BACTON PRIMARY

NEWSLETTER

July 2025



A Note from Mrs Houghton...

It is hard to believe that this is the final newsletter of the year. Just twelve months ago I was starting on my journey at Bacton school, having spent a few days visiting ahead of taking on my role properly in September 2024. And now, I, like all the children who have joined us this year, feel well and truly settled! One of the things I love about village primary schools is the sense of community and from the first day I visited Bacton, it was clear that this was important to everyone that is part of our school.

During the last three terms we have worked hard to ensure that there have been lots of opportunities for parents and families to join us in school, supporting and encouraging the amazing learning that is taking place on a daily basis. The last few weeks have been fantastically busy and highlighted how many different experiences our children have here: from end of term productions to family picnics; from den building to soaking teachers in the stocks; from messy play to camp outs and so much more. We are all so proud of everything our children have achieved and hope the curiosity, resilience and excitement we have seen will stand them in good stead for next year.

KEY DATES

Monday 21st July: School trip to Pensthorpe
]
Tues 22nd July - 9am: Celebration and Year 6 Leavers Assembly

Tues 22nd July - 3:15pm: School closes for the summer holiday

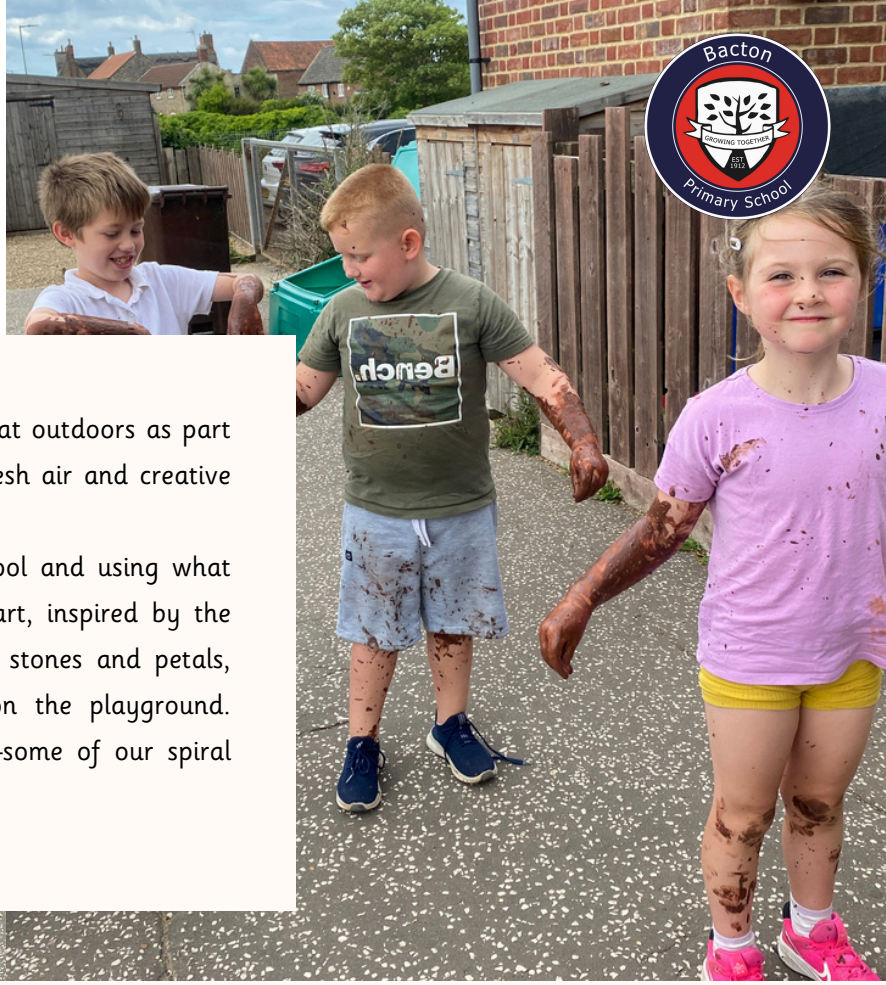
Weds 3rd Sept - 8:35am: School reopens for the new academic year for Year 1-6

Thurs 4th Sept - 8:35am: new Reception pupils start

I would like to extend a huge thank you to the people who have made the year so successful: the staff whose creativity and enthusiasm for learning has brought to life our new topics; the children who have worked so hard in all areas of the curriculum; the PTFA for their amazing work organising the fundraising events throughout the year, including the hugely successful summer fayre; and also to you, the parents and carers, for your continued support and partnership throughout the year.

Before you go on to read the news from each of the classes, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a restful summer break and we look forward to seeing you back in school in September.

SEAHORSE CLASS



Seahorse Class have been making the most of the great outdoors as part of our 'Navigating the Wild' topic, enjoying lots of fresh air and creative fun!

We've been exploring natural spaces around the school and using what we find to create our very own pieces of transient art, inspired by the work of Andy Goldsworthy. Using leaves, pinecones, stones and petals, we worked together to design beautiful patterns on the playground. Everyone showed brilliant teamwork and creativity—some of our spiral designs looked just like Goldsworthy's!



We've also had an amazing time working with the older children to build dens, weave natural materials and go on scavenger hunts. It was wonderful to see how well everyone communicated and shared ideas. Whether it was finding the strongest sticks or making sure the dens were big enough to sleep in, Seahorses showed fantastic cooperation and problem-solving skills.

Possibly the biggest highlight for most of the children was when we joined the Starfish Class for a messy play afternoon. We got stuck in with lots of sensory activities—squelchy mud, spaghetti, bubbly water and more! There were smiles and giggles all around as we explored different textures and had fun together.

Seahorse Class have loved using their imagination, working as a team, and showing such enthusiasm for outdoor learning!





STINGRAY

CLASS



The Stingrays have had an amazing time with two exciting weeks of outdoor learning during our topic, Navigating the Wild! It's been a wonderful opportunity for the children to connect with nature, get creative, and enjoy hands-on activities in the fresh air.

Over the past two weeks, the children have taken part in a wide range of activities designed to spark curiosity and build teamwork skills. Some of the highlights included:

- Nature Art – using leaves, sticks, and stones to create beautiful pieces of art.
- Den Building – working together to design and build shelters in our outdoor area.
- Nature Weaving – weaving with natural materials to explore patterns and textures.
- Mask Making – designing and decorating wild creature masks inspired by forest animals.
- Bug Hunting – going on mini-beast adventures to explore local insect life.





The Stingrays showed incredible enthusiasm, creativity, and cooperation throughout all the activities!

A big highlight for many of the children was having two full weeks out of school uniform! It added to the excitement and helped everyone feel comfortable and ready for outdoor fun.

SHARKS

CLASS

Sharks had a wonderful couple of weeks completing outdoor activities linked to 'Navigating the Wild'. The children thoroughly enjoyed spending plenty of time outside over the two weeks!

We spent time exploring the natural world. This meant children attempted some nature art inspired by Andy Goldsworthy. They worked in groups and created some wonderfully unique pieces! We have a sheep scene, a 3d sculpture and even a fish.









There was plenty of time spent with the younger children working collaboratively. The children built dens, wove natural materials and completed a nature inspired scavenger hunt. In addition to this, the children did bark rubbings - some spent lots of time doing this and managed to pick up intricate patterns from the trees.

Throughout the two weeks the children continued to practise their songs for the Wizard of Oz which was a great hit with everyone!



NAVIGATING THE WILD

Over the past couple of weeks, children across all classes have stepped into the great outdoors to take part in our Navigating the Wild project—a truly unique and enriching experience filled with adventure, creativity and connection to nature.

Inspired by the age-old human need to navigate, build, forage and work together, this exciting project gave children the chance to develop real-world survival skills through hands-on outdoor challenges. From map reading and bushcraft to collaborative team tasks and nature-inspired creativity, Navigating the Wild has been a joyful celebration of imagination, resilience and exploration.

Throughout the project, children discovered how humans survive and thrive in different environments across the world. They explored the survival techniques used by explorers, indigenous communities and military teams—building on themes of teamwork, independence and resourcefulness.

Children practised using maps and compasses, built shelters, searched for water sources and even learned how to create fire. These activities encouraged a strong sense of confidence and self-belief, all while sparking curiosity about the world around them.

Nature art proved to be one of the standout moments! Inspired by the work of Andy Goldsworthy, children used natural materials—leaves, stones, petals and sticks—to create beautiful and imaginative pieces.

From 3D sculptures to swirling spiral patterns, their work was filled with creativity, care and a brilliant sense of teamwork.

At its heart, Navigating the Wild is about far more than learning outdoors. Rooted in five powerful strands—Play, Exploration, Wellbeing, Belonging and Expression—this project has helped children to:

- Build confidence, independence and resilience
- Strengthen teamwork, empathy and communication
- Spark curiosity and critical thinking
- Develop emotional awareness and self-expression
- Feel connected to nature, each other and their community

We're incredibly proud of what the children have achieved and how they've grown through this project. Navigating the Wild has been a truly memorable journey—one we hope continues to inspire curiosity, confidence and a love for the outdoors.

Here's to many more wild and wonderful learning adventures to come!









Summer Fayre

Thank you to everyone who supported our Summer Fayre - we had an amazing turn out for the sunny afternoon and made a grand total of £675.23.

A big thank you to the amazing local businesses who donated fantastic prizes for our raffle and we would also like to thank everyone who helped to make the event such a success.

Whole School Attendance to date: 95.5%			
	Seahorses:	Stingrays:	Sharks:
23rd May	93.90%	95.60%	96.40%
6th June	94%	95.50%	96.50%
13th June	94.10%	95.50%	96.40%
20th June	94.30%	95.50%	96.40%