



# BISHOPS DOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Autumn Term 1 Newsletter No 1  
[www.bishopsdownprimary.org/](http://www.bishopsdownprimary.org/)  
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## Dear Parents & Guardians,

A warm welcome to the new families that have joined Bishops Down Primary and to the new staff who have already settled in so well.

We have a new management structure this year which will help with lines of communication for parental concerns. Miss Hepden is our Upper Phase Leader, overseeing years 4, 5 and 6. Miss Ritman-Meer is our Middle Phase Leader, overseeing years 1, 2 and 3.

If you have concerns or queries your first port of call is always your child's class teacher. Call the school office to make an appointment to see them, we are not using teacher emails this year. If they are unable to resolve the matter or you are dissatisfied with their response in any way, please make an appointment to see the Phase Leader. If you believe the matter is *still* not resolved, or your child's teacher is a Phase Leader please see Mrs Alkureishi, Deputy Head Teacher. At this point Mrs Alkureishi will judge if the matter needs Headteacher intervention.

Early Years (Nursery/Reception) Phase Leadership is still under review so if the class teacher cannot be of assistance please contact Mrs Alkureishi or me.

SEN concerns are to be addressed by Ellen Stock (PA to SENCo) in the first instance and she will refer to Mr Gunn (Acting SENCo) or me, dependent on the nature of concern.

Of course we still have our Parent reps so any non urgent or general concerns can be passed through them and **please** use the parent drop in slots (these can be found on the website).

Teachers have been given strict guidelines on notice periods for school trips and sporting events so we will not have the short notice issues of the past which I know infuriated parents! If a trip, event or sporting fixture has less than two weeks notice for parents, I will not allow it to take place.

At the beginning of term the staff and members of the Governing Body met to discuss the successes of last year and what we want to focus on for this academic year. Progress in Maths will be a key focus, along with Phonics attainment in KS1, Spelling in KS2 and behaviour across the school. In the very near future, if not already, you will see communication from teachers regarding homework and it will be clear that Maths and Phonics/Spelling are a priority. We will also be running parent information meetings this term so we can show you how you can support at home.

We are looking forward to a great term!

Kind regards,

C Owen

## Key Dates

Parent Consultations— Beech, Olive, Tuesday 22nd 3.30-5.30  
Maple, Mulberry, Pine, Redwood, Oak

Parent Consultations – **all classes** Wednesday 23rd 5.00-8.00  
from y1-y6

Parent Consultations—Apple, Hazel, Thursday 24th 3.30-5.30  
Sycamore





Shelter box update. You can track our school shelter box using their website using the number 75713.



#### Donations for Refugees

We are collecting clothes for the refugees fleeing Syria. They are in urgent need of clothes for men. There will be a box at the school office for donations. See Liz Gripper for more details.



We are in the process of updating our website for the new academic year, and it is quite a task as you can imagine!

If you spot something that is still out of date please let us know so we can address it as soon as possible.

#### Christmas Cards



Some classes are designing their Christmas cards at home this year. Please can they be returned to school by Friday 25th at the very latest. Thank you.

Drama Nuts  
starts on the 18th September



#### Y3 Parents

Please ensure that you have registered with **SQUID** and have already paid money into the account if your child has been eating school lunches this week. No one should be owing money this early in the term. Payments have to be on the account before your child can eat a school meal. Squid letters went out last year. Please see the school office if you didn't receive one.

#### Battery recycling

'Please help us collect used domestic batteries for recycling to receive rewards for our school! We have registered for Kent County Council's 2015 'Power Up To Recycling' challenge. Schools in Kent have been challenged to collect as many used domestic batteries as possible **and our school will receive a voucher to spend on school equipment, based on the weight of batteries we collect!** The more we collect the greater value voucher we receive! So please help us raise valuable funds for school and help the environment, by bringing all your old domestic batteries to our battery collection box in school. The challenge runs from September 2015 to 8 January 2016, so please start saving your batteries for us!

We can recycle the following batteries: AA, AAA, C, D, 9v, mobile phone and button cell batteries  
Please note: batteries must be from a domestic source and not used in business.



#### New Entrants for Reception and Nursery 2016.

We are holding prospective parent tours on the 1st October at 9.30am, 8th October at 9.30am and 15th October at 2.30pm. If you would be interested in joining a tour, please inform the office. If you know of friends that are looking at schools for 2016 please let them know they are welcome too.