



Newsletter



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Dear Parents and Guardians,

Historically, we have supported one international, one national and one local charity and this academic year is no different. Our charities for 2019/20 will be Children in Need (international), Dream Flight (national) and The Mayor's Christmas Toy Appeal (local). We will be raising money for Dream Flight throughout the year, raising money for Children in Need during the Autumn term and we will be encouraging you to donate toys for The Mayor's Christmas Toy appeal between 9th November and 15th December 2019. Please see twmta.co.uk for more information on the latter.

This year we are pleased to announce that each class will be holding a termly 'Showcase'. This replaces the once a year class assembly. We are responding to parent requests for more opportunities to see children's work. The 'Showcases' will be held in classrooms so children can show topic work and possibly sing a song, perform poetry or perhaps demonstrate some drama they have been working on. These will be held at 2.30pm, 3 times a year. Dates will be released soon.

YN and YR class will continue to put on a short Nativity play for parents to watch, and Yr 1 and Yr 2 will also put on a Nativity this December.

For Yrs. 3, 4, 5 and 6, children will perform a carol or Christmas song as part of their termly Showcase to parents in December and will put on one performance, during the school day for local residents, Governors and friends of the school. Each class will perform the song/carol from their Showcase. This is a reduction in Christmas performances as we are keen to spread the fun throughout the year, so in the Spring term Yrs. 3 and 4 will put on a show. In Term 5 Yr 5 will put on a performance, and then we finish the year with the Yr 6 production.

This arrangement ensures that all year groups have the chance to shine and it is spread throughout the year.

Phone Calls: We have noticed in the office that many parents phone the school because they believe they have had a missed call from us. Please check your voicemail in the first instance as all staff are instructed that they must leave a message and not abandon a call which would create a missed call. May we please ask parents who do not have voicemail on their mobile phone to consider this service with their provider to help the school make contact with you more easily. Thank you.

Slips and Letters for the Office: We have noticed in the office that many parents queue up to hand slips or paperwork in. Sometimes the queue gets very long so if you trust your child to hand paperwork in then please give to them as we have a system that goes back and forth from the classrooms/office. Each morning all teachers ask their pupils if they have any slips or letters to hand in. Failing that and if you wish to hand it in yourself and there is a queue, there is a letterbox to the left of the front door which is emptied several times a day.

World Food and Fashion Festival

Wednesday 9th October 2019, 3.30pm -4.30pm



Please park considerately– do not block residents' drives. Thank you

HELP!



We are still missing school team kits.

Please can you search at home for any football kits, team polo shirts and track suits and return to school.



Bishops Down PSA

Bishops Down's PSA Autumn planning meeting Monday 7th October 7.30pm to 8.30pm at school. Please come and join us to find out about the events we are running this year. All help is very welcome even if you can just spare an hour or so over the coming year.

Bishops Down PSA Winter Fair

Friday 15th November 3.30pm to 5pm

There will be lots of new fun activities for everyone to play as well as our ever popular hamper and barrel of booze raffles. Please come and support Bishops Down PSA and help us all raise money towards the new school laptops.



Could you be a Governor at Bishops Down?

We are currently looking for new co-opted governors to join our friendly governing body. Our governors come from a range of different backgrounds, skills and experience but all share a common interest of wanting the best possible education for the children in our school. We would be delighted to hear from anyone who:

- Is interested in children's education and the performance of the school
- Is community spirited and would like to represent the community
- Has spare time and the energy for the role
- Has a background in finance
- Is able to work well as part of a team
- Has an enquiring mind and the confidence to ask questions and debate issues that affect the school
- Can consider matters objectively and make informed judgements

These volunteer positions are open to parents/guardians or other people from our community, so please ask friends and work colleagues if they would be interested. Co-opted governors are not elected by a parent election but are instead appointed directly by the governing body.

Please email the school office if you would like more information.