

Bishops Down Primary School News

www.bishopsdownprimary.org



23rd July 2014

Dear Parents and Guardians

Today we had our Year 6 'leaver's assembly' which was sad as we said goodbye to the children moving on to secondary school. We wish them all the very best as they start the next part of their journey. We also said goodbye to a number of other children leaving to go to other schools and also to staff moving on. The staff leaving are Mrs Affleck, Mrs Dugan, Mrs Pierce, Miss Richards, Miss Reader, Mrs Sullivan, Mrs Sayes and Miss Hunt. We wish both the staff and children all the very best for the future.

Thank you to everyone who has helped to make this year memorable. Special thanks to all of you who have volunteered in some way in the school by gardening, in classes, reading, walking buses, on the PSA, governors and in the many other activities too numerous to mention. We really appreciate it.

Congratulations to everyone involved in all of the end of term events, notably the Sculpture show, Discos and of course the Year 6 production of 'The Blue Crystal'.

Disability Awareness Day (Wednesday 16th July)– Please see below for a summary of this day from our Co-opted Governor, Gilly Shankland. Photos are available on the website.

'Wow, what a triumph! A huge commitment, by every member of staff, to ensure that this day was a day filled with unforgettable experiences that helped to develop a real awareness and understanding of disabilities, both visible and hidden.

Some of the Activities:

In the hall and outside, the range of experiences included equipment for the physically disabled and visually impaired, such as wheelchairs, walkers and walking sticks; blindfolds and a cane with opportunities to be a guided and to be guide, around an obstacle course. Inclusive games, including Boccia, were provided on the front field.

In the classrooms, the children were invited to try reading Braille, lip reading and one handed modeling (with plasticine). To demonstrate hidden disabilities such as dyslexia, dyspraxia and autistic spectrum disorders, the children tried writing with their non-preferred hands and their feet; reading reversed words, with reversed letters, from right to left and they listened to a story with a range of distractions (tambourine, waving cloth, a second story started a few minutes into the initial story). During the morning a diabetes nurse gave a talk about what it means to be diabetic and Harry the reading dog was in attendance during the day. A young man with cerebral palsy, who is a power chair user and has a carer to meet his needs, talked to the children about difference, his early years and how he lives a good and happy life, from which came insightful comments from even the youngest children.

Every child in the school, from Nursery to Y6, shared the day's experiences and comments from the children demonstrated how positive the experiences had been. And the sun shone too! On behalf of the Governors I would like to thank the staff for making the day such a great experience for all with a special 'Thank you' to Jane Clement for organising an outstanding event.

Walk to school awards – Edmund and Nathaniel from Apple class went to Leeds Castle on 9th July to represent their class at the Walk to School awards. Apple class won the KM Charity Team Summer

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Challenge Day for Tunbridge Wells district on 21st May, with the most number of children in the class walking to school on that day. The class was awarded a certificate, and each child received a free entry voucher to Leeds Castle.

Drama Nuts – is a new after school Drama Club starting on Fridays in September for children in Reception to Year 6. Please email mirandavicsmith@yahoo.co.uk with expressions of interest. More details will follow in September.

Term Dates – Please see below for the term dates for the next school year.

2014 Green Travel Mark logo

The Green Travel Mark Logo has been earned by the school during the 2013/2014 academic year as a result of our participation in the KM Walk to School scheme. As a result of the efforts pupils, parents and staff have made, the school can use this on the website and newsletters to parents to show the commitment to helping to reduce school-run journeys, pollution and road congestion and for encouraging healthy lifestyles for pupils.

Parking – Despite reminding parents to park considerately, the owner of a Peugeot KW53 HGN parked across a neighbour's drive in Coniston Avenue at the bottom of Rydal Drive on Thursday last week, and she was unable to use her drive. Please can all parents be sensible about where they park in September, thank you.

Meet the Teacher Meetings -These are all scheduled for Monday 8th September for Year 2 and above after school. 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.

Regards

Daniel T Tunay

Dates for your Diaries

Wed 23rd July	Last day of term
Thurs 24th July	Holiday
Weds 3rd Sept	INSET day, no children in school
Thurs 4th Sept	Term 1 starts for children
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

TERM DATES 2014-2015

2014/2015 Year

***INSET DAYS ARE WEDNESDAY 3RD SEPTEMBER 2014, MONDAY 3RD NOVEMBER 2014,
MONDAY 5TH JANUARY 2015, MONDAY 20TH APRIL 2015, MONDAY 1ST JUNE 2015***

TERM 1

INSET DAY WEDNESDAY 3RD SEPTEMBER 2014

Start: Thursday 4th September 2014 for all children except Nursery
Friday 5th September for Nursery children
Finish: Friday 24th October 2014
Holiday Monday 27th October – Friday 31st October 2014

TERM 2

INSET DAY MONDAY 3RD NOVEMBER 2014

Start: Tuesday 4th November 2014
Finish: Friday 19th December 2014
Holiday Monday 22nd December 2014– Friday 2nd January 2015

TERM 3

INSET DAY MONDAY 5TH JAN 2015

Start: Tuesday 6th January 2015
Finish: Friday 13th February 2015
Holiday Monday 16th February – Friday 20th February 2015

TERM 4

Start: Monday 23rd February 2015
Finish: Wednesday 1st April 2015
Holiday Thursday 2nd April – Friday 17th April 2015

TERM 5

INSET DAY MONDAY 20TH APRIL 2015

BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY 4TH MAY 2015

Start: Tuesday 21st April 2015
Finish: Friday 22nd May 2015
Holiday Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May 2015

TERM 6

INSET DAY MONDAY 1ST JUNE 2015

Start: Tuesday 2nd June 2015
Finish: Friday 24th July 2015
Holiday Monday 27th July – Wednesday 2nd September 2015

2015/2016 Year

TERM 1 2015/2016

INSET DAY THURSDAY 3RD SEPTEMBER 2015