

Spring
2023

BISPHAM DRIVE JUNIOR SCHOOL

21st Century Learning for the 21st Century Child



January 6th 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very Happy New year to you all, I hope you all had a good break and were not afflicted by the many bugs that are circulating at the moment. As ever it has been lovely to welcome the children back to school. I would not normally write a bulletin after only two days back in school but there are a number of announcements I wanted to make.

This week the children have immersed themselves in our Religious Education learning. I visited the classes and saw their enthusiasm as they investigated a number of religions and presented their knowledge in our first assembly of the term. Thank you to Mrs Hassan for helping to get all of this organised.

The big news this week is of course that fact that Sunday 8th January marks the 60th anniversary of the first day the school was opened. As I mentioned last term we plan to spend the day giving the children a taste of what education would have been like then. It is my genuine belief that, when they have seen the complications of pounds, shillings and pence and experienced the boredom of reciting times tables and spellings in lessons, they will begin to appreciate just how much education has moved on. Even more I am sure they will be horrified at the idea of having to do P.E. in their underwear which was the practice in 1963, not one we will be copying. This is just the first event of our marking of the anniversary, we have lots more in the pipeline.

Please check out the information on the next few pages and have a lovely weekend.

Andrea Goetzee,

Notices

FOREST SCHOOL

We have set the dates for Forest School sessions for the rest of the year. Please make a note of these. Unforeseen changes will be notified to you using the Weduc system as soon as they are known.

Group 1 weeks commencing

09.01 23.01 06.02 27.02 13.03 24.04 15.05 05.06 03.07

Group 2 weeks commencing

16.01 30.01 20.02 06.03 17.04 01.05 22.05 12.06 10.07

Please ensure your child has suitable clothing and footwear on for Forest School and a change of clothes

SKATEBOARDING COMES TO BISPHAM DRIVE

As mentioned previously and as part of our mission to engage children in a wider variety of physical exercise, skateboarding lessons will begin next week. Each child will have the opportunity to experience 6 weeks of training. All the equipment, including safety helmets and pads, is provided, all the children need is to wear their P.E. kit. After the first week, if any child wants to bring in a board from home they can. The teacher will check is for safety etc before it is used but I hope that some children will get to use the boards they say are currently lying idle at home. See below for which classes will receive the first course.

Tuesday - Leo and Hydra

Wednesday - Andromeda and Phoenix

Please note this replaces their scheduled lessons on other days.



Key Dates

January

9th Our first 60th anniversary event

16th and 17th Parents 'meetings

24th - 26th Book Fair in school

30th - 1st February Bikeability in school

February

w/c 6th Children's' Mental Health Awareness Week

7th Safer Internet Day

10th Behaviour Reward Afternoon

10th End of half term



Learning to read enables you to read to learn

Many of you are aware of how important reading is to all of us here at Bispham. We continually strive to find ways to support the development of reading for every child to develop fluent reading skills and this has been proven time and again to have a substantial positive impact on life chances. This term your child will be given reading homework as part of their weekly guided reading session. This must be completed to enable them to access the following week's session. Please support them in doing this and help them achieve.

OPPORTUNITY TO HELP SUPPORT PARENT SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

While we always do our very best to communicate everything we believe you need to know about what's happening in school, there can be unforeseen gaps in what we tell you. I know this because I hear that there are flurries of conversation on your WhatsApp groups. In an effort to plug any communication gaps I thought it would be good to form a small group of parents who would be willing to come in and meet me each half term to go through future events and consider all the information that would be useful to you. I imagine once each half term would be enough, but this could be reviewed. In this way we can further develop the way we work together in the best interests of your children and to try and remove any minor frustrations. Please have a chat and if anyone is willing to do this contact the school office and we will arrange the first meeting. Thank you.



THE SCHOOL'S DIAMOND JUBILEE

We are starting to hear from former pupils but would love to hear from more. I will be putting together a podcast of memories past and present to share with you all. If you would like to take part you can contact us via email at diamondjubilee@bisphamdrive.net