crunchies or Pasta
<b>PUDDING</b>	Mousse	Waffle	Iced Cake	Cookies	<b>Fruity Friday</b> A selection of chilled, frozen & fresh fruit desserts

**ALL SERVED WITH** = A choice of two vegetables, baked beans, freshly prepared seasonal salads, crusty bread, fresh fruit salad & yoghurts

Brackton Primary School | Food allergen & intolerance information - before ordering speak to our staff about your requirements | www.skirpservices.co.uk

**WEEK 2** *Fresh Dining*

	MONDAY Everyday favourites	TUESDAY Mid-week roast	WEDNESDAY Mid-week roast	THURSDAY Mid-week roast	FRIDAY Take-away day
<b>SAMMY SWEETCORN SAYS...</b> <i>'Enjoy your lunch'</i>	<b>OPTION 1</b> Fish Finger Fish Cake or Fish Shape	Breaded Chicken Steak	Roast Beef Yorkshire Pudding & Gravy	Chicken Tikka Masala	Pizza Selection
	<b>OPTION 2</b> Mac 'n' Cheese v	Quorn Bolognese v	Roasted Quorn Fillet & Gravy v	Jacket Potato with Cheese & Baked Beans v	Nacho Bites v
<b>CARBS</b>	Diced Potatoes or Crusty Bread	Potato Crunchies or Garlic & Herb Bread	Roast & Mashed Potatoes	Rice or Potato Wedges	Chips
<b>PUDDING</b>	Chocolate Crunch	Waffle	Ice-cream Tub	Toffee Apple Slice Custard	<b>Fruity Friday</b> A selection of chilled, frozen & fresh fruit desserts

**ALL SERVED WITH** = A choice of two vegetables, baked beans, freshly prepared seasonal salads, crusty bread, fresh fruit salad & yoghurts

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**WEEK 3** *Fresh Dining*

	MONDAY Everyday favourites	TUESDAY Mid-week roast	WEDNESDAY Mid-week roast	THURSDAY Mid-week roast	FRIDAY Take-away day
<b>SAMMY SWEETCORN SAYS...</b> <i>'Enjoy your lunch'</i>	<b>OPTION 1</b> Sweet & Sour Chicken	Beef Burger with tomato ketchup	Roast Pork Yorkshire Pudding & Gravy	Mac 'n' Cheese Chicken Bake	Shepherd's Pie
	<b>OPTION 2</b> BBQ Veggie Hot Dog v	Vegetable & Bean Burger v	Meat (free) Balls Yorkshire Pudding & Gravy v	Jacket Potato with Cheese & Baked Beans v	Pizza Selection v
<b>CARBS</b>	Pasta or Potato Crunchies	Diced Potatoes	Roast & New Potatoes	Potato Wedges or Garlic & Herb Bread	Chips
<b>PUDDING</b>	Flapjacks	Iced Cake	Waffle	Apple Puff Slice Custard	<b>Fruity Friday</b> A selection of chilled, frozen & fresh fruit desserts

**ALL SERVED WITH** = A choice of two vegetables, baked beans, freshly prepared seasonal salads, crusty bread, fresh fruit salad & yoghurts

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Polite reminder:

Please make sure your **SCHOOL MONEY** account is topped up to pay for school meals ordered.

To check if your child is eligible for free school meals and find out how to apply go to :

<https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/-/free-school-meals>



# Class news

## Nursery

We have had a wonderful time in nursery these last two weeks. We have made space rockets and collage aliens to go up on our 'Way back Home' display and we even turned all the staff pictures into aliens as well. As the Great British Bake Off started this week, we have made chocolate chip cookies. The children were very good at listening to instructions and taking turns when it came to mixing the ingredients together and they were delicious. What has been lovely to see in nursery this week, is that the children have been sharing and taking turns with the toys, as Miss Martin likes to say Sharing is Caring.

## Class one

In literacy we have been reading The Tear Thief by Carol Ann Duffy. The children have used the story to inspire their acting skills. Class one worked in small groups to act out the story, each taking on a role of a character. In maths we have been exploring addition and subtraction and identifying tens and units and finding different ways to help the children learn how to add and subtract. In Science we have been looking at our amazing bodies. The children have labelled the different body parts from the head, shoulders, knees, and the toes. We have also been thinking about what we need to help us grow, learn and be healthy.

## Class Two

This week C2 have enjoyed learning more about George's Marvellous Medicine and are busy preparing their witness statements about Grandma's unfortunate incident. If you don't know the story your child to explain Grandma's misfortune! In Maths we Yr3/4 have been practising their times tables skills. Remember to keep on learning these at home too. Yr2 have been practising their addition and subtraction skills. In PE with Mrs Cowper we have learning about the importance of working together in OAA through playing very energetic games and with Mr Bourton, we have been practising our ball skills. We are trying to perfect our handwriting skills as everyone is eager to be able to write using pen. Well done to Lois, Rebecca and Edie who produce neat work all the time.

## Class Three

Class 3 have completed a poetry unit of work. We have studied The Harvest Moon by Ted Hughes and have written our own poems with harvest and autumn themes. The children's writing has been wonderful. In science we have investigated the difference between series and parallel circuits. The children have built a selection of parallel circuits. During R.E. lessons we have continued to explore the Christian belief that God is both loving and holy and in computing we have investigated who owns information on a website and rules for downloading information.

# Stars of the week



## Out of school super stars

Nicholas Noble for getting his white belt red stripe in Taekwondo.

Please share your children's achievements with us in our weekly well done assemblies. All are welcome to join us every Friday afternoon at 2.45pm

Charity number 1087063

The Friends of Brockton School  
invites you to our...

# Autumn Disco

Wednesday 25th October

Straight after school  
until 5pm

£5.25 per child via  
School Money

Drinks & snacks  
included

Pumpkin decorating  
competition £1 cash

Pre-school and reception children must be  
accompanied by an adult



# SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO DEAL WITH UPSETTING CONTENT

## A Guide for Parents and Carers

Raising children in the digital age seems to be getting tougher, with the world currently experiencing so many uncertainties. From climate change to the war in Ukraine and the conflict in Israel, right now children across the globe can scarcely go online without being exposed to unsettling stories, images and ideas. Reassuring a concerned child can be difficult, especially when bad news feels omnipresent. We've put together some advice to help you in discussing upsetting events with young ones.

### 1 FIND OUT WHAT YOUR CHILD KNOWS

There are many ways that children are exposed to upsetting content in the media, both online and offline. Before swamping your child with information, find out what they know already. Show them you're interested in what they have to say, practice active listening and try to gauge how much your child has been impacted by what they've seen.



### 2 RIGHT TIME, RIGHT PLACE

Starting a conversation about upsetting content probably isn't the best idea when your child is studying for an exam or about to go to bed. Choose a time when they're relaxed and open to talking, to make sure you have their full attention. Remember, these conversations can become emotional, so choose somewhere your child feels safe and comfortable.



### 3 KEEP IT AGE APPROPRIATE

With younger children, try and keep the conversation more general and avoid leading questions and complex detail. You can go slightly deeper into the specifics with young teenagers but keep monitoring their emotional response. With older teens, you can be more open about the realities and consequences of what's happening – but again, do stay aware of their emotional state.



### 4 EMPHASISE HOPE

Upsetting content can make anyone feel angry, scared, sad or overwhelmed. Try to find stories of hope, generosity and strength related to the content you're discussing. Children often feel reassured when they know they can do something to help, so encourage your child's sense of control through activities which make them feel they're positively impacting the events they're concerned about.



### 5 MONITOR REACTIONS

All children react differently, of course, and young people might not directly say that they're scared, angry, anxious, confused or uncomfortable. Emotional reactions are natural when discussing upsetting topics, so take note of your child's body language and reactions. Allow them to express their feelings in a non-judgmental space and try to stay mindful of how they might be feeling.



### 6 CONSIDER YOUR OWN EMOTIONS

It's not only young people who find upsetting news difficult to process: adults also have to deal with strong emotions in moments of stress. Children develop coping strategies by mirroring those around them, so staying on top of how you appear to be regulating your emotion on the outside is important for supporting your child through worrying times.



### 7 SET LIMITS

Managing screen-time and content can be difficult even in normal circumstances, but especially in unusual or stressful periods (at the start of the pandemic, for example). It's virtually impossible to keep children away from upsetting content completely, but it's important to try to limit exposure by using parental controls, talking about the dangers of harmful content and enforcing screen-time limits.



### 8 TAKE THINGS SLOWLY

Try not to overwhelm your child with information all at once; instead, take the discussion one step at a time. You could make the first conversation a simple introduction to a potentially upsetting subject and then wait until your child is ready to talk again. Opening the door to the conversation and demonstrating that your child can talk to you about this type of issue is a vital first step.



### 9 ENCOURAGE QUESTIONS

Online, troubling images, posts, videos and stories are shared across multiple platforms, many of which your child might access. Even if the content is actually inappropriate, encourage your child to discuss what they saw instead of being angry at them for seeing it. Children are still learning that not everything online is accurate – you want to be their ultimate source of information, not their device.



### 10 FIND A BALANCE

There's often a tremendous compulsion to stay right up to date with notifications. Our phones frequently send us push notifications urging us to read the latest article or view the most recent video on social media. It's essential to remind your child that it's healthy to take regular breaks, and to focus on positive events instead of 'doomscrolling' and risking becoming overwhelmed by bad news.



### 11 BUILD RESILIENCE

News has never been more accessible. While our instinct may be to shield children from upsetting stories, it's important that they're equipped with the tools to manage this content when they are exposed to it. Talk about upsetting content more generally with your child and emphasise that they can always tell you or a trusted adult if something they see makes them feel uneasy.



### 12 IDENTIFY HELP

It's hugely important that children know where to find support if they encounter upsetting content online. Encourage them to open up to an adult that they trust, and make sure they're aware of who their trusted adults are. It's essential that children understand that they're not alone, and that help is available if and when they need it.



## Meet Our Expert

Cayley Jorgensen is the director of FaceUp South Africa, which is a reporting system that is currently being used by schools and companies to fight bullying around the world. FaceUp helps give a voice to bystanders by encouraging them to speak up and get the help they not only want but need.



**NOS** National Online Safety®  
#WakeUpWednesday

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/health-6040936> | <https://www.childrens.com/blog/supporting-your-child-with-upsetting-content/> | <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/how-to-talk-to-your-children-about-conflict-and-war>



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Join us for  
**Freshly Baked  
Friday's**

After school this  
Friday FOBS will be  
selling Homemade  
Brownies for £1.00

*See you there!*



### Parent Guides to Online Safety



**A Parent's Guide to Social Media**



**A Parent's Guide to Sharing Pictures**



**A Parent's Guide to Gaming**



**A Parent's Guide to Online Grooming**



**A Parent's Guide to Live Streaming**



**A Parent's Guide to Online Influencers**



**A Parent's Guide to Fake News**



**A Parent's Guide to Privacy Settings**



**Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.**

**Parents** please contact your school to enquire attending their next e-safety workshop or have any concerns.

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

**Skips Educational** Email: info@skips.com Tel: +44 121 227 1941

Developed in partnership with

