

# Bishops Down Primary School News

[www.bishopsdownprimary.org](http://www.bishopsdownprimary.org)



11<sup>th</sup> June 2010

Dear Parents,

## **Newsletter No. 21**

It was a real shame that the Junior Sports Day had to be cancelled today. However, we have decided to combine the planned foundation stage and infant day with the junior day next Friday 18<sup>th</sup> June. There are a number of logistical issues to be overcome as both events are completely separate from each other and require significant adult assistance. Those of you with children in both key stages may be doing some event hopping as it were. If you are a parent of junior children only, you may wish to attend one part of the day. Parents of infant only children may wish to attend the morning and picnic. Remember - all children who have school dinners will be provided with a picnic lunch. Please feel free to bring your own picnics to enjoy. Please let us know if you want your child to opt out of a school picnic. Children who normally have a packed lunch should bring their own as usual. We would encourage you to bring rugs and chairs in order to make the most of the mornings. The day will be organised into sections:

Early morning	Infant field events
	Junior house competition matches
Late morning	Infant track events
Lunchtime	Picnic
Afternoon	Junior track and field events

## **INSET Days**

We recently published our INSET (training - no children in school) days to parents for the next academic year. In total we are allowed to have six days throughout the academic year and we had booked only three. A number of recent developments with the planned expansion of the school mean that it has become necessary to book two more additional INSET days at the beginning of the Autumn term. INSET days will now be on the following dates. We will welcome children back from their summer holidays on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September. The last INSET day will be arranged as soon as we can.

Wednesday 1st September 2010

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2010

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2010

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2011

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2011

## **School Expansion**

Things are moving on at pace with the new reception children joining the school in September. Next week the new entrants will be visiting the school with their parents. They will be taking part in class swaps later in the term. As you may be aware, local residents have made some objections to the expansion due to worries about traffic and parking. As a result, the local authority will be making some improvements to road markings around the area. In addition, the school car park will be improved to accommodate staff and visitor cars. This will be achieved by removing the slope to the front field and building a retaining wall. None of the sports pitches or usable games space will be affected. The temporary building specification is now complete and arrangements for new resources and furniture have been made. Work will begin towards the end of term though all heavy traffic, vehicles and cranes will only be on site during holidays or weekends. So far a huge amount of effort has been put in by a range of people to make this happen. Special thanks must go to Alison Ruff for her work with residents, Emma Bonwick and Alison Wilmshurst for their patience and vision with resources and the building, and of course Jane Granatt for liaising with contractors and the local authority and making things happen.

## **Staff News**

I am delighted to announce that following interviews before half term, Jane Clement has been appointed as our Special Needs Co-ordinator from September 2010. This is a dual role with some class teaching responsibility. Jane will be replacing Lorraine Smith who is leaving in August. Jane is currently our Year 5 teacher and has a wide experience and knowledge of children with additional needs. She will become part of the schools leadership team as an Assistant Headteacher. Many congratulations Jane.

In addition, it is a pleasure to announce that Cate Spoor has been appointed as a class teacher for September 2010. Cate is currently working at Rotherfield Primary School though many of you will know her as a Teaching Assistant who worked here at Bishops Down for a number of years. Cate qualified as a teacher recently and did extremely well to be appointed after the largest number of applications that I have ever received for a teaching post. Cate is sister in law to Cathy Spoor who teaches in Year 3. Well done Kate.

As a result of Jane's appointment, we will be appointing another new teacher. Once a teacher is appointed we will be able to confirm which teacher your child's class will be taught by.

## **School Letterbox**

There have recently been a large number of parents queuing at the office in the mornings who wish to return various forms etc. Please can parents who are just returning slips and do not have any other questions use the letterbox on the wall outside the front door. This letterbox is emptied twice a day and is dry and secure.

## **Drop Off Times in the Mornings**

The playground is supervised from 8.45am when the metal side gate is opened. Please can parents try to arrive at school between this time and 8.55am when the bell is rung. A number of children have been arriving earlier than this and there is no one to supervise them until 8.45am.

## **Sainsbury's Vouchers**

The last day for bringing in these vouchers to school is Friday 9<sup>th</sup> July in order to give us time to count and sort them and place our order. Many thanks to all those who have already contributed. The collection box is in the entrance hall.

## **School Class Photographs**

The school photographer is coming on Tuesday morning to take photographs of classes and sports teams. ***Please ensure that your child is wearing the correct school uniform.*** Nursery children who are not normally in class on Tuesday mornings are welcome to come along at 8.55am to join the rest of the Nursery for a whole class photograph, and then leave. Nursery children should meet in the Nursery classroom and they will be brought over all together to the photographer.

## **Summer Games Club**

The children who have already completed the form for this club and returned it to the office have been allocated a place and will be able to start on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> June. Please collect your child at 4.15pm. If your child wants to attend this club and has not yet completed the form, please speak to the office about availability.

## **Athletics Club**

The children who have already completed the form for this club and returned it to the office have been allocated a place and will be able to start on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> June. Please collect your child at 4.15pm. If your child wants to attend this club and has not yet completed the form, please speak to the office about availability.

## **Year 2 Assembly**

Year 2 will be holding their class assembly this Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> June. All Year 2 parents are invited to come and watch at 9.15am.

## **Year 5 and 6 Drama Club**

Year 5 and 6 Drama Club are presenting the play they have been rehearsing to the whole school on Monday at 9.15am Parents of those children in the Drama Club are invited to come and watch.

## **PSA News**

You may have seen the Parentmail earlier in the week that following a long discussion amongst the PSA committee, we have decided to cancel the Summer Fair for 2010. This is due to a concern that the organisation of the fair and other events has fallen to a few individuals on the committee who have struggled to manage the burdens of PSA, home and work. In addition the committee have received feedback that many parents are fatigued by the number of PSA events. It was agreed that the situation would be reviewed in the autumn and that in the meantime the PSA should focus on fewer large events rather than too many smaller events. We will be encouraging new parents to become involved in the PSA. We also hope that in the new academic year many of you who are able to offer help with specific tasks or those of you with particular skills will be able to get involved if you are not already.

As we know that you have been saving toys and books for the summer fair, the Year 1 cake sale on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June will be supplemented by a mini-jumble, selling toys, children's books and children's clothes. We will be taking donations during the week of Monday 21<sup>st</sup> June to Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June. Anything left over will be donated to the Hospices of Hope.

Congratulations to Year R. The Reception cake sale made an amazing profit of £122.00!!!!!!

Camp Out – Please check the rotas which have been compiled when you arrive on Saturday. If you cannot do your allocated time, please arrange cover yourself. Many thanks.

*The PSA*

## **CELEBRATING CREATIVITY Art & Design at Bishop's Down School**

Creativity has long been at the heart of the educational activities of Bishops Down School. We are proud of the broad range of painting, design and three-dimensional work which is regularly on display in our classrooms, corridors, library and hall.

We are now planning a whole-school exhibition of art which will take place in the week beginning Monday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2010, remaining open to visitors until Friday 2nd July. Every pupil, from Nursery and Reception to Year 6 will have their work displayed in the exhibition.

There will be prizes for the best painting from each class and for three-dimensional work, with a special prize for the design chosen for the exhibition poster. A small team of professional artists will judge the exhibits.

There will be an official opening and reception with refreshments from 3.30 to 5.30pm on Tuesday 29th June, when prizes (art materials) will be awarded. In addition, we hope that each child will have a framed picture that you can purchase. This is an invitation to all parents, relatives, friends and Governors to visit the exhibition on the Tuesday evening or between 8.30 to 9.00am and 3.15 - 3.45pm on Wednesday and Friday.

For further details, please look out for our Celebration of Creativity posters.

Regards,

Dan Turvey

## Diary Dates Summer 2010

Saturday	12 <sup>th</sup> June	PSA 'World Cup' Summer Camp Out
Monday	14 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 4 at Wakehurst Place 9.15 Drama club performance to members parents 7.00-9.00pm Meeting for New Entrant Parents
Tuesday	15 <sup>th</sup> June	8.15am Profiles class and team photographs in hall (am)
Wednesday	16 <sup>th</sup> June	1.40-3.10 New Entrant Induction
Thursday	17 <sup>th</sup> June	9.10am Year 2 assembly
Friday	18 <sup>th</sup> June	FS/KS1 and KS2 Sports Day
Monday	21 <sup>st</sup> June	Year 6 to Isle of Wight
Monday	28 <sup>th</sup> June	Art week
Tuesday	29 <sup>th</sup> June	3.30pm Exhibition official opening
Friday	2 <sup>nd</sup> July	9am Parent reps meeting
Monday	5 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 5 at Kentwell
Tuesday	6 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 5 at Kentwell
Wednesday	7 <sup>th</sup> July	Class swaps and new entrants visit a.m. a.m. Year 3 at TW Mela day
Thursday	8 <sup>th</sup> July	9.10am Year 6 assembly 2.15pm KS2 Music performance
Monday	12 <sup>th</sup> July	6.30PM Full Governors meeting
Tuesday	13 <sup>th</sup> July	Science Challenge Day
Wednesday	14 <sup>th</sup> July	1-5pm Parent consultations Y1/Y2
Thursday	15 <sup>th</sup> July	9.10am Year 5 class assembly 1-5pm Parent consultations Y3/Y4 5.30 – 7.30PM Parent Consultations – ALL
Friday	16 <sup>th</sup> July	1-4pm Y5/Y6 Parent consultations "Strictly Cool Dancing" group performance
Monday	19 <sup>th</sup> July	p.m. Class swaps and new entrants visit
Tuesday	20 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6 production
Wednesday	21 <sup>st</sup> July	2pm Bishops Down Has Got Talent Y6 production
Thursday	22 <sup>nd</sup> July	School discos KS1 & R – 5-6pm KS2 6.30 – 8pm
Friday	23 <sup>rd</sup> July	Last day of Term 9.15 Y6 assembly
Wednesday	1 <sup>st</sup> September	Inset Day
Thursday	2 <sup>nd</sup> September	Inset Day
Friday	3 <sup>rd</sup> September	Inset Day
Tuesday	4 <sup>th</sup> January	Inset Day
Tuesday	26 <sup>th</sup> April	Inset Day