

Bishops Down Primary School News

www.bishopsdownprimary.org



12th October 2012

Dear Parents,

Message from Helen Lawton, School Nurse - We have a number of children suffering from stomach upsets, diarrhoea and/or vomiting. These symptoms are usually caused by a viral infection and are short-lived, but they are highly contagious. The school kindly requests that you do not return your child to school if they have been unwell with these symptoms until there have been no further episodes of diarrhoea or vomiting for at least 48 hours. Adhering to this school policy will help to prevent the spread of infection. All children at school have been reminded of the need for strict hand washing to help prevent the spread of infection.

Parent Consultations - There will be parent consultations shortly, where you will have the opportunity to discuss your child's progress with the teachers. The dates for consultations are as follows:

Years 1 to 6 **Tuesday 23rd October** **3.30-6pm**

Years 1 to 6 **Thursday 25th October** **5.30-8pm**

Please return your slips as soon as possible if you have not already done so.

Lost Property

Please ensure you name your child's uniform and we will do our best to return it to you. However, if items are not named, or have the name of a child who has since left the school, they will be placed in the Lost Property box. This box is by the parents shelter outside Year 6 classroom, and has a lid which we would be grateful if you would ensure is replaced securely when you have finished looking, in order to keep the contents dry.

Parent Reps - We are still looking for volunteers to come forward to be Parent Reps for **Nursery class**. Please give this some thought and let the office know if you would like to be involved. The Parent Reps meet approximately once a term and the purpose of the meetings is to give Parent Reps a direct line to me to raise queries which parents have. Also I can discuss ideas with, and get feedback from reps. Parents should still raise specific queries they have directly with teachers. **Please note the date of the first Parent Reps meeting has changed and is now Thursday 8th November.**

PSA Committee Meeting Dates for 2012-2013

These are as follows: 7 November, 12 December, 6 February 2013, 10 April, and 9 July.

STOP PRESS **PSA Christmas Fair - Saturday 1st December 2pm-4.30pm** ***STOP PRESS***

PSA Cake Sales

The class cake sale dates are as follows. Please can Parent Reps encourage parents from their class to bake some individual cakes to sell after school on their day, and advertise the sale to everyone. Donations of cakes can be brought to the office in the morning, and a few parents would be required to set up and clear away the stall, and sell the cakes from 3.15pm.

Apple and Olive 19th October 2012 N.B. There will also be a second hand uniform sale on this day.
Beech and Bonsai 9th November 2012

Dates for your Diaries

13 th October	7.30pm	PSA Quiz Night
19 th October	3.15pm	Apple and Olive Cake Sale, and second hand uniform sale.
23 rd October	3.30pm-6pm	Parent Consultations for Y1-6
24 th October		Y5 & Y6 Visit to Greenwich Observatory
25 th October	9.30am	Prospective Parents visit
	5.30pm-8pm	Parent Consultations for Y1-6
6 th November		British Legion Assembly and the start of the Y6 Poppy Appeal
7 th November	2pm	Prospective Parents visit
	7.30pm	PSA Committee meeting

8 th November	9am	Parent Reps meeting
	3.15pm	Beech and Bonsai Cake Sale
19 th November		Road Safety Week
27 th November	9.30am	Prospective Parents visit
1 st December	2pm-4.30pm	PSA Christmas Fair
3 rd December	6.30pm	Full Governors Meeting
4 th December	2pm	Prospective Parents visit
12 th December	7.30pm	PSA Committee meeting
13 th December	9.30am	KS1 Production
14 th December	2.30pm	KS1 Production
11 th January	9am	Parent Reps meeting

Reminders about attendance

What happens if my child is late?

Registration finishes at 9.05 in the morning and 1.35 in the afternoon. If your child arrives after 9.05am or 1.35pm he/she will be marked as absent. Pupils who arrive after 9.00am should report to the school office. Excessive unauthorised "lates" will be referred to the Education Welfare Officer (EWO).

Does the School need letters explaining my child's absence or will a phone call do?

We would expect a parent to telephone the school on the first day of absence. If you do not phone us, we will contact you by mid-morning. This is because we believe it is our responsibility to ensure your child's safety as well as their regular school attendance.

Can we take family holidays during term-time?

Family holidays should be taken during school holidays. If, in exceptional circumstances, you need to request permission for your child to accompany you on a family holiday during term time, you should apply by letter, at least three weeks in advance, stating the reason why the holiday must be taken in term time.

What will happen if my child is absent without authorisation?

- a) Holidays - Holiday taken without authorisation, or failure to return on the agreed date, will mean that the absence is unauthorised. Where this has created a period of unauthorised absence in the current term of at least 10 sessions (equivalent to 5 days), parents will be liable to a penalty notice.
- b) Other reasons - The school may also ask for a case to be referred to the Education Welfare Officer when a pupil has an unauthorised absence of more than 20 sessions (10 school days) in any academic year.

What is a Penalty Notice?

A penalty notice will be issued when at least 10 sessions (5 school days) are lost to unauthorised absence during one (old style) term. A penalty notice will be issued to each parent liable. For example, if two siblings were absent at the same time for more than 10 sessions then four penalties would be issued. For cases of unauthorised absence due to an unacceptable reason being given, no reason being given or late arrival after the Register had closed; each parent of each child is sent a penalty notice warning letter. Each penalty notice costs £120 which has to be paid within 42 days. If paid within 28 days parents can pay a reduced amount of £60.

Regards,

Daniel T Turvey

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