



Bishops Down Primary School

Autumn Term 1  
7th September 2018  
Newsletter no 1

# Newsletter

Welcome back!

This week it has been lovely to welcome not only our new Nursery and Reception classes but also 5 new families to Bishops Down. I know you will all extend a warm welcome to them and help them feel at home.

Thank you for your patience with regards to the fencing work in the playground. We are almost finished! It has been an incredibly busy summer for Mr Beaton as you can see from the improvements to the garden areas, the office re-organisation and the general appearance of the site; we are very grateful for all he does.

The new fire alarm system has now been successfully installed and we are fortunate that the system now includes a second, different sounding alarm which will act as our 'lockdown' signal. All schools are now required to have a lockdown policy in the event of an intruder on the school site or any event that threatens the safety of the pupils and staff where staying in, is safer than evacuating.

We will be carrying out a fire drill and a separate lockdown drill in the next couple of weeks and will prepare the children for this accordingly. Teachers will ensure that both will be handled sensitively, in a low key fashion so as not to panic or frighten the children.

Parent reps are needed for each class this year, thank you to those who have volunteered so far but we still have vacancies for Y3, both Y5 and both Y6 classes. Reps form an important part of the communication between the school and parents. We meet every term to discuss issues arising from the parent body and the school to gather feedback on any new initiatives. Last year the reps were instrumental in the changes made to the structure and content of the end of year reports. Please email the school office if you are interested.

Volunteers are needed across the school this year and in particular Forest School and with reading. Please let Sue Solomon ([ssolomon@bishops-down.kent.sch.uk](mailto:ssolomon@bishops-down.kent.sch.uk)) know if you are interested in helping this year.

Thank you to the year 6 leavers who have donated such generous gifts to the school, we opened the final gift in assembly today. In all we have received school branded tracksuit tops for children to wear for away matches, school branded swimming hats, coloured bibs for PE and Sports Day and a wildlife camera. Thank you to all of those parents who generously donated.

Finally, please can I ask you to note the date of our annual Food and Fashion celebration. It will be held this year on Tuesday 9th October. More information will follow from Mrs Silburn and Mrs Akers who are coordinating this year's event.

## Violin Lessons at Bishop's Down

There will be space for new pupils wanting to learn the violin in school from September 2018. Miss. Wort is particularly keen to start a small group of children (around 4 in the group given the size of the room) from Years 1 and 2. Older beginners could also be accommodated in a group if there are enough requests. Lessons are generally half an hour long, although for a group, a longer lesson can be beneficial. Alternatively, individual or paired lessons can be arranged if suitable pairings can be made.

Please contact Miss. Wort as soon as possible by e-mail at [rwteach.in@gmail.com](mailto:rwteach.in@gmail.com) to register your interest and to obtain more details.



Wrap Around Care at Bishops Down formally becomes **The Beehive** this academic year, a name chosen by the children.

There will be a newsletter from The Beehive in the next couple of weeks with all the latest news.

Jo Green, Manager has now appointed a Deputy Manager, Hollie Bryan. Hollie's chief role will be the communication link between the club and the school, as well as deputising for Jo. She will ensure that information is passed between the teaching staff and club staff for the well being of our pupils.

## Schoolgateway

Please remember all payments including lunches must be made through Gateway.

### Librarian positions available

Are you an enthusiastic and book loving person? Then this job is for you. There are 4 positions available, 2 for year 5 and 2 for year 6. If you are interested in the role and want to find out more speak to either Mrs Kyte or Mia and Willow (Year 6 Larch). Finally apply for the job see attached. We look forward to receiving your applications.

Mrs Kyte and Mrs Ahmed

### Sport/PE

All children should have the appropriate PE Kit in school at all times. If they do not have the correct kit with them they will not be able to take part in the planned activity.

There are a number of clubs starting Monday 10th September. Being part of a club comes with responsibility, we expect children to attend every session. If your child is unable to make a session they must speak to the lead teacher or parents must email the school. Children will be dismissed from Sports Clubs in their sports clothing unless a parent specifically asks for them to change. All school run clubs are 3.15-4.15pm.

**Leather footballs are not permitted at break times so please do not let your child bring in their own football. We will provide a softer ball for playtimes. Thank you**

### Mayor's Toy Appeal

**As Christmas approaches we understand the stress this can put on families who are struggling financially and the difficulties you may have in buying presents for your children. The Mayor's Toy Appeal is here to help in these situations and can supply gifts for children in order to ease the pressure on families.**

**If you feel you are in this situation and would like support please contact Ellen Stock our Family Support Worker and she will liaise with you in order to make a referral. Please be assured that this is dealt with in a strictly confidential manner.**



School Charity fundraising for 2017/18	Total	
Amawu	323.56	
Hospice in the Weald	447.88	
CLIC Sargeant	447.88	
Sing 2 Sign	133.55	
Cancer Research	102.06	Raised by last year's Redwood Class
	<b>1,462.63</b>	

### Reception Year - September 2019 - Prospective Parent Tours

We shall be holding the following open sessions for prospective parents who would like to consider Bishops Down for a Reception place in September 2019:-

- Tuesday, 30th October 2018 - 2.00 to 3.00pm
- Thursday, 1st November 2018 - 9.30 to 10.30am
- Tuesday, 6th November 2018 - 2.00 to 3.00pm
- Thursday, 8th November 2018 - 9.30 to 10.30am

Please call the school office to book a place.

# 'Librarian'

Are you highly organised? Are you hardworking and can work quickly? If so, then this may be the job for you!

Name:

Birthday:

Why would you like to have this job? (Please write in complete sentences)

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What have you done in the past that will help you do this job well? (Please write in complete sentences)

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What strengths/skills do you have to help you do this job well? (Please write in complete sentences)

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By signing below, you understand the responsibilities of the job and promise to carry them out brilliantly if chosen. If you are offered the job and you do not fulfill the responsibilities, the job will be re-advertised and someone new will be offered to apply for this position.

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Child signature

Teacher comments on application:

Closing date 21<sup>st</sup> September. Please return to Mrs Kyte.