

Bishops Down Primary School News

www.bishopsdownprimary.org



6th December 2013

Dear Parents and Guardians,

PSA - The PSA would just like to say a huge thank you to everyone who donated sweets, bottles, secret Santa gifts and baked cakes. Also to all the parent reps, parents, teachers and governors who helped on the stalls on Saturday. We really couldn't have done it without all your help and support. I hope you agree that it was great fun. We are delighted to report that this year we have raised over £2500. Thank you again. *PSA*

Philippines collection – Thank you to the school council for all their efforts to raise money on Wednesday for the victims of the Philippines disaster. In total over £170.00 was collected in buckets and from the purchase of cakes. Thank you to all of you who felt able to support them with donations.

Christmas Disco Night - There are no more places available in Wrap Around Care for the Disco night on 19th December. There are still places for the Disco only. Please ensure you have paid on ParentPay before handing your form into the office, thank you.

Severe Weather Arrangements - Please take time to read the separate letter coming home about the arrangements in place should there be severe weather.

Christmas Lunch – Please remember if you wish your child to have Christmas Lunch and they are not already booked in for a school meal on Wednesday 18th December, a lunch calendar form needs to be completed and handed into the office by Friday 13th December, and you need to pay for the meal on ParentPay. Forms are available on the website or from the office. Thank you.

Christmas Cards - Instead of sending each other cards this year, you may wish to make a donation to the Evelina Children's Hospital in memory of Beth Gaved. Donations can be left at the office sealed in an envelope and marked 'Evelina donation'. In addition, children can also choose to send cards to their friends via the red post box in the entrance hall. Year 2 will act as post men and women and empty the box daily and deliver cards to classrooms. Envelopes put in the red post box must include the forename and surname of the child, class name and year, and should only be sent to one child (not families if possible!).

Morrison's 'Let's Grow' Campaign - Great news! Thanks to all of you, we counted 6291 vouchers from Morrisons for the 'Let's Grow!' campaign. This has enabled us to buy 3 stand-alone water butts, a planting table for the After School Club, rakes, brooms and buckets. In addition, the eco stall at the Christmas Fair raised £100 and this will go towards the development of the school pond and the surrounding area. We just wanted to say a huge THANK YOU! *Tara Bell, Sarah Pain and Vicky Tuson*

Wrap Around Care – Please remember that, as in previous years, there will be no After School Club on the last day of term, Friday 20th December.

Christmas Performances Crèches – We have 3 parent volunteers for Wednesday, and for Thursday morning, but only 2 for Thursday afternoon. If you can help please at any crèche contact the office.

Regards,

Daniel T Tunay

Dates for your Diaries

Tues 10 th Dec	Christmas Thermopolia! Years 3 and 4 from 2.30pm to 4pm (note change of time)
Wed 11 th Dec	Reception & KS1 Christmas performance 2-3pm
Thurs 12 th Dec	Reception & KS1 Christmas performance 9.30-10.30am Reception & KS1 Christmas performance 2-3pm
Mon 16 th Dec	No After School Activities this week except Wrap Around Care
Wed 18 th Dec	Christmas Lunch for children KS2 Christmas Carol Evening 6.30pm at St John's Church (no tickets required)
Thurs 19 th Dec	Reception & KS1 Disco 4.30-5.30pm KS2 Disco 5.45-7.15pm
Fri 20 th Dec	Term 2 ends
Fri 10 th Jan	Parent Reps meeting at 9am
Mon 13 th Jan	All After School Activities (Clubs) start this week
Wed 15 th Jan	Year 1 – Beech Class assembly
Wed 22 nd Jan	Year 1 – Bonsai Class assembly
Wed 29 th Jan	Reception - Chestnut Class assembly
Wed 5 th Feb	Reception - Willow Class assembly

TERM 3

INSET DAY MONDAY 6TH JANUARY 2014 AND FRIDAY 14TH FEBRUARY 2014

Start:	Tuesday 7th January 2014 Wednesday 8th January 2014 for Nursery children
Finish:	Thursday 13th February 2014
Holiday	Monday 17th February – Friday 21st February 2014

TERM 4

Start:	Monday 24th February 2014
Finish:	Friday 4th April 2014
Holiday	Monday 7th April – Monday 21st April 2014

TERM 5

INSET DAY TUESDAY 22ND APRIL 2014

BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY 5TH MAY 2014

Start:	Wednesday 23 rd April 2014 Thursday 24 th April 2014 for Nursery children
Finish:	Friday 23rd May 2014
Holiday	Monday 26th May – Friday 30th May 2014

TERM 6

INSET DAY MONDAY 2ND JUNE 2014

Start:	Tuesday 3rd June 2014
Finish:	Wednesday 23rd July 2014
Holiday	Thursday 24th July – Tuesday 2nd September 2014

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5th December 2013

Dear Parents and Guardians

Severe Weather Guidance

It is that time of year again when the weather forecasters predict doom, gloom and the worst winter on record! So, it is time to refresh our guidance for you should the weather deteriorate.

In previous years we have managed to keep the school open during the snow. Decisions about closure of the school will be made taking into account the health and safety of pupils, parents, staff and conditions on the school site such as ice and temperature.

KCC advice is, 'Parents and carers have the responsibility of getting children to and from school safely and need to decide if the journey is safe when severe weather affects transport and/or walking conditions. Parents/carers should inform schools if their child is absent due to severe conditions making the journey unsafe. Please consider carefully and only keep children at home if conditions are unsafe.'

Please make sure that your children have adequate warm clothing as we are continuing to go outside during the day. Children must have a warm coat, boots (in snow), hats, scarves and thick socks. I am also keen to ensure that no family that is particularly vulnerable struggles unnecessarily when others might be able to help. For example, I am aware that some families with very young children or babies might find getting to school particularly stressful. If you are in difficulty, or might be able to assist by picking neighbours children up, then please let us know. Alternatively, please use the walking buses which will continue as normal.

I would like to discourage all cars from using Rydal Drive and Coniston Avenue where possible. This will help to prevent accidents. During cold, icy and snowy weather many staff walk or park close to Bennett School and find that the wider road makes it easier to negotiate the roads.

Late opening and/or early closure is a possibility in poor weather conditions and we would inform you in advance if this were to happen, though it is very unlikely. If conditions worsen during the school day and parents feel it is absolutely necessary to collect children, the school should be contacted prior to collection.

Finally, we are using the school website www.bishopsdownprimary.org as our main source of weather and closure information. This is the quickest and most reliable source as local radio stations and parent mail become clogged up. For those without computers we will continue to use parent mail texts when the school closes, however information may be delayed. Please ensure that your contact details are up to date. Should we have to close, messages will also be posted on:

-www.kentschoolclosures.co.uk

Please do not hesitate to ask if you have any further queries.

Yours faithfully

Daniel T Turvey

Daniel Turvey