



# Bishops Down Primary School

Autumn Term1 Newsletter No 1  
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## WELCOME BACK!

It is lovely to see all of the children back this term and we warmly welcome 6 new families to the school as well as our new Reception and Nursery families.

Our new staff have settled in remarkably quickly– Miss Hardman, Deputy Head Teacher, Mr Humphreys, Year 4, Mrs Parks, Year 1 and Mrs Holliday, Class R. Miss Stock joins the teaching staff and Mrs George has moved to a class teacher role in year 3.

A great deal of work has happened in the school over the holiday in preparation for this academic year. Garden House has been decorated top to bottom, new windows have been installed across the front of the school and new interactive TV screens in the year 5 classrooms.

All dates will be on the website calendar, however I will pick out a few to highlight on this newsletter:

**Y1-Y6 Meet the Teacher Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September 7pm and 7.20pm** Please go to your eldest child's class at 7pm and your second child's class at 7.20pm. (I'm sorry we cannot hold more than 2 sessions for those parents with three or more children in the school– please use the parent drop in sessions to catch up with the teachers)

**Y6 leavers hoodies** try-on/order session for sizes **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> and Monday 12<sup>th</sup>** in the hall at 3pm-3.45pm

**Parent consultations 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> September** -Consultation sign-up sheets will be outside under the parent waiting area before and at the end of school on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> and Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September. If you are unable to sign up yourself, please ask a friend to do so for you, or email the office with as much choice as possible. Email requests will not be actioned until during the school day.

**Reception Meet the Teacher 23<sup>rd</sup> September 12.30pm**

**19<sup>th</sup> September Clubs Start**

**30<sup>th</sup> September Wear Grey Day for the Charity Brainstrust** <http://www.brainstrust.org.uk/>

**Please return ASAP: Y6 swimming permission forms, Y6 Residential confirmation forms, Forest School health forms for Y6 Larch and Y2 Apple – blank forms are available from outside the office**

*Clare*

### \*\*\*BRAND NEW CLUB\*\*\*

I am delighted to inform you that Rowena Wort, our fantastic peripatetic violin teacher at Bishops Down, will be starting an orchestra club! Rowena Wort is a hugely talented musician and I have no doubt that this club will be a huge hit with all of our instrumentalists at Bishops Down! If your child is interested, please contact the office via email, stating your child's preferred musical instrument and their experience (e.g. grade) - your child may be asked to audition. You will then receive confirmation as to whether your child has gained a place and further details. Many thanks, Debbie Wilson.

## Message from Governors

08/09/16

### Governors' News

Welcome back to the new school year, and a special welcome to all new children and families joining us in Reception and other classes, and to the new staff who have joined the Bishops Down team.

We're delighted to have appointed a new governor to the governing body; David Adams joins us as a co-opted governor. Look out for more information about David on the governor page of the school website soon.

To start the year off, governors joined staff at an all school planning day, held on the INSET day earlier this week. Chair of Governors, Vaughan Harding, thanked staff for their work last year and talked about some of the challenges for the year ahead. Staff and governors then worked together to help shape the school's development plan for the year, and to make their personal pledges to help drive the school forward. Governors then took time to look at the structure of the governing body and to begin to develop the governor action plan for the year. Our focus will be on ensuring that standards at school continue to improve, while making sure that children benefit from lessons in the wider curriculum. We'll also be looking at how we oversee our nursery and wrap around care facilities.

We want to make sure we keep parents and staff informed about what we do, so will be taking a regular slot in the school newsletter, rather than producing a separate governor newsletter this year. We hope you find it useful. Please feed back any comments to Sarah Barker ([sarahbarker.mrs@gmail.com](mailto:sarahbarker.mrs@gmail.com)).

The governing body currently has a vacancy for a co-opted governor. If you know anyone who you think would be able to support and develop our school, please contact Vaughan ([vharding@bishops-down.kent.sch.uk](mailto:vharding@bishops-down.kent.sch.uk)). (This person cannot be a parent or staff member.)



### PSA corner



The first PSA fundraising event for the year will be an 80s themed disco for parents on Saturday 8th October in the school hall! Please keep the date free, dust off your ra-ra skirts and await further details!

**If you would like to Volunteer to help at school please contact Sue Solomon (PA to Headteacher) to let her know you are interested and what days and times you can offer. Thank you**

**[ssolomon@bishops-down.kent.sch.uk](mailto:ssolomon@bishops-down.kent.sch.uk)**

### Uniform reminder

Summer uniform is permitted until the half term. We have had some non uniform jumpers/hoodies and cardigans already this week and non uniform shoes. Please refer to the uniform list on the website if you are unsure. We expect shirts to be tucked in for assembly and lesson time.

**Long hair.** If you child has shoulder length hair please ensure that it is tied back in uniform coloured (or brown/black) hair bands and clips. - Headlice will be quick to spread now the children are back. Thank you.



### How to contact the school

If you have any concerns regarding your child, your first point of contact should be the class teacher. If the class teacher is unable to answer your query or you are unsatisfied with the response please contact the relevant Phase leader. Reception, Yr1 and Yr2 see Mrs Akers.

For Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 please see Miss Hepden.

If for any reason they are not available or you are still not satisfied then please see Miss Hardman, Deputy Head Teacher.

If you would like to contact, or make an appointment to see a member of staff please email the school office who will direct your email accordingly.

If you have any concern, however small, please see us at the earliest opportunity at the teacher drop in sessions after school. Timings are stated on the right.



### Drop ins

**YR** - Thursday

**Y1** - Monday

**Y2** - Thursday

**Maple** - Friday

**Mulberry**-Mon & Thur

**Hazel** - Thursday

**Sycamore**- Thursday

**Redwood**- Tuesday

**Pine**- Friday

**Larch**- Tuesday

**Oak**- Tuesday