

Bishops Down Primary School News

www.bishopdownprimary.org



5th November 2010
Dear Parents,

Newsletter No. 5

Welcome back to Term 2. This week has begun in an exciting fashion. Yesterday Year 1 and 2 visited the Natural History Museum. Many thanks to the parents who had to endure the long ride home. Well done to the children who behaved impeccably throughout the day and were a credit to you all. We have also been visited by the British Legion who kicked off our remembrance poppy collection. We also had a treat when a guitarist from Scamps led an assembly, thrilling the children with his guitar playing. On Monday we were visited by Gary Cooke, a deputy cabinet member from KCC. He was impressed with all that he saw and complimentary about the school, the children and their enthusiasm for learning.

Nut Products in School - You will be aware that many children have moderate to severe allergies to nuts. The school have traditionally operated a no nut policy for school lunches and packed lunches, but recently a number of children have been bringing cereal bars into school that do contain nuts. Unfortunately, this resulted in a dramatic allergic reaction when a child was offered a bite of such a bar before half term. So, to reiterate the rule, please do check for products containing nuts and remove them from packed lunches. This does not stop children having a nut free cereal bar. Thank you for your co-operation.

School Meals/Packed Lunches - As you are aware, Bishops Down has been recognised as a Healthy School for some time now. As part of our focus on these standards, we teach the children about the importance of a healthy balanced diet. In recent months we have noticed a steady increase in chocolate snacks and crisps. We would really appreciate your support in promoting healthy eating options with your children. We teach the children that there is no such thing as 'bad' food. Foods high in sugar, fat or salt should be limited to the weekends for example. We also encourage healthy foods to be seen as treats. The Government has stated that school meals must be free from foods such as chocolate bars and coated items, (e.g. chocolate biscuits), crisps and foods which are high in salt/sugar/fats. Our school adheres to these requirements and this includes all food eaten in the school day, such as school dinners and children's packed lunches. Therefore, none of the above items should be provided by parents as part of their child's packed lunch. However, we do want children to enjoy eating and so it is reasonable for home made cake, flapjack and biscuits etc. to be included in packed lunches. As you know, children in Foundation Stage and the Infants receive free fruit each day. In order to maintain this healthy start to school life we also operate a 'Fruit only snack' policy in all Junior classes. We will remind children of these rules in school.

Jane Granatt - After a long and illustrious career at Bishops Down as the School Bursar for 20 years and as a Governor and parent prior to that, Jane Granatt has decided to retire. She has been the driving force behind many of the successful projects here including the development of Garden House (Early Years), the Wrap Around Care suite and most recently the new Reception classrooms. She will be terribly missed by us all and having been a part of our team for so long will be irreplaceable. We wish her all the best as she finally puts her feet up a little. Debbie Norman who has been working with Jane for some time will increase her finance duties while long term decisions are taken.

KS2 Christmas Production - Please accept my apologies, but prior to half term we included a reference to a KS2 production during the last week of term. This is **not** the case. To clarify, Early Years and Infant children will be taking part in a nativity on Monday 13th December at 2.00pm and Tuesday 14th December at 9.30am. Year 3 and Year 4 will be performing to parents and family on Thursday 9th December at 7.00pm and Upper Juniors will be performing their own production later in the summer. In addition, we hope to be performing a production of the 'Wizard of Oz' during the Spring Term for Infant and Junior children.

PSA Xmas Fair - Bishops Down Christmas Fair will be on Sunday 5th December 12.00pm - 3.00pm. The fair promises to be a good day with lots of exciting stalls. We will be setting up on the Saturday so if you are available to help on this day that would be great. We will be having our usual donation days and dates will be advised shortly. If you or anyone you know would like a stall at the fair please ask the office for a booking form. We are also busy trying to collect Raffle Prizes. If you can donate a prize for the school to raffle please let us know. In order for the PSA to make this a success we would really appreciate your support and help. If you would like to get involved please contact Nicky on n.awheeler@btinternet.com. Many thanks.
The PSA

Christmas Meals – Last Chance to Order! - If your child does not normally have school lunches and would like to have Christmas lunch at school, or any meal during the last week of term, this is the final opportunity to book. Please complete the order form at the end of the newsletter and **return to school by 9am on Wednesday 10th November** in order for the appropriate orders to be placed. Meals are charged at £1.95 each and payment for this Christmas week should be attached to the order form.

Sports Skipping for Schools - I am pleased to inform you that we have invited Sports Skipping for Schools to hold an all day coaching session when every child will have the opportunity to learn a range of skipping skills. Skipping4 Schools really believes that skipping can help improve children's general levels of fitness as well as boosting self-esteem and concentration levels, encouraging social skills through team games and it can also help improve the general culture of the playground.

The team coach will work with groups of children throughout the day, introducing a variety of age-appropriate skipping skills. We hope that the children will have a great day and will continue to improve their skills at school AND at home! The gymnastic speed ropes that the children will be using during the day will be on sale at home-time and for a further period at £4.00 each. For parents who may be interested in skipping with their children, which is great encouragement for the child or who simply want some useful exercise themselves, special adult ropes are available at a cost of £5.50 each. Ropes will be on sale for 2-3 weeks after the event, please ask at the office.

Regards,

Dan Turvey

School Development

The following statements have been agreed by staff, parents and governors at Bishops Down Primary School. A full version will appear on the school website in the near future.

We want everyone in our school to be:

- Encouraging, kind, caring and inclusive
- Happy, confident and excited
- Unique and independent whilst able to learn together as a team

We want our children to:

- Learn together and fulfill their potential, laying the foundations for a lifelong journey of discovery and exploration
- Enjoy learning through an active and challenging curriculum

In 2010-11 the main priorities in Bishops Down's School Development Plan are:

1. To further develop a cross curricular and creative curriculum.
2. To raise the attainment of boys in writing at the end of KS2.
3. To maintain the current good standards and achievements of learners across the whole school in English, Mathematics and Science.
4. To ensure that parents, staff and children are aware of the improvements needed to ensure the progress of every child.
5. To identify the individual needs of children, including achievement, emotional and social well-being and match provision accordingly.
6. To consult the Bishops Down community on plans for the future and potential pupil numbers.

Our school motto is:

'Discovering and Learning Together'



XMAS



WEEK



Day	First course		Dessert
Monday PP <input type="checkbox"/> CP <input type="checkbox"/> TP <input type="checkbox"/> J <input type="checkbox"/>	Savoury Quiche, New Potatoes, Peas & Carrots <input type="checkbox"/>	Tomato Pasta Bake, New Potatoes, Peas & Carrots <input type="checkbox"/>	Cranberry Flapjack
Tuesday PP <input type="checkbox"/> CP <input type="checkbox"/> TP <input type="checkbox"/> J <input type="checkbox"/>	Chicken and Bacon Pie, Herby Potatoes & Green Beans <input type="checkbox"/>	Mexican Beans, Rice & Green Beans <input type="checkbox"/>	Chocolate Sponge & Chocolate Sauce
Wednesday PP <input type="checkbox"/> CP <input type="checkbox"/> TP <input type="checkbox"/> J <input type="checkbox"/>	Spaghetti Bolognese, Garlic Bread, Salad <input type="checkbox"/>	Ratatouille Pasta Bake, Garlic Bread, Salad <input type="checkbox"/>	Oat Cookie
Christmas Lunch	Roast Turkey, Chipolatas, Bacon Rolls, Roast Potatoes & Vegetables <input type="checkbox"/>	Roast Vegetable Tart, Roast Potatoes & Vegetables <input type="checkbox"/>	Chocolate Yule Log, Jelly Trifle
Friday PP <input type="checkbox"/> CP <input type="checkbox"/> TP <input type="checkbox"/> J <input type="checkbox"/>	Sausage, Chips and Baked Beans <input type="checkbox"/>	Quorn Sausage, Chips and Baked Beans <input type="checkbox"/>	Ice Cream

Child's Name..... Class.....