



# NEWSLETTER

'Love the Adventure of Learning'

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2021 Issue 24

Values: Our Value for this term is **Love**  
*Let all that you do be in love...Corinthians 16:14*  
Our website is: [www.thebattschool.org.uk](http://www.thebattschool.org.uk)  
Our email is: [office.3605@batt.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.3605@batt.oxon.sch.uk)

Dear Parents & carers,  
This is our final newsletter for this school year. I want to take this opportunity to thank the families of the Batt school for all their support during this difficult time. COVID has been a major worry for all of us and I feel that we have come together as a team to get through this.  
There have been many changes and there are many more to come in terms of leadership. The school will grow from strength to strength, I am sure, and I wish you all the best of luck with the new school year.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### CALENDAR

14 July	School Reports out
16 July	Year 6 Fun Day
19 July	Leaver's Service in the church
20 July	BBQ Lunch for Year 6
20 July	School closes for the Summer at 1:20, 1:25 and 1:30pm. See BELOW
3 Sept	Back to school for Year 1-6
3 Sept	RAW children visiting
6 Sept	All children in school including RAW class.

### End of Term Times

We will be finishing the school year on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July. We have decided to open the gates at 1:20pm for Reception and KS1, at 1:25pm for Year 3/4 and 1:30pm for Year 5/6. This will prevent huge numbers entering the school at the same time just before the holidays.

### New Term Dates and Times

We have been unable to invite our Reception children into school this term so therefore we have asked Reception children to visit the school on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September. All other classes will be back in school **on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September**. Our times are as follows:

Year groups	Start of day	End of day
RAW	8:55	3:05
KS1	8:55	3:05
KS2	8:50	3:10

### Leavers Service

We are so pleased to inform you that we can hold our Leaver's service in St Mary's Church on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July at 1:45pm. We are inviting 2 adults from each household in Year 6 to this service as the date falls after restrictions have been lifted. We would ask parents to wear face masks.



### Year 4 Day Trips

We have received some lovely comments from the local community after a Year 4 class visited the Leys. We were so pleased to hear that the children showed respect in the community.



### Challenge 18-20

Summer Reading Challenge 2021



Presented by The Reading Agency. Delivered in partnership with libraries.

Children across Oxfordshire can take part in the Challenge at their local Oxfordshire Library from **10<sup>th</sup> July to 11<sup>th</sup> September 2021**. This year the Challenge is celebrating nature and as they read, the children will help the Wild World Heroes save and improve their local environment.

Children will be encouraged to read at least six library books of their choice over the summer holidays. As they read, they will collect stickers (some smelly) and rewards. If they complete the Challenge, they will be rewarded with a Wild World Hero medal, certificate and keyring and this year will be entered into a countywide prize draw.

There's also a website the children can visit: [wildworldheroes.org.uk](http://wildworldheroes.org.uk). It has ideas of books to read, games to play, competitions to enter and more....

I have enclosed a flyer about the Summer Reading Challenge and would be grateful if you could share it in your newsletters to parents and carers.

For more information about the Summer Reading Challenge in Oxfordshire Libraries, visit [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/summerreadingchallenge](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/summerreadingchallenge)

Many thanks.  
Jake Tilling  
Witney Library Manager  
Welch Way

### **Year 6 Performance**

This has been a fantastic success. I really enjoyed watching the children perform and rising to the occasion. This could not have been possible without the huge amount of work put into this by Sue Payne and her team. The costumes were really fantastic, and the children shone.

We are so excited to announce that due to the lifting of restrictions next week, we are allowing one member of each family to attend the performance on Monday at 10:30am.

### **Peter Colville Cup – Sports Person of the Year**

Mr Colville is a former governor, passionate about sport and played hockey for England. He knows how important sport and exercise are for people of all ages and knows this is a passion at The Batt. His trophy is to recognise the Batt Sports Person of the Year. This year's winner is Klaudia in Year 6. Klaudia has always been enthusiastic about all sports, she always tries her best and always plays fairly and kindly. The staff have chosen Klaudia as this year's winner having been amazed by her football skills and the way she has played at break times, during PE lessons and for the school. We love the fact that she manages to hit Mrs Hanson with a football nearly every day. Mr Baker has said he would not be surprised if one day he watches Klaudia playing football for Poland.

### **The Crowther Cup of Creativity**

Mrs Crowther was a teacher at the Batt for many years and just loved children to be creative. She left this beautiful cup to encourage children to continue being creative and she will be so proud of this year's winner. Lucy in Year 6 has been chosen by the staff, partly for her artwork but mainly because Lucy is such an amazing and creative thinker. Lucy not only thinks deeply about things, she shares her thoughts and ideas so eloquently and has done so throughout her time at The Batt. Staff throughout the school have loved listening to Lucy and hope this award encourages her to continue thinking 'outside the box' and sharing her ideas with others.

### **BSA SUPPORT**

We would like to say an enormous thank you to Rachel Pollard who is standing down from her role(s) in the BSA. Rachel has done an enormous amount for the school, organised so many events, from summer fayres to quiz nights and has raised thousands of pounds for the school. This money has made such a difference to our school and the children. Thank you and good luck Rachel, we are so incredibly grateful.

### **Head of School**

We would like to welcome Paul Atkins to our school as Head of School for the Autumn term. He has visited the school and met the staff. Paul has been an interim Head before and therefore will be clear of his role. As you know, Charlie Barwell will be the Executive Headteacher of the Batt school and St Marys from September.

### **New School Business Manager**

We would like to welcome Cat O'Driscoll to our school. She has been appointed as our SBM and is coming from Middle Barton school. She has a lot of experience in this role and therefore will be able to make a smooth transition.

### **Thank you to the Staff at The Batt**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the whole staff at The Batt school. They all have an important role within the school, and all are dedicated towards the well-being of the children.

We have some teaching assistants leaving us this term and I would like to thank Mille Thomas, who is off to University, for her smiley face and hard-working attitude.

We are also losing Chloe Holt in Year 3 and again, I would like to wish her well in her future career. She has made a huge difference to so many of our children during Catch Up.

As you all know, Sharon Bark will be leaving us this term. She is not just an SBM at the school but a friend and trusted colleague to so many. She has been here for 21 years. The children greet her at the gate every morning with huge smiles. She will be sorely missed. and we wish her well.



We are also saying goodbye to Mark Peacey. He has been Deputy Head and teacher at the Batt school for 11 years. The children and staff love him. He has a great sense of humour and always manages to pull the team together with laughter and fun. We wish him well as he embarks on the Headship of Witney Community School. They are so lucky to have him.



