



# Bishops Down Primary School

Spring Term 3 Newsletter No 9  
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Dear Parents and Guardians

**Bishops Down's got Talent** has been the highlight of the term so far. What an incredible night, packed with entertainment. Thank you to all the staff involved and to our neighbours at Rose Hill for allowing us to use their theatre. See page 3 for a message from Mrs Wilson. Well done everyone!



**Correct Uniform:** The correct school uniform is expected from all our students and this includes the correct footwear and hair accessories. Governors set our uniform policy and when your child starts at our school you are given the correct uniform list and sign a Home School Agreement that you will respect our wishes. Please therefore can you ensure your child is in the correct uniform and this includes school shoes – no trainers, no ankle boots. Some children have permission from the Headteacher or the SENCo to wear alternative footwear because of an injury or disability but the vast majority of children should adhere to our uniform rules. Thank you.

**PE Kits:** We have noticed that many children do not have their PE kit at school and are taking in-door dance/PE in their school clothes – this cannot continue as it can be both dangerous and, for girls' in school skirts, is simply not suitable especially for older girls in upper KS2! Please ensure that your child has their PE kit with them all week. Outdoor PE will not be allowed without the correct kit, especially with no trainers/plimsolls to wear – your child will have to sit out and that is a great shame. Thank you.

**Parking – Inconsiderate Parking especially on Rydal Drive:** A whole school ParentMail was sent out last week asking you all to be considerate and park and drive carefully on Rydal Drive, yet this week we get more photo evidence from disgruntled parents of cars parked blocking the crossing section on Rydal Drive making it unsafe for children and parents to cross the road by blocking their view. I am sure you can appreciate our staff are spending far too much time having to deal with this problem – can you all please be more considerate at the beginning and end of the day. Drive slowly and safely, park considerately, do not block drives, do not block the turning circle, do not park across crossing blocks, etc. We all know it is a nightmare along Rydal so leave earlier and park on Coniston. It is really rather simple. It would help the school if parents who witness indiscretions could also deal with matters head on – the school has no jurisdiction on highways and byways and cannot enforce anything – we can only ask. In the front office are leaflets that can be put under car windscreen wipers to help matters. Please come and get some leaflets and help us, and your children, stay safe. Thank you.

*Rowena Wort*

From Rowena Wort, music teacher.

ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS  
Symphony Orchestra

In recent weeks, you might have been given a copy of the flyer for the next **RTWSO** concert, scheduled for February 4th at 3.00 p.m. If you haven't seen the flyer and you are interested, here is the link to their website.

<http://rtwso.org/sunday-4-feb-2018-3pm/>

# sign2sing

## Sign2sing 2018

Just a reminder we are less than two weeks from our signing day on Wed 7<sup>th</sup> February. The Makaton Masters have been hard at work planning a special day. Rumour has it there will be a film crew at the gates welcoming all children with their Super Star Signing Badges, and interviewing children for a signing assembly at the end of the day.

Your children are invited to:

- Design a Super Star Signing badge, design must be a hand shape. Templates are available from Mrs Miller at the office, or you can make your own. Design must include words that promote signing. A prize will be given for each key stage, and the winning designs will become the Signer of the Week badges for the next year.
- Sign2sing 2018 badges will be on sale at breaktime for 20p each.
- The Makaton Masters will be in action at lunchtime, helping the children sign for their lunch.
- A whole school celebration assembly created by the Makaton Masters
- To bring in a suggested donation of £1 per child to be a part of our day, all money raised will go directly to SignHealth who promote signing and well-being for children and adults with hearing impairments.

Really looking forward to seeing all of your fabulous designs!  
Mrs Cockburn, Mrs Gripper and the Makaton Masters

## From the PSA:

Only a few days until our annual Quiz Night! There are a few tables left, so please hand your forms and money in to the office by no later than **Friday afternoon** to secure a spot. Don't forget to bring plenty of cash for the bar, and some £1 coins for our Heads and Tails game!

Coming up on Saturday 17 March is our Dinner Dance, which will be held at High Rocks this year. Tickets will go on sale in February; please put the date in your diary!

Many thanks the PSA

## This Is Us - Youth Dance Company in association with Stoppap Dance

Bishops Got Talent was a fantastic night for **This Is Us** to premiere their new piece for this year Rock, Paper, Scissors, and the reviews are in, here are a few:

"This performance was so beautiful and poignant. Made me very proud to be a Bishops Down parent! Well done to all of you"

"First time I have seen you all perform - blown away! You were all AMAZING! Well done"

"They were amazing, absolutely LOVE watching this wonderful company grow each time they perform, such a joy to watch"

We are immensely proud of this group of dancers and also that Bishops Down are the only primary school in Kent to run such a project. We have a packed rest of the year ahead of us with plans for guest workshops, more performances and possibly a film project on the calendar.

We do have a few spaces available if your child would like to join us. No previous dance experience necessary, we are completely inclusive and open to children from year 2 to year 8. We are also open to children from other schools in the area too, so do spread the word if you know of anyone!

The group meet to snack and change at 3.15 til 4 with the class running from 4-5.30, fees are £7 per class and are payable termly. If your child would like to come along to a free taster session please contact Mrs Cockburn via the school office to arrange a date. **Mrs Cockburn - This Is Us - Youth Dance Company.**



Lily in yr2 has decided to do a sponsored hair cut, where she will be donating 7 inches of her hair to the wonderful Little Princess Trust. Please see attached link.

 Little Princess Trust®

[http://www.justgiving.com/LilyShawHairCut?utm\\_id=121](http://www.justgiving.com/LilyShawHairCut?utm_id=121)

Lily is aiming to raise £500 for a wig for a child suffering with hair loss. We are very proud of you Lily!



### Volunteers needed!

The **Tunbridge Wells Half Marathon** takes place on Sun 18th Feb 2018 and is a fantastic community event that supports worthwhile causes. As in previous years, Bishops Down Primary School have been asked to manage the first water station on the 13 mile course, between Bidborough and Penshurst, and we are looking for children and parents to volunteer! You will need to be available from around 8-10.30am. If you can help, please contact Sarah Bailey [sgbailey@doctors.org.uk](mailto:sgbailey@doctors.org.uk).

Our Running Club leader Sarah is running the London Marathon this year to raise money for Popenbury. Please support her by sponsoring her if you can. Thank you! <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/sarah-barker35>



**FREE CYCLE TRAINING** is being offered to adults in Tunbridge Wells on Saturday 3rd and 17th March.

Learn to ride or build your confidence cycling on the road. Please go to [www.kent.gov.uk/cycletraining](http://www.kent.gov.uk/cycletraining) for more information.

### Dear Y5 Parents

Please remember to complete and return the Y6 residential letter by the end of January, which is when the deposit of £42.19 is also due to be paid using ParentPay. There are spare letters outside the office if you have misplaced the original. If you have any questions about the payments please speak to either Mrs Owen or the Finance Officer, Mrs Lucas before 31<sup>st</sup> Jan.

Thank you

**Bishops Down's Got Talent** was a huge success last week! It was so fantastic to witness such a variety of outstanding talent and with a packed out audience at Rose Hill's theatre, the atmosphere was electric. Every act performed with such enjoyment and confidence, soaking in the fantastic opportunity the evening provided. The show even featured television's best talent show judges: will.i.am (Mrs Holliday), Darcey Bussell (Mrs Richardson) and Simon Cowell (Mrs Tizzard). A huge thank you to all who were involved in putting this event together and huge congratulations to Milly (1st place), Ella (2nd place) and Sophie (3rd place). Mrs Wilson

### **World Book Day: Thursday 1st March**

We are on the look-out for some authors! If you are an author or know of somebody that would be happy to come and speak to the school about being an author, please contact the office by Friday 2nd February 2018. Thank you!



The school are extremely excited to be working alongside research students from **UCL**, who are developing a new diagnostic tool for the assessment of children suspected of having Auditory Processing Disorder (APD). The research is currently being undertaken with some Year 4 children and we would like to thank both parents and children in Year 4 for their cooperation. We will also be organising an opportunity for Professor Stuart Rosen (Chair in Speech and Hearing Science at UCL) to come and talk to both staff and Parents on the subject of APD.



**Clubs-** Every week we have a large number of children not turning up to after school clubs. Most of our clubs have waiting lists, therefore it is important to let the school know if your child does not want the place anymore or is unable to attend any sessions please. For sports news this week please see our website.