



# Bishops Down Primary School

Autumn Term 2 Newsletter No 7  
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Dear Parents and Guardians,

Christmas is now well underway at Bishops Down, the tree is up and KS2 have now performed 'The Peace Child' at St John's Church— it was wonderful! Very moving and incredibly uplifting I was so proud of all the children. Thank you to all the staff and parent helpers for putting together a great show. A couple of photos have been included below. We are looking forward to the KS1 and Nursery performances next week.



*From the PSA*

*Hopefully you all enjoyed the PSA Christmas Fair last week. A massive thank you to everyone who helped - we made a whopping £2,787.37 profit!*

*Special thanks to Merissa Patrick for the fabulous Santa's Grotto and to Julia & Ish Refet Jones for the delicious festive food!*

*Next week we will be hosting a children's Cinema Evening to give you a chance to go Christmas shopping whilst your children enjoy a film! Please fill in the reply slip by Monday (from parentmail sent on Tuesday).*

**MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE PSA!**



## Message from Wrap Around Care

There will be no After School Club on the 21st December. Also please can you park considerably when dropping off at Breakfast Club as Staff are having difficulty parking, particularly on Wednesday when there is running club. Thank you.

## Donations of Lego needed!

If you have any unwanted Lego we would love to give it a new home in Clement Corner (the quiet area of the playground). Please hand in at the office. Thank you



The girls' football team has kicked off their season with a win against Speldhurst and are hoping to continue this against Southborough school this Friday. Well done to the team Amelia, Lois, Lexie, Abigail, Megan, Milly, Annabelle, Mia and Madison and to all the year 3s and 4s who attend early morning training in the frost! Training has now finished and will restart next term. Mrs Tizzard



From January 2017 there will be places available for either individual, paired or group violin lessons at Bishops Down.

Miss Wort will be coming in on a Friday to teach. Lessons are rotated throughout the school day so no child misses any one curriculum area repeatedly. In order to make good progress on a musical instrument, students do need to practice regularly and encouragement with this at home is vital, helping children to find a good time to do this. Once children have reached a certain level, they are invited to join the recently formed Bishops Down Band.

#### Message from the School office:

On the benches under the parent waiting area there are numerous trays, baking dishes, etc., leftover from both the Food Festival and the Christmas Fayre. Please take the items which are yours otherwise they will be disposed of at the end of term which would be a shame.

It is that time of year when we need to make plans for the possibility of severe weather events. Please find attached a letter explaining the procedures for school closure.

I would advise keeping it to hand.



Year 4  
Chatham  
Dockyard  
visit  
and art  
work





*Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow*

## Bishops Down Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs C Owen

Winter 2016/17

Dear Parents and Guardians

### Severe Weather Guidance

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 this 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.

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](http://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 ParentMail 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](http://www.kentschoolclosures.co.uk).

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

Yours sincerely

C Owen  
Headteacher