

Bishops Down Primary School News

www.bishopsdownprimary.org



5th September 2014

Dear Parents

Welcome back to school, whether you are an 'old hand' or have joined the school this term. I hope that you have had a wonderful summer.

New staff - This term we welcome our new teachers; Mrs Alkureishi (Deputy Headteacher and Year 6), Miss Perolls (Year 4), Miss Kemp (Year 4), Miss Clarke (Year 3) and Miss Ritman-Meer (Year 2). They are all excited about the year ahead and have been working hard in preparation.

Update on premises – It has been a relief not to spend the summer in chaos because there have been no major building projects. However, we have had a new playground surface and markings laid which will make playtime and PE lesson safer and more exciting for the children. In addition, three of our junior classes have had classrooms double glazed. This has certainly smartened up the look of the school and will keep those rooms warmer in winter. At the end of last term we also had the Wrap Around Care facilities re-decorated which has made a huge difference.

Meet the Teacher Meetings - These are all scheduled for Monday 8th September for Years 2 to 6. Each teacher will hold 2 sessions commencing at 3.20pm and 4pm in classrooms. We would appreciate it if parents could seek childcare for toddlers. The hall will be made available for parents to mind children during these sessions. Parents should ensure that they have made an arrangement for another parent to supervise their children in the hall beforehand.

Parent Reps - We are looking for volunteers to come forward to be Parent Reps for Nursery, Chestnut, Olive, Mulberry, Maple, Sycamore, Redwood, and Oak! 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 an opportunity to meet the Headteacher, ask questions, receive feedback and discuss ideas. **Parents should still raise specific queries they have directly with teachers.**

Clubs – The letter about after school activities will be out in the next week. This will be sent home in book bags. Please read it carefully as there will be lots of information in it.

Bethany Gaved – It was a year ago last weekend that Beth Gaved sadly died after leaving Bishops Down to start secondary school. Our thoughts are with Tracey, Andrew and Luke during this difficult time. I am pleased to say that the PSA have arranged for a plaque to be added to the new outdoor classroom commemorating Beth and her extraordinary life. We know that Beth really enjoyed being outside and so this is a fitting tribute to her. The plaque reads,

'Set your sights and keep them fixed
Set your sights on high
Let no-one steal your dreams
Your only limit is the sky'

(verse taken from a poem by Paul Cookson)

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 and parents should sign their child in the late book. 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, and each day after that unless we have been told the child will be off for a prolonged period. 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.
- Please see the Pupil Leave and Absence Policy on the school website for further information on other absences such as holidays, long term medical conditions and fixed penalty notices.
<http://www.bishopdownprimary.org/school-policies>

PSA QUIZ NIGHT - SATURDAY 18th October - We hope that you all had a great summer. Our first event of the new school year is the Amazing Autumn Quiz Night which will take place at school on Saturday 18th October, starting at 7.30pm (doors and bar from 7pm) and finishing by 11pm. Can you beat our resident quiz masters? Save the date, and get together with friends now to create a team. Maximum 8 people per team, but if you don't have a team, come anyway and we'll find one for you on the night! The Entry form is attached. If you have never done a quiz before, or are one our regulars, you are very welcome. It is a great night not to be missed!

From the PSA.

Kind Regards,

Daniel T Tunney

Dates for your Diaries

Mon 8 th Sept	Year 3 Mulberry start swimming sessions Meet the Teacher meetings at 3.20pm, repeated at 4pm
Tues 9 th Sept	Year 3 Maple start swimming sessions
Thurs 25 th Sept	9.30am Prospective Parents Visit
Mon 6 th Oct	9.30am Prospective Parents Visit
Thurs 6 th Nov	9.30am Prospective Parents Visit
Mon 24 th Nov	2pm Prospective Parents Visit
Sat 18 th October	PSA Quiz 7pm to 11pm
Tues 21 st October	Parent Consultations 3.30-6pm for KS1 & KS2
Thurs 23 rd Oct	Parent Consultations 5-8pm for KS1 & KS2

BISHOPS DOWN PSA - QUIZ NIGHT

SATURDAY 18th OCTOBER 2014



Can you beat our resident quiz masters?

You are cordially invited to the Bishops Down PSA Quiz Night to be held on Saturday 18th October at the school, starting at 7:30pm (doors and bar will be open from 7pm) and finishing by 11pm. All proceeds will be going towards new equipment and facilities for our children to use at the school. This is always a fun event and a great way to catch up with friends at the start of the new school year.

The cost is £10.00 per person, which includes entry into the quiz, fish & chips supper (or vegetarian alternative) during the interval and, the popular "Heads and Tails" game. The well-stocked PSA bar will be running throughout the evening.

Teams should consist of a maximum of 8 people but don't worry if you can't find a team. Come on your own and we'll find a team for you to join on the night. All are welcome - friends, family members, expert quizzers and novices alike. If you've never been to a quiz before or are new to Bishops Down, we would particularly encourage you to come.

Please complete the form below, and hand it in as soon as possible to the school office along with your payment (cash or a cheque made payable to **Bishops Down PSA**). Please mark the envelope 'PSA Quiz'. Entries are on a first come first served basis.

A great evening out, not to be missed - we look forward to seeing you on the night! Many Thanks - The PSA

Note: So long as the team name is on the form, forms for individual team members can be returned separately and do not all need to be submitted at the same time.

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Quiz Night (18/10/2014) Entry Form

Team Name (if known):.....

Please tick this box if you would like us to find a team for you:

Name(s): **e-mail address:**

(e-mail addresses will only be used to send an acknowledgement of receipt of your form)

All participants will automatically receive fish & chips during the interval. If you would prefer a vegetarian alternative, please put a (V) by your name.

Total Amount Paid (£10.00 per person) £.....

Cheques should be made payable to "Bishops Down PSA".

Please leave this form with your payment at the school office. To help us plan for numbers, we would appreciate it if forms and payment are returned to the school office no later than Wednesday 15th October - but don't leave it that late as numbers are limited!