



# Bishops Down Primary School & Nursery

Spring Term 3 Newsletter No 10  
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## Dear Parents and Guardians

Welcome to the end of term 3 newsletter.

As usual it has been a very busy term culminating this week with Internet Safety day, Sign to Sing and Kent Fire Safety talks, not to mention end of term assessments for the children. We will be sharing your child's progress data with you after half term during consultation week.

On Tuesday 20th February I will be holding a drop in surgery for any parents that have concerns or queries that maybe they can't bring up with the class teacher directly. We appreciate that there are issues that are very sensitive or some that could relate to whole school matters that possibly the class teacher is not best placed to respond to. Between 2.30pm and 4pm on Tuesday the 20th February my door will be open for any parent to drop in for a chat, no need to book.

Well done to Jameela, Alex, Scarlett, Rafi, Sam, Tom and Hannah for their fundraising efforts this week. They initiated, organised and hosted a cake and book sale to raise funds to help repair the Friendship Stop. They raised £64.15p – a great achievement.

We say goodbye to Mrs Wilson this week who is starting her maternity leave at half term and we welcome Miss Lomas as Larch's class teacher for the remainder of the school year.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a lovely half term break and we'll see you on Tuesday 20th February for the start of term 4.

*Clare*

## Art Competition Spring Term 4 2018

During Term 4 we are running a "Land Art" competition which is open to all children in the school from Nursery to Year 6. The theme of the competition is "Our Favourite Things". This could be a favourite pet, toy, hobby, lesson, person etc.

"Land Art" is art that is created outdoors using natural materials such as leaves, twigs, stones, pebbles, acorns, flowers, grass, logs etc. If you are looking for inspiration google "Andy Goldsworthy", a British born Land Artist.

Your "Land Art" can be as big or small as you like and could be created in your garden, in a park, at the beach or any other outdoor space that is available to you.

You need to take a photograph of your "Land Art" to submit as your entry to the competition and hand it into the school office by Wednesday 21st March 2018. Remember to put your name, class and the title of your "Land Art" piece on the back of your photograph (in pencil). If possible please also e-mail a copy of your entry to the school office for the attention of Mrs Wilmshurst.

There will be a prize for the best entry in each class, and prizes will be awarded during the last week of Term 4. **Mrs A Wilmshurst**



## Clubs

The following clubs **finished** this week as they were only running for Term 3:

Senior Football Club (although there are still a couple more matches against other schools outstanding – see separate letters about these), KS2 Choir, Y3/4 Athletics, Y5/6 Hockey, KS2 Art Club group 1

The following clubs will be **starting** after half term and will be running for Term 4 only, i.e. until Easter: Y4-6 Tag Rugby (Wednesdays 21<sup>st</sup> Feb to 21<sup>st</sup> March incl), Change For Life (Thursdays 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb to 22<sup>nd</sup> March incl), KS2 Art Club group 2 will start Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> Feb until 11<sup>th</sup> July – please ensure you have paid the fees by 21<sup>st</sup> February, thank you.

Girls currently signed up for 'This Girl Can' in Term 3 are being invited to continue the club in Term 4 as well. Please let the office know if your daughter would **not** like to continue with this club please.

Thank you

**Forest School** finished for Y3 Maple and Y4 Hazel this week. After half term Y4 Sycamore class will be doing this on Thursdays, please see the separate information sent out to parents.



On Saturday 3rd February eight YR6 girls attended the Primary School Coaching and Versatility Tournament at Kent College. They had the opportunity to learn & improve their netball skills and were very fortunate to be coached by Katie Harris the Surrey Storm Superleague Shooter. The team then played hard, tight matches experiencing different positions and enjoying seven games. They won 2, drew 2 and lost 3. I was proud of their good sportsmanship and their great teamwork. Well done girls. I would like to thank all the parents who delivered the girls early on Saturday morning & those who braved the cold, wet weather to cheer on the team. Also thanks to Mrs Tizzard for coming to support.

### Messages from the school office:

#### INSET Days for 2018-19

- Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2018
- Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2019
- Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> January 2019
- Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2019
- Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2019



**Job Vacancies at Bishops Down** – See School Website under Information Tab and Employment Opportunities

**World Book Day** – Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> March – Dress Up in your Favourite Book Character

**Book Fair at School** will be open Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> February through to Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March – children will come home next term with their vouchers.

Thank you from Mrs Wilson and Baby Wilson-to-be:

I just wanted to take a moment to pass my heart-felt thanks onto the entire Bishops Down Community! I have had the most wonderful time at Bishops Down over the past four years and will think of you all with fondness during my maternity leave - I truly love my job. I have been so blessed to teach such inspiring children again this year, who have made me feel extremely valued as their teacher. Along with the staff, they have experienced my pregnancy journey with me, which has been so special. I know they will be hugely successful as they continue their journey in Year 6 and I can't wait to return to watch their school production in the summer! Take care, Debbie Wilson.

### Governing Body News

There have been some changes to the governing body recently. Sadly, Jean Caygill and Stephen Farthing have both resigned as governors; Jean to move closer to her family and Stephen to concentrate on his work with homeless charities. We wish them both well and thank them for their service to the school.

We are delighted to announce that Kate Merrin has joined the governing body, and at the last Full Governing Body meeting was elected Chair. Kate served as a Governor at Mascalls School for nine years, where she was Vice Chair and Chair of the Curriculum Committee, SEN Governor and served on the Pay Committee. She was Chair of Governors there for a year. She is Operations Director at a recruitment and training company.

Kate takes over from interim Chair of Governors, Gilly Shankland. We are extremely grateful to Gilly for stepping into this role since the start of this academic year.

Sarah Barker has stepped down as Joint Vice Chair of Governors, but continues as a parent Governor. Gilly Shankland and Martin Johnson were elected as Joint Vice Chairs of Governors.

Gilly Shankland was delighted to be able to present the achievement medals on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February to "This is Us" on the 2<sup>nd</sup> birthday of the all inclusive dance group. This is co-ordinated by Jan Cockburn and they worked in partnership with the StopGap dance company. It was a fantastic afternoon, enjoyed by everyone, especially the birthday cake which appeared at the end of the award ceremony.

More information about all of our governors is on the school website.