

Bower Grove News



Issue 139

www.bower-grove.kent.sch.uk

July 2023

Dear Readers,

It has been such a good term with so many activities, visits as well as residential. We started the term with some amazing homework projects with the theme of 'Our Community' which I must thank parents and carers for supporting your child to complete.

We have enjoyed celebrating our year 11 pupils in our 'leavers week' in June which finished with a wonderful assembly displaying the journey our pupils have been on as well as the journey they are starting in their new provisions. Good luck all year 11 pupils.

As we move towards the end of term, we have been working hard on supporting our pupils transition to their new classes for September. Information has been given to pupils in a timely manner to ensure any worries or concerns can be talked through and supported. We offered all pupils some 'Time to Talk' sessions over the past two weeks. All pupils were able to book up some sessions to confidentially talk with a member of our 'Thinking Well' team. It was lovely to see some pupils use this offer effectively to talk through their worries. Please do talk with your child about their new classes and the new staff that will be working with them from September – a problem shared is a problem halved.

Throughout the term we have celebrated our pupils' successes with weekly certificates presented to pupils who have achieved outstanding work to enter Headteacher's Golden Book as well as our 'Writer of the Week' and the 'Golden Duck', which is always posted on our Facebook page. We do try to email photographs of amazing work of your child so you can celebrate their achievements.

As we head towards the end of term we look forward to our Community Lunch on the field on our last day as well as our Golden Table to celebrate pupils who have achieved 100% attendance over this term.

I would like to wish everyone a wonderful summer holiday break and look forward to welcoming pupils back into school on either Thursday 31st August or Friday 1st September depending on their year.

Mrs Cleave ~ Headteacher



News from the Governors

Term 6 has been as busy as ever for the Governors with visits, meetings, policies to review and reports to read. However, Term 6 also brings some of the fun into the Governor diary – with some of us attending Parents Evening, Sports Day, the Summer Fair, the Year 11 leaver events and the Arts Day. On behalf of Governors I'd like to thank all the staff who work hard to make these special events so successful and the PTFA for their commitment to producing an enjoyable summer fair and raising funds for the school.

It was a privilege to join our Year 11s at their leavers meal, to watch many of them receive awards and recognition for all their hard work, to hear how they have progressed since joining the school and to listen to their speeches thanking the staff. I was filled with pride for them and for all the staff.

Term 6 is always a time when I wish you all a lovely summer and hope that you all stay safe. This year I really want to remind everyone about the importance of looking after yourself during the holidays and keeping yourself and others safe. I want you all to be able to go out and enjoy this time with friends and family, but the recent tragic loss of a young life here in Maidstone, in an accident involving an E-Scooter has prompted me to want to just remind everyone that these E-Scooters are not suitable for the roads or pavements – in fact it is illegal to ride them there. If you have one and are planning to use it to explore this summer please find somewhere off road on private land and take great care.

Alison White ~ Chair of Governors



CELEBRATING CREATIVITY AT BOWER GROVE

MUSIC

This term our Year 7 pupils have been exploring Brazilian Samba Music in Music lessons. As this style of music is usually played outside at carnivals and events, Mr Starks and 7L took the samba instruments out onto the field and performed in the sunshine.



ENGLISH

Pupils in Year 9 have been developing their descriptive writing skills. Below are some extracts, based on the scenario: 'Write a description of someone trapped.'

Lewis: Frantically, I try to squeeze my body through the dark, damp cave. The murky clay-coloured water feels like it's pulling me down as I gasp desperately for the thick air. Desperate and alone, I crawl as it's getting narrower and narrower. No turning back, unknown to what is in front of me. Without my headlight, it is dark like the night sky, nothing but midnight black as I crawl blindly.

Kenzi: Panicking, we are frantically pressing all buttons that light up, except the one that's blood-red. Suddenly, the air feels dense. I feel dizzy and the sub is spinning. I feel weak - my legs feel like they are going to collapse. All of a sudden, there is a sound that brings me back to school like my teacher scraping the black-board.

Shannon: 'Scared and horrified, I was still screaming for help, still trying to make my way out. But there was no escape...Sitting on a funfair ride, upside down, for hours and hours was like never waking up from a long sleep. What's going to happen to me? Am I going to pass out? I pray that I will make it out alive and I make it home safe.'

ART

In Art this term, The Year 10's completed the final parts of their Arts Award Qualification.

They have produced portfolios of work, reflected on experiences and shared a skill with a peer. Well done, Year 10.



DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

Year 7's have been learning and engaging in Corporate Identity this term. They have gained knowledge and skills within Photoshop and have generated, developed and produced their own logo which they have applied to commercial templates, packaging, T-shirts and mugs.



Attendance Matters



Well done to:

5 pupils who have **100%** Attendance for the year.

94 pupils who have over **95%** Attendance for the year.

Can you be one of these pupils next year?

Tree Bench and Sensory Area

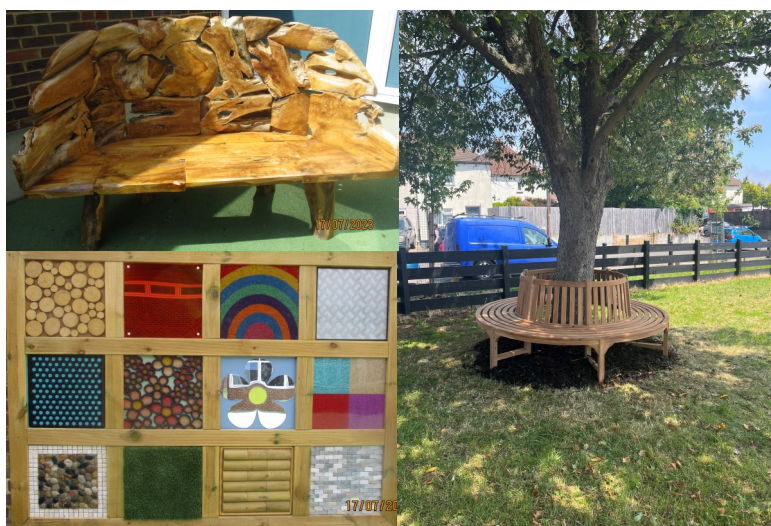
We have invested and installed a lovely tree surrounding bench as somewhere for our parents/carers to wait at collection time. I am sure you can agree this is a very welcome addition to the front of our school and somewhere to shade yourself from the sun!

At the beginning of this term, we created a new area for sensory regulation which is called 'the Quad'.

It has been installed with a fantastic bench, hand carved from tree roots, as well as our bespoke hand-made sensory wall, which has been well used from all pupils across the school.

This area will continue to be added to over the course of the holidays so

Watch this space!



50 years Anniversary of The Gallagher Group

A group of pupils from Year 9&10 visited the Gallagher Quarry Construction Site where they found out about all the jobs they have to offer (over 200!) and took the opportunity to use VR technology and equipment to simulate welding, driving and digging. They had a tour around the quarry site and were also treated to a free hotdog and ice cream! Pupils were exceptionally well behaved and a good time was had by all and we can't wait for next year's event.



News From the Plot

This term Oaks class and enrichment have enjoyed our first harvest of potatoes from the allotment. Varieties of Rocket and Charlotte were planted earlier in the year and have produced a fantastic amount of potatoes. We have enjoyed them boiled with a bit of mint from the Sensory Garden and roasted with garlic and rosemary. Everyone agreed they were delicious!



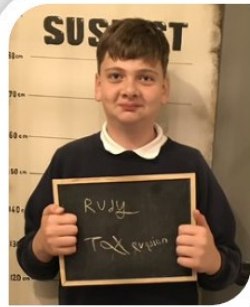
Foxes Class Trip

Foxes class went to the Montalbano restaurant again this year where they enjoyed authentic Italian food and company. Pupils ate pizza, pasta and chips and a refreshing glass of orange juice.

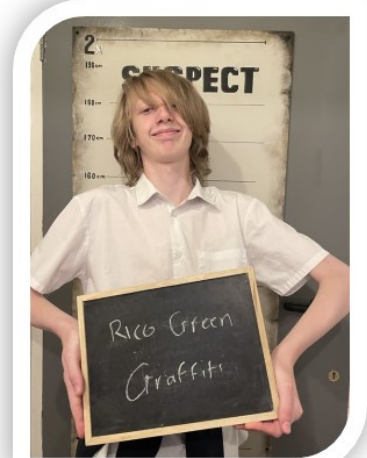
Anna and Salvatore (owners) bought a beautiful ceramic plate for every pupil so they may take a little bit of Italy home with them. Thank you to the Montalbano for the generous gift.



Year 8 Global Learning



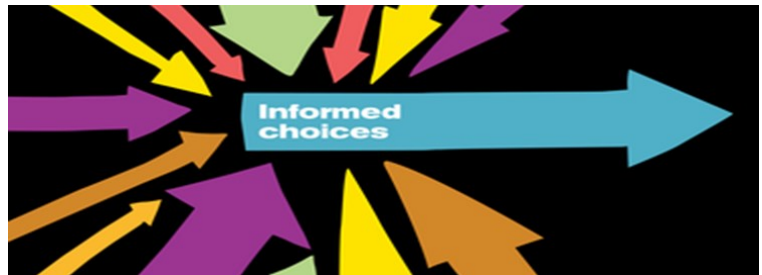
To round off Year 8's Global Learning 999, Letsbe Avenue scheme of work on the history of crime and punishment and the geography of crime, we visited Kent Police Museum in Faversham. All the pupils enjoyed looking at the cells in the old Victorian police station and having mug shots taken as well as trying on uniforms, trying out a police motor-bike and looking at the displays which document Kent's policing story from the early 19th century. Thank you to the staff teams for their support.





One of our students Adam Year 10 was entered into the Young Cooks competition. This was open to all children and young people across Kent. There were thousands of applicants and he was selected as one of the 60 finalists and then one of 7 finalists in his category which is an amazing achievement. He got to experience cooking in the catering kitchens of Broadstairs College and presented his dishes to the judges, one of whom was Jane Beedle, a former Great British Bake Off finalist. Jane singled him out, to compliment his pastry making skills! He should be extremely proud of himself. We are!

In term 1, Year 11 pupils have to make some important decisions about their future. It is vital that everyone is able to make an informed choice in their Annual Review meetings and select a post 16 placement suitable to the young person.



A lot of local open days are later on in the year, so we encourage parents/carers, and their pupils, to investigate post 16 providers as early as Year 10 and Year 9 at so they are fully equipped with the information they need to make the correct decision in the subsequent years.

Please look into any providers that your young person maybe interested in by going online or looking on our website.

Here is a list of a few local open days:

Maidstone Mid Kent College	1st November 2023 – 3.30pm to 7.30pm
Medway Mid Kent College	8th November 2023 3.30pm to 7.30pm
Medway Mid Kent College	18th November 2023 10am to 1pm
Maidstone Mid Kent College	25th November 2023 10am to 1pm

Register on line for these events:

North Kent College, Tonbridge Campus	7th November 2023 3.30pm to 7.30pm
North Kent College, Gravesend Campus	19th October 2023 3.30pm to 7.30pm
North Kent College, Dartford Campus	17th October 2023 3.30pm to 7.30pm

Apprenticeship Open Day, Hadlow College.

Thursday 20th July. 3pm to 7pm – visit website for more details:

www.northkent.ac.uk/news-events/events/event/55-apprenticeship-open-evening-july-2023

for more details look on their website –
www.midkent.ac.uk/news/events

Foxes Class—

In their sensory lesson Foxes class focused on their fine motor skills, particularly pinching and tearing. They were able to choose their own pieces of patterned paper to decorate their turtles. The instruction was that they had to fill the outline by tearing and ripping their pieces of paper into different shapes, then sticking them down.

They all enjoyed this activity and were keen to see each other's different designs.



BBC 500 Words Competition

This year, the BBC have decided to re-open their hugely successful writing competition: 500 words. Further information can be found on the link below as well as some key points.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words/about-500-words/zctk7v4#zcxj6rd1>

Children of all abilities are encouraged to use their creativity and imagination to write a story they would love to read without the pressure of having to worry about spelling, punctuation and grammar.

It's for 5-11 year olds to enter – so Year 7s may still qualify, depending on their date of birth.

The story does not have to be 500 words; this is just the limit. There is a small list of the 'rules' and the judges' criteria available on the website. Pupils who wish to enter the competition will have to type up their story in order to submit it online in the autumn.

There are two categories: 5 to 7 year olds and 8 to 11 year olds. The submission window is between Tuesday 26th September until Friday 10th November, so pupils have all summer to think about and even draft their idea!

Reading Ambassadors

Bower Grove have elected five new Reading Ambassadors for 2023-24; inspirational pupils that have demonstrated a love of and talent for reading. These pupils are exemplary, working to ensure the library runs effectively and efficiently, whilst also peer mentoring junior pupils with the aim of instilling the same passion and skill for reading as they have shown. Well done to Adam (Year 10), Shannon (Year 9), Criegon (Year 9), Zac (Year 8) and Frankie (Year 7).





We Raised £2009.66



BOULOGNE SUR MER



BGS ABROAD

On Wednesday 21st June 20 Year 8 pupils set off for a residential in France. After travelling through the tunnel to Calais the group drove to Wierre-Effroy to visit a bakery to see how they make their bread and croissants. Bruno the baker tested the group on their knowledge of the ingredients but he was not impressed with everyone's efforts at croissant rolling!



The group checked into the youth hostel and enjoyed some relaxation and babyfoot (French for Table Tennis) before going to the supermarket to buy many of the treats Ms Syrett shares in class and then dinner in McDonalds. Team photo i-spy and challenge task in the Old Town followed dinner – Mr Jacobs' & Mrs Martin's group won and the evening was rounded off with time to play on the beach and then a walk back to the hostel.



On Thursday Ms Syrett did an early bakery visit to collect baguettes for pupils to make their packed lunches and once breakfast was done we headed to Nausicaa – Europe's largest aquarium. It was a fantastic visit.



After an elevesse croissant, the group headed to a snail farm to learn about how snails are raised – pupils and adults learnt lots of new things.

We drove South to Hardelot on the coast, enjoyed lunch beside the sea and then we went to a small, family run business to see how they make their biscuits.



After some relaxation in the hostel we headed into Boulogne to complete a fact-finding mission – Miss Vandeppeer & Mr Hollet's group won and then we had some timed map reading challenges before dinner in a town centre restaurant...another snail eating



opportunity. Competition continued at bowling where Riley C came out victorious and amongst the staff where the Blue bus team won the A-Z i-spy task. The group swiftly successfully cleared their rooms on Friday morning so we were in plenty of time for our shuttle crossing, (after pain au chocolate eleveses of course!). We returned to school safely on Friday June 23rd ready to get taxis home and catch up on sleep!



Many thanks to the staff team that accompanied the group, giving up their time to enable the trip to happen. For some staff and pupils it was their first residential. It is always a privilege to take pupils abroad for their first experience outside the UK.



Mon classement BGStripAdvisor



**BOULOGNE
SUR MER**

Prénom: Robert

La visite en France était très super
Les activités étaient très ludiques
Le Jeudi Soir au restaurant un steak haché
avec des frites, et pour le dessert j'ai mangé
noting. J'ai bu un diable. Le dîner était
délicieux. Au supermarché j'ai acheté des chips
Le Top du top était le shopping.

Mon classement BGStripAdvisor



**BOULOGNE
SUR MER**

Prénom: RUBY

La visite en France était très fabuleux
Les activités étaient intéressantes
Le Jeudi Soir au restaurant le Royal j'ai mangé du poulet rôti
avec des frites et des escargots. Et pour le dessert j'ai mangé une
glace à la fraise. J'ai bu un diable fraise.
Le dîner était délicieux.

Mon classement BGStripAdvisor



**BOULOGNE
SUR MER**

Prénom: Kathy La visite en France était COOL

Les activités étaient intéressantes
Le Jeudi Soir au restaurant le Royal j'ai mangé
du poulet rôti avec des frites
et pour le dessert j'ai mangé une glace à la vanille
J'ai bu un diable rose. Au supermarché j'ai acheté
des chips du chocolat. Le dîner était super.
Le meilleur moment la plage.

Mon classement BGStripAdvisor



**BOULOGNE
SUR MER**

Prénom: Anthony

La visite en France était hyper cool.
Les activités étaient amusantes.
Le Jeudi Soir au restaurant le Royal j'ai mangé du poulet rôti avec des frites
et des escargots. Et pour le dessert j'ai mangé une glace
à la fraise. Au supermarché j'ai acheté des biscuits.
Au super le bowling.

Mon classement BGStripAdvisor



**BOULOGNE
SUR MER**

Prénom: Harley

La visite France était hyper super.
Les activités étaient amusantes.
Le Jeudi Soir au restaurant le Royal j'ai mangé
Et pour le dessert j'ai mangé un gâteau.
J'ai bu un diable menthe.
Le dîner était délicieux.
Au supermarché j'ai acheté des biscuits.
Le meilleur moment la plage.

Mon classement BGStripAdvisor



**BOULOGNE
SUR MER**

Prénom: Elie

La visite en France était vraiment fabuleux.
Les activités étaient vraiment amusantes.
Le Jeudi Soir au restaurant le Royal j'ai mangé du poulet rôti avec des frites
et des escargots. Et pour le dessert j'ai mangé une glace
à la vanille et à la fraise.
J'ai bu un diable grenadine.
Le dîner était délicieux.
Au supermarché j'ai acheté des bonbons, des chips, et un sirop.
Ce que j'ai aimé le plus était le train en Eurotunnel et le shopping.

Mon classement BGStripAdvisor



**BOULOGNE
SUR MER**

Prénom: Harry

La visite en France était vraiment cool.
Les activités étaient vraiment éducatives.
Le Jeudi Soir au restaurant le Royal j'ai mangé
un steak haché avec des frites
Et pour le dessert j'ai mangé une crêpe au sucre.
J'ai bu un diable menthe.
Le dîner était délicieux.
Au supermarché j'ai acheté une boisson, du chocolat.
Le Top du top l'aquarium.

Mon classement BGStripAdvisor



**BOULOGNE
SUR MER**

La visite en France était vraiment cool.

Les activités étaient amusantes.

Le Jeudi Soir au restaurant le Royal j'ai mangé un steak haché avec
des frites.
Et pour le dessert j'ai mangé une glace à la fraise.

J'ai bu un diable fraise.

Le dîner était délicieux.

Au supermarché j'ai acheté des biscuits.

Ce que j'ai aimé le plus l'aquarium et le shopping.

Mon classement BGStripAdvisor



**BOULOGNE
SUR MER**

Prénom: YIER

La visite en France était hyper cool.

Les activités étaient très éducatives.

Le Jeudi Soir au restaurant le Royal j'ai mangé du poulet rôti avec des frites.

Et pour le dessert j'ai mangé une glace à la vanille et à la fraise.

J'ai bu un diable fraise.

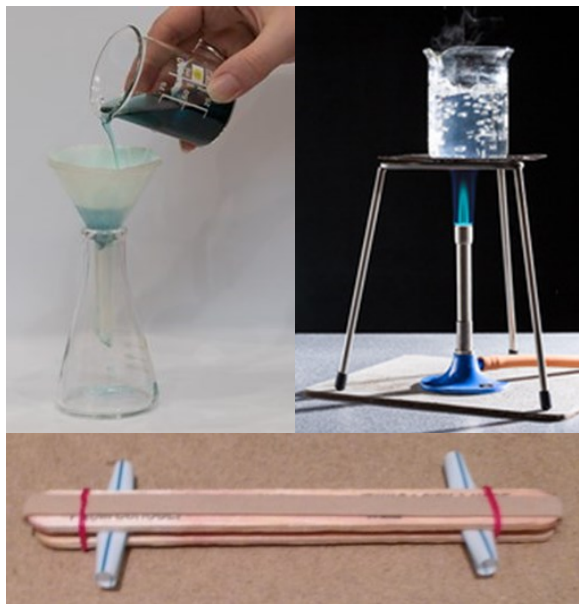
Le dîner était délicieux.

Au supermarché j'ai acheté des boissons et des biscuits.

Le Top du Top l'aquarium et les viennoiseries.

SCIENCE CORNER—TERM 6

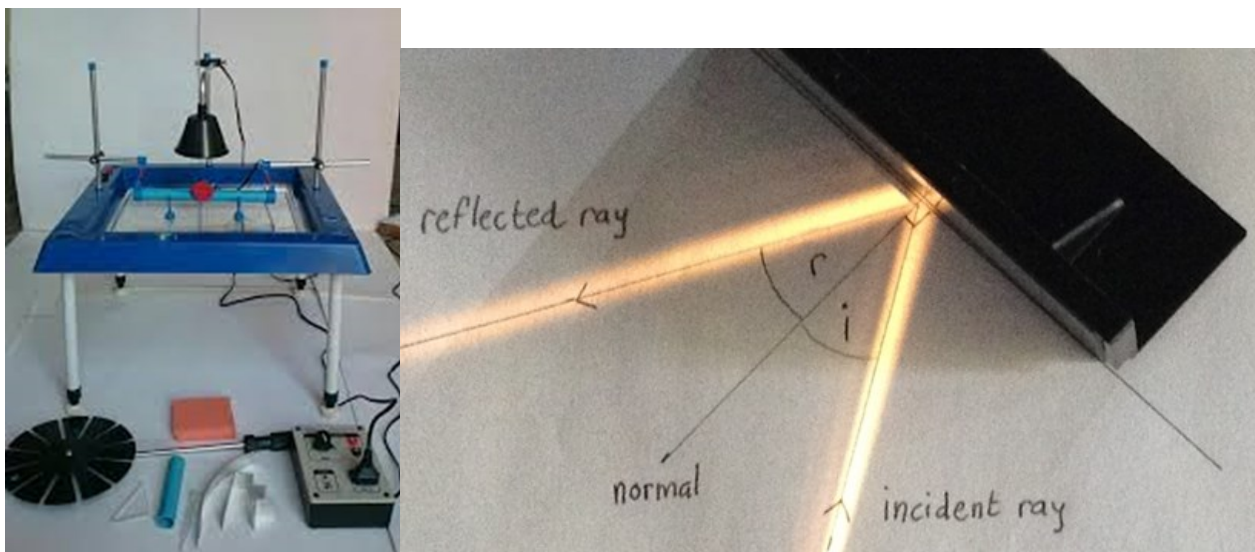
Year 7 – Ecosystems Sound Mixtures



Year 8 – Earth and Space Rocks



Year 9 – Waves and Radiation



Year 10 – Plants and Ecosystems



SPORTS DAY

Primary School



SPORTS DAY

Secondary School



Spanish Fiesta Paella

Recipe to Try at Home

Ingredients:

- 1 Onion
- 1 Red Pepper
- 1 Chicken Breast or Thigh
- ½ teaspoon Turmeric
- ½ teaspoon Smoked Paprika
- 150g Paella Rice
- 1 Stock Cube (Vegetable or Chicken)
- 300ml Hot Water
- 100g Frozen Peas
- 50g Chorizo Sausage
- 1 tablespoon Vegetable Oil



Equipment Needed:

Chopping Board, Small Sharp Knife, Scissors, Frying Pan, Wooden Spoon, Measuring Jug, Plate & 2 Small Basins

Method:

1. Prepare vegetables—peel and dice onion, slice pepper
2. Cut chicken into small pieces
3. Heat oil in frying pan and soften the onions and pepper
4. Peel the chorizo and dice into small cubes—add to the pan with the onions and pepper and fry until it releases its oil
5. Add the chicken pieces and stir until the meat is sealed
6. Stir in the rice until it is coated in the chorizo oil
7. Add the boiling water to the stock cube in a measuring jug along with the turmeric and smoked paprika.
8. Bring to the boil and simmer for about 15 mins, stirring occasionally
9. Add peas and cook for about 5 mins until heated through



Parent Support Group (PSG)

The Parents Support group held the largest visitors of parents and other professional from our behaviour workshop in May. The workshop informed demonstrated behaviour supports and strategies. Parents shared some greatly received feedback. PSG is continuing to work with professionals in our community and next years support offer looks forward to holding sessions with Financial support and Mind, the Mental health charity. The PSG welcomes Mrs R Dowling who will be co-ordinating the future workshops.

Parent, Friends, Teachers Association (PFTA)

The PFTA are continuing their efforts to raise money for our Sensory Quad Area. There are many ways that you can help us with our efforts! Firstly, did you know that you can raise funds from your armchair every time you shop online? There is no cost to yourselves, all you need to do is sign up to Easyfundraising. If you have not already signed up, it only takes a few minutes, then you can begin using the Easyfundraising website or app straightaway – simply shop online as normal.

Visit our Easyfundraising page to get started:

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/bowergrove/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_content=s-e2

Wing Walk

Going Up! Up! Up!! Its up to over £2000 and is climbing daily. Wow! A big THANK YOU to everyone who has helped. We are counting down the days now to when Becky will take to the sky on the Wing of a plane, face the biggest challenge of her life!! Will we hit the target of £3000?

Becky has been to the airfield and is confident that she can climb up to reach the position where she will be strapped for the duration of the flight.

Let's help her raise £3000 and, fingers crossed, overcome her phobia of heights.

Scan the QR code with your phone to donate!!!

The GoFundMe link is <https://www.gofundme.com/f/g36ac-beckys-wing-walk>



Staff Leavers:

We wish the following staff good luck in their new ventures

Digital & Communications Co-ordinator

Mr D Clark

Teachers

Mrs C Booth
Ms D Sheffield
Mrs M Stockwell

Pastoral Lead

Mrs C Green

LSA's

Mrs M Chainey
Mrs S Joyes
Mr C Burr
Mr T Ottaway
Mrs H Sutton
Mrs A Eglinton
Mrs T Hayward
Mrs M Macdonald
Miss F Layzell

Welcome New Staff:

Impacts Teacher

Miss A Gates

Pastoral Lead

Mrs V French

Digital & Communications Co-ordinator

Mr A Ghosh

Site Team

Miss C Cleave

LSA's

Miss A Thompson
Miss H Squires
Miss N Hunt
Ms A Andreulli
Mrs J Koden
Mr T Fagan
Mrs S Fellowes
Mrs E McGuinness
Mrs Z Harding
Miss S Raman
Miss L Allen

Arrangements for the Beginning of Term One

Please note the following dates for your child returning to school in Term 1:

Thursday 31st August – All pupils in the following classes: Frogs, Hedgehogs, Foxes, Penguins, Eagles, Falcons, Squirrels, Badgers, Oaks, 7S, 7L, 11D & 11S

Friday 1st September – All pupils in classes 8S, 8W, 9F, 9V, 10C & 10N and above.

Dates for your Diary

Weds 13th Sept	HPV Year 8
Mon 25th Sept	Flu Whole School
Weds 27th Sept	School Photos

Please do not forget to follow our
Bower Grove Facebook Page

