



Bishopton Primary School

Newsletter September 2016



Dear Parent, Carer,

We hope you enjoyed the holiday weekend. It is hard to believe we are more than half way through term 1 already.

The classes have all been working really hard and are looking forward to showcasing their efforts at the upcoming parents' evenings. We hope you are able to attend the appointment given. If this time is not suitable please contact the class teacher to make alternative arrangements.

Jewellery and P.E

Renfrewshire Council has recently updated its health and safety advice regarding jewellery and P.E. Please note the extract from the policy below.

"Watches, rings, chains and belts with metal buckles and other body jewellery must all be removed before the physical education lesson as these may cause injury to the wearer and others. It is preferred that parents are advised that any child having body jewellery piercing wait until the summer break to allow them time to heal. However, parents wishing children to wear body jewellery during physical education should write to the school expressing their request. Children will be expected to provide tape and cover any such items of jewellery during the activity. Pupils will be responsible for the safekeeping of jewellery."

Therefore if body jewellery is to be taped, parents need to supply the tape and pupils must apply the tape themselves. Pupils are also responsible for any jewellery brought into school.

Holidays in Term Time

We continue to see an increased number of requests for holidays during term time which is having a negative effect on our overall attendance figures. Renfrewshire Council is concerned at the increasing trend in the number of pupils being taken on holiday by their parents during the school session. As non-attendance during term time is a major contributory cause of underachievement every effort should be made to avoid family holidays during term. Holidays taken during the school session will be categorised as unauthorised absence. We recognise that in some circumstances holidays during term time are unavoidable. In such instances please contact myself directly and a decision may be taken to record the absence as authorised.

Parking

Once again parking continues to be an issue. Please respect the road markings outside of the school and be considerate of our neighbours when parking your vehicles. The safety of our pupils is our priority and a reminder that the car park entrance and The Grove entrance

are not considered pedestrian entrances and should not be used as such.

The disabled spaces at the front and back of the school should only be used by blue badge holders and should not be blocked at any time.

School Uniform

As we have already welcomed a number of new pupils into our school since the start of term here is a reminder of our school uniform policy.

Boys uniform

Navy blue/red school fleece, with school badge; **navy blue** or **grey** trousers with black school shoes; plain shirt with school tie or red school polo shirt and navy school sweatshirt; red school polo shirt, plain shorts and soft shoes/trainers for PE.

Girls uniform

Navy blue/red school fleece, with school badge; **navy blue** or **grey** skirt or tailored trousers with black school shoes; plain shirt with school tie or red school polo shirt and navy school sweatshirt or cardigan; for better weather, red or blue checked dress; grey or white socks, red school polo shirt, plain shorts and soft shoes/trainers for P.E.

Please note that, with the exception of the polo shirt, children are expected to wear their P.E. kit only for P.E. lessons,

and to change back to their uniform afterwards.

Non uniform items should be removed before entering class and left in the cloakroom areas. We appreciate your cooperation in this.

After School Clubs

Places on after school clubs are limited by the provider depending on the activity and venue. If your child wishes to attend a club please return the slip as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. School staff ask pupils each morning if they have any letters to return but they are not able to check in pupils school bags. If your child comes home with a slip in their bag please remind them to hand it in to the class teacher.

Permission Slips for Local Trips

Your child will be bringing home a permission slip in the near future. This slip gives us permission to take the children out on short local walking visits throughout the year. Generally these trips involve walking to the local library or walks around the village as part of a topic. If you have any questions regarding this please do not hesitate to contact us.

Mobile Phones

A reminder that although mobile phones can be brought to school the following condition must be adhered to. All phones should be turned off and kept out of sight during the school day within the school campus. This includes the school playground. Any pupil who has their phone out during the school day will have it confiscated

and returned at the end of the day. Mobile phones and any other electronic devices are brought to school at the pupils' own risk. The school is not liable for the loss or damage to any devices within school grounds.

Wet Weather

On very wet mornings we will endeavour to open the doors at 8.50 to allow the pupils to come in and stand in their cloakroom areas until the bell goes at 9.00. However we cannot always guarantee that staffing will be at a level where we can supervise all children. Many of our staff live a distance from the school and the weather may also be preventing them from arriving early at school, therefore a decision will need to be made on the day. Therefore if the weather is really bad we would appreciate your help in minimising the effects by arriving at school just in time for the bell.

Parent Council Race Night

A big thank you to the Parent Council for arranging their very successful Race Night. They have raised an amazing £1297.55. Thank you to all who attended and made the night such a huge success. Thank you also to those who donated prizes and purchased horses for the event.

School Website

We have now transitioned over to our new website and class blogs. The blogs are now linked to our Twitter account and there is an option to subscribe for email updates. If you are having problems accessing any of the

information please let us know and we will try to help you if we can.

Helpers in School

We are very pleased to see an increase in the number of volunteer helpers this session. If you would like more information on becoming a volunteer please contact the school. All regular volunteers in schools are required to be current members of the PVG scheme.

European Day of Languages

Pupils participated in their first House Event of the year. Each house learned about a different language. They also learned about the other countries where the language is spoken, tasted food from the countries and learned songs. The day finished with a whole school assembly. Each house presented to the others. More information and pictures are available on the school blog. Thanks to Mrs Ferguson and all staff for organising such a fun day.

Dates for the Diary

29.09.16 – P5 visit to Stirling Castle
30.09.16 – Eco Drama in school
03.10.16 – Pace Theatre in school
04.10.16 – P7 Parents Info Evening on Dukeshousewood
05.10.16 – P6 swimming
06.10.16 – Whole school flu immunisation
10.10.16 – P2H & P3/2 Topic Showcase
11.10.16 – Parents Evening
12.10.16 – Parents Twilight
14.10 to 21.10.16 – October holidays
27.10.16 – School photographs

Yours Sincerely

Wendy McNaught
Head Teacher