

Autumn
2021

BISPHAM DRIVE JUNIOR SCHOOL

21st Century Learning for the 21st Century Child



1st October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

A quieter week in school for the end of September and the children are, as ever, working hard. I have begun my regular fortnightly meetings with the staff of each year group where we talk about how the children are progressing and where the focus needs to be. It is important to me that I oversee the input for all Bispham pupils so that I can support staff in ensuring the best teaching and learning is taking place. I know this makes me sound a bit like a control obsessed head but I have always made it my business to know each and every child in my school and this enables me to see each as the wonderful individual that they are. Children at Bispham have never been and never will be just a number or a percentage point.

As term progresses more and more of our normal activities are resuming. Music lessons have started in school once more and now we are putting together a range of clubs and activities that children may chose to be part of. These get a brief mention on the opposite page and there will be more information about exact timings and how to sign up children. These will by no means be the only clubs we run over the year, just the start of things to come.

Finally, it is World Mental Health Day on Sunday October 10th. As part of our commitment to supporting the emotional health and wellbeing of our pupils we will be marking the day in school next Friday and encourage everyone to wear something yellow. The initiative is part of a Young Minds charity activity so if you wanted to make a donation we will make sure it gets to them, but this is voluntary. Enjoy your weekend.

Andrea Goetsee

Headteacher

Notices

Open Day for Prospective Parents Thursday 14th October from 9.30 am.

After the wonderful open morning we had last week I thought it would be good to offer an open day for any parents who may be looking for a school in the area. The feedback has been so positive that we wanted to share the Bispham story with as many people as we can, we are proud of what we offer the children who come to this school. If you know anyone who would like to see the school in operation please tell them to contact the school office and we will be very happy to show them around. This is not just for year 3, we will be happy to see families with children in all our year groups.

Clubs - A few of our clubs will be starting again after half term. On Monday the library will be open after school for families to come in and share or change books. On Tuesday after school Mrs Linley will restart her popular badminton club. On Thursday before school Mrs Hollis will start her equally popular cheerleading club. Finally on Thursday after school I will be joined by staff from the University of Nottingham for our exciting Mandarin language club (this is only suitable for children from years 5 and 6 initially). More details in next week's bulletin.

BFG - If you are interested in finding out more about our brilliant parent led fundraising group then then like their Facebook page and you'll be kept in touch. Any help or time you can offer will help.

Local clubs and activities - If you are running a local sporting club or other activity and would like to tell people about your group please get in touch and I will include it in our bulletin.



Key Dates

October

7th National Poetry Day

8th Wear something yellow to school

10th World Mental Health Day

w/c 11th Digital Parenting Week

12th/13th Parents' evenings

15th Behaviour Reward & End of half term

November

1st Return to school

w/c 7th UK Parliament Week

11th Remembrance Day 100 years of the Royal British Legion activities

11th Whole school cinema visit

13th World Kindness Day

w/c 15th Anti Bullying Week

December

6th/7th Year 5 show

13th/14th year 3 show

15th Church visit, Christmas Lunch, Theatre in school

16th Christmas Party Day

17th Behaviour Reward & End of term



Headteacher's Awards

Orion	1	Pegasus	4
Hydra	4	Leo	7
Columba	5	Volans	3
Andromeda	4	Phoenix	6

Heroes

Orion: Thomas Smith

Pegasus: Ada Scott

Hydra: Zack Blakeman

Leo: Preston Neylon

Columba: Livy Smith

Volans: Evalyn Siddons

Andromeda: Conall Murray

Phoenix: Corey Blakeman

Forest School: Isla Longstaff

Feeling of the Week

This week Mrs Hutchison led the assembly and discussed with the children the feeling of empathy. She showed them people can fall into the trap of 'competing' to show they had had just as difficult a time when in fact the real key is simply to listen and care. Why not ask your child what they remember about this.

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 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.