Friday 20th November 2020

Dear Parents,

Thank you for supporting Children in need this year. The school raised £403. Well done all!

Parking in Rydal Drive
I would like to remind everyone that the school politely requests that parents' park in Coniston Avenue and walk up Rydal Drive. We appreciate that this cannot be enforced and you have a right to park on a public highway but tempers are becoming frayed in Rydal Drive because of inconsiderate parking. Some of the recently reported inconsiderate parking, is actually legal within the eyes of the law, however residents and other parents are becoming frustrated at what they deem irresponsible. If everyone adhered to the school's request of parking further away from school and were respectful of each other's point of view, then there would not be an issue.

If confronting a parent about their parking, please be mindful of children that may be around. In school, we teach children to be polite and respectful and trust that, as adults, we can model this for our pupils.

Also sadly, we are aware that bikes and scooters are being knocked over when children are collecting their own bikes. Please can you remind your children that if they accidently knock a bike or scooter over, they should pick it up. Thank you *C Owen*

Nourish contract catering

Nourish Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 16th December

If you would like your child to have a Nourish Christmas Lunch on Wednesday 16th December please make a booking through your School Gateway account.

Schoolgateway ⟶LOGIN

Children entitled to either **Universal Infant Free School Meals** (Reception, Year 1 and 2) or **Free School Meals** must still make a booking for Christmas Lunch via School Gateway. *No payment will be required.*

The bookings for a Nourish Christmas Lunch are open now!

If you have already booked and paid for a Nourish School Lunch for this date, you will automatically be transferred to a Nourish Christmas Lunch unless you inform us otherwise.

Changes to Home Learning Provision at Bishops Down

Children who are unable to attend school due to COVID related isolation and are feeling well within themselves, should be accessing home learning each day to ensure they continue to make good progress this academic year. As we strive to continually improve our provision of Home Learning, we have looked to different technologies, which will enable us to share lessons with children in the most effective way. The online learning platform, which we have chosen, is Office 365 and Teams, in particular. This now allows us to share planning content and resources with children learning at home. We hope also to offer live or recorded lessons, which children at home can join virtually whilst isolating.

Nursery and Reception

How to Access Home Learning
Teachers will share their weekly plan on Tapestry using the memos section. This avoids the children's journals filling with observations that do not correspond with their learning and progress. This memo will be shared each Monday and throughout the week.

Years 1 - 6

Live Lessons
Children are also encouraged to log into Microsoft Teams to access live lessons where they will be able to either see the teacher or the shared screen and will get to hear the same input as the children who are learning in school. Your teacher will leave a message each morning to explain what time the live lessons will be starting that day. Once the lesson has started, you will see a '*Join now'* button, which enables you to access the lesson.

Teams Assignments
Your child's class teacher will be uploading the lesson plans and resources for the same learning that is taking place in the classroom that week. These will be set as Assignments on Microsoft Teams on a daily or weekly basis.
To access Microsoft Teams, first log in with your child's log in details (sent to you over half term). You will have access to a year group team. Within this, you will see any assignments being set for you by your teacher. Some of these can be done online and sent straight back to you teacher for marking.
Your child will have access to daily lessons in:

   Maths   **Reading Skills**   **Writing/Topic**

These should be completed each morning. In the afternoon, children should complete their final lesson by clicking on the Oak National Academy link and following the website to their year group. They must complete one lesson (not English or Maths) from this website. Children are encouraged to manage their own time-taking appropriate breaks as and when needed.

Thank you to everyone who donated to the "Guess the sweetie jar" competition and for all the fabulous guesses from the children. So far the competition has raised **over £250**. This is amazing and we are very grateful to everyone who has donated. The winner will be announced on **Monday, 23rd November**. Thank you also to everyone who has donated to the class hamper. We realise that times are hard at the moment and that it is difficult to get to the shops during lockdown so thank you for every kind donation. The closing date to give items to the class hamper is next Friday; **Friday 27th November**.

Raffle tickets for the Bishops Down Big Christmas Raffle are still on sale and will be available until **midnight on Thursday, 10th December**. The tickets cost **£1.00 each** and you could be in with a chance of winning one of our fabulous Class Christmas Hampers or a Hamper of Booze. The Class Hampers also feature gifts that have been kindly donated by local businesses. To buy your tickets then visit this website:

https://raffall.com/142869/enter-raffle-to-win-bishops-down-christmas-raffle-hosted-by-bishops-down-school-psa

Thank you for your continued support.

Bishops Down PSA