

Autumn
2021

BISPHAM DRIVE JUNIOR SCHOOL

21st Century Learning for the 21st Century Child



Toton
Bispham Drive
Junior School
Ad esse optimum

10th September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

At the end of the first full week back at school for the children, we are feeling very positive. We were all so happy to welcome them back and for them to be able to make full use of all of the school facilities. It's hard to imagine that quite a number of our pupils had seen only their classroom and then the hall in a very limited way. The same can be said for some of you as I realised that many of our year 4 parents had never been inside the school. We will look for opportunities to welcome you in and that begins with our year group meetings next week. Then there will be an open morning session on September 24th where you will get the chance to visit your child's class and join them in an activity. Alongside this we will be running a Macmillan Coffee Morning to raise funds for this important charity.

I have fixed a lot of dates in the diary for the coming year and these can also be found on the Weduc calendar. I will also share dates via this bulletin to try to ensure you don't miss anything.

Your child's personal organiser has changed slightly this year. Inside you see space for spelling and tables tests. We thought this would be useful for you to keep track of how your child is doing. The P.O. is also important for recording reading at home and as ever we will be rewarding those children who read at home at least 60 times across the term, more information about that next week.

As I said we are excited to get back to normal. So are the children, you only had to look at the wonder on their faces before their first playtime when we said they could play anywhere and with anyone - fabulous.

Andrea Goetzee (Headteacher)

Notices

Lunchtimes - We have reorganised lunchtimes in school a little. Now children can sit anywhere regardless of whether they have sandwiches or a hot meal. This is working well, the children really like it and the atmosphere is somehow calmer and definitely more sociable. Please remember that we are a nut free school as we have children with allergies.

Snacks - You can purchase playtime snacks via Weduc or you can send your child in with one. If you choose to send a snack in we ask that it is either a piece of fruit or a cereal bar. No sweets, crisps or chocolate bars should be eaten at playtime.

Year 4 pick up - As these children have furthest to walk teachers will hand children to parents or carers outside the classroom at the end of the day, before coming to the front of school. If you choose to wait outside school I ask for your patience with this as they may take a little time.

Personal space - I also ask you to respect people's personal space as much as possible at drop off and pick up times as we still have parents and carers who feel vulnerable at this time. Thank you.

Key Dates (an expanded list will be given next week)

September - W/c 13th Parents' meetings in school hall 6.00 pm

Monday Year 3, Tuesday Year 4, Wednesday Year 5, Thursday Year 6

September 15th - Dot Day to inspire growth mindset and resilience

<https://www.internationaldotday.org/>

September 24th - Open morning in class 9.10 - 10.30 am with Macmillan Coffee Morning continuing until 11.00 am

October 1st - School photographer



Forest School Schedule

Forest School is an important part of our physical education offer and this year we will be operating a two week rota. This means the whole class will access Forest School over each two week period. Each child will have been put into either a group 1 or 2 in their class, this should be noted in their P.O. Below you will find the schedule for this term and attached to this bulletin you will find all the key information about Forest School and how it operates at Bispham Drive. This was enormously successful last year and we look forward to extending the experiences of all children in school as they continue to build new skills and increase confidence in our lovely environment.

Orion: Monday pm Pegasus: Thursday pm

Hydra: Thursday am Leo: Tuesday am

Columba: Monday am Volans: Wednesday am

Andromeda: Tuesday pm Phoenix: Wednesday pm

Group 1 w/c :13/09 27/09 11/10 08/11 29/11

Group 2 w/c : 20/09 04/10 01/11 15/11 06/12

Due to gaps for assessment week and Christmas activities some weeks there will be no Forest School . Please also note the requirements for clothing as Forest School can get rather muddy at times.



Headteacher's Awards

I will no longer be naming each child with an HTA as there are gratifyingly too many to fit onto the bulletin. Instead I will be noting how many were awarded in each class. This week

Leo—2

Phoenix—2

Hydra—2

Orion—3

Pegasus—2

Columba—3

Feelings of the Week Assemblies

We are returning our normal assembly activities and each week this will include one that covers a particular feeling. This is to build emotional literacy in the children to help them understand and deal with the feelings they are having. We have found that it also enables children to have clearer conversations with adults around them and thus is a support to their emotional health and wellbeing. I will tell you via this bulletin which feeling has been covered each week.

Information about illness

As you will be aware the contingency planning for schools has changed to ensure that children will see far less disruption to their education even in the event of positive cases. It would be a real help if you informed us if a family member tests positive. While this will not affect your child's attendance in school it will help us monitor what is happening in our community and enable us to place enhanced mitigating activities to prevent it becoming a significant problem in school.