

Bishops Down Primary School News

www.bishopsdownprimary.org



8th April 2011

Dear Parents and Friends,

Newsletter no.14

Music festival

Congratulations to the children and staff who took part in the Tunbridge Wells music festival last week. It was a fabulous evening and afternoon for pupils in both the infants and juniors. The children sang their hearts out. The collection after the performances by the Rotary Club of Southborough and Pembury raised £972. The club has said they will add to this so that 2 complete ShelterBoxes can be afforded. See www.shelterbox.org in Japan .

Wizard of Oz

What a stunning show the cast put on for audiences this week at Tunbridge Wells Girls Grammar School. Children sang, acted and danced their socks off from years one to six. I cannot adequately describe the sense of pride we had for all the pupils who took part, all of whom gave their very best despite their tiredness at the end of a long term. Special mentions must go to all the staff, parents and friends who contributed to make it a real team effort, co-ordinated by Mrs Roberts. Well done everyone for giving us such a special memory. Please take a look at the photos on the link below, which are available to purchase from David Hodgkinson, (David Hodgkinson Photography hodge@sweetmoon.com Tel.01892 557912 or 07973 803411).

<http://www.davidhodgkinsonphotography.com/bdpswizardofoz642011/>

Swimming gala

Well done to our seriously decimated swimming team who showed courage, determination and co-operation. They were inspirational competing as a small team in the Tunbridge Wells swimming gala. Congratulations to Daniel Solomon, Ollie Baker, Jarod Smith, Alex Lord, Caitlin Barry, Holly Bishop, Daniel Flint, Callum Ewing, and Toomas Hanso. Thank you to Sue Solomon and Diane Tizzard for organising the team.

Easter Activities

The Easter Activities Brochure is now available from Tunbridge Wells Borough Council at the following link www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk/sports

PSA Fashion Show

The PSA are holding a fashion show on Friday 6th May at school. Tickets cost £5.00 which includes a glass of wine. They are available from class reps, Sue Heller, Lindsay Ayton, Helen Ralph, and at the office. Doors open at 7pm and the show starts at 7.30pm. Do come along and enjoy huge discounts on the High Street's latest collections, support the PSA, and raise funds for Bishops Down.

Dates for next term

3 rd May	Tag Rugby Festival 1pm – 5pm
5 th May	Year 5 Disability Awareness Day 3.45pm – 5.30pm
6 th May	Year 1 Cake Sale 3.00pm
16 th – 20 th May	Year 6 to the Isle of Wight
18 th May	Class Led Assembly Year 2 9.00am Year 5 Athletics Festival 12.30pm – 3.30pm
19 th May	PSA meeting 7.30pm – 9pm
24 th May	Class Led Assembly Reception A (Chestnut) class 9.00am
27 th May	Parent Reps meeting 9.00am Teatime concert for musicians 2.30pm
	End of Term 5
6 th June	Term 6 starts

6 th -8 th June	Year 5 Residential trip
8 th June	Class Led Assembly Year 4 at 9am
10 th June	Year 2 Cake Sale 3.00pm
13 th -17 th June	Art Exhibition week
14 th June	am - Profiles Photographers here to take Class and team photos
16 th June	Class Led Assembly Reception B (Willow) class 9.00am
20 th June	Meeting for all new Reception parents 7pm – 8.30pm
21 st June	Class Led Assembly Year 5 at 9.00am
22 nd June	Sports Day
23 rd June	New Reception starters Taster Day and uniform ordering
28 th June	Class Led Assembly Year 3 at 9.00am
29 th June	Reserve Sports Day
30 th June	New Reception starters Taster Day
1 st July	Parent Reps meeting 9.00am
6 th July	New reception Taster Day 9.00am – 12.00am
	Year 3 and 4 Parent Consultations 9.00am – 12.00am
	Year 1 and 2 Parent Consultations 1.00pm – 4.00pm
7 th July	Year 5 and 6 Parent Consultations 1.00pm – 4.00pm
	Year 1 to 6 Parent Consultations 5.00pm – 7.30pm
8 th July	Year 3 Cake Sale 3.00pm
12 th July	Class Led Assembly Year 1 at 9am
13 th and 14 th July	Year 6 performance 7.00pm – 9.00pm
22 nd July	Leavers assembly 9.00am- 10.00am
	Year 6 party 1pm-3.30pm

Year 3 and 4 exhibition

Yesterday Year 3 and 4 had an exhibition showing everything that they've learnt about the 1960's. All the school and parents saw it, it was great fun. *Daniel Solomon*

Year 5 and 6 Golden Egg awards

As you may know, Year 5 and 6 have been working hard on their space film animations. We held an awards ceremony called 'The Golden Egg Awards'. We had fun showing each animation, laughing and admiring each animation. The Golden Egg Awards were held on Wednesday 30th of March.

On the night when the parents came the teachers had to set up the tables with our characters and the scenes we had made. If you want to watch our brilliant films go to Bishops Down website in Year 5 and 6 folders.

By James S and Felix in Year 6.

Baby Ella

Congratulations to Alison Wilmshurst who gave birth to a baby girl, Ella Mary, last weekend. Ella was born weighing 6lb 10oz at 3.11pm on Saturday 2nd April. We understand that Ella was poorly at first but she is much better and is expected to be going home this weekend. We wish them all well.

Lunch Invoices for Reception to Year 6

You should have received your child's lunch invoice today in book bags. Unfortunately, these were unable to be sent out with the green lunch forms as usual this term. Some of you have already paid for next term's lunches and this should be reflected in the invoice. The first amount of £40.95 is based on your child eating every day next term at a cost of £1.95 per meal. The second figure shows the amount you are in credit or debt from last term. If your child does not eat every day please adjust the bottom figure accordingly.

Reminders

Remember that Tuesday 26th April is an INSET day and so children will return on Wednesday 27th April (except Nursery who return on Thursday). Friday 29th April is a bank holiday to celebrate the royal wedding. Children return to school on Tuesday 3rd May after the Monday bank holiday.

Nature Trail

Many thanks to Year 5 and Year 6 who have transformed what was an overgrown jungle behind the playground into a wonderful nature trail that all classes will have an opportunity to use. Over a few days the children cleared debris, shrubbery and weeds, moved logs and edged paths. Children will now be able to watch insects and wildlife, sketch, carry out investigations and cover a whole range of the curriculum. Well done to our willing helpers and support from parents.

Have a lovely Easter!

Regards,

Dan Turvey

Outcomes of the Parents Travel Survey – March 2011

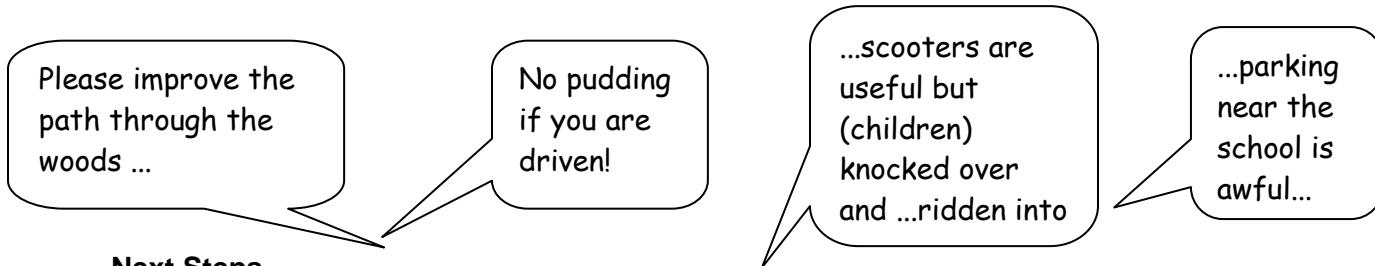
Thanks to the 40% of families who responded. The results of this survey have helped governors to compile a new school travel plan designed to improve how we travel to and from school. This is what you said:

Reasons why we don't walk/cycle	No.
Time pressure	53
weather	52
distance	37
Multiple journeys	33
Difficult path through woods	29
Number of bags	12
Safety	10
Car needed for work	7
Laziness!	14
Up to Y5 need to be accompanied	3
younger siblings	9

Support for Proposed actions	No.
Road safety training for children	56
Scooter safety training	54
Improve footpath through woods	37
More traffic warden patrols*	34
Naming & shaming bad parking*	54
Commitment to walk at least sometimes	38
Walking buses	54
Introduce new park & walk scheme	35
Discourage any school parking in Rydal Drive	37

Some of ideas suggested by parents:

- Parent's promise to walk when possible & park considerately
- New crossings/lollipop person at top of Culverden Down/ Bennett drive.
- More yellow lines
- Rose Hill – reverse their in/out system, Stop signs/speed bump at bottom of their roads
- Stagger school start and finish times
- Promote healthy walking/cycling/scooting option, particularly to new families
- Car sharing
- Council to adopt Lake Rd, Bishops Down Pk Rd, make Lake Rd and Coniston one way
- Bicycle training for younger children
- WOW works so add another WOW day –increase distance to receive WOW stickers
- Nursery offer full days to reduce trips
- Walk on one side of Rydal Drive, scoot and cycle on the other side



Next Steps

- Walk to school week at the end of May
- Ask Kent Highways to come and see us at school drop off/pick up time & discuss options
- Arrange road and scooter safety training.

If anyone wants to get involved please contact the school office.