

Autumn  
2023

## BISPHAM DRIVE JUNIOR SCHOOL

21st Century Learning for the 21st Century Child



November 17th 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Another busy week in school with year 6 enjoying a very successful trip to Beaumanor Hall to support their study of World War 2. There was also the last of our cinema visits with years 3 and 4 enjoying films as part of the Into Film Festival.

We have also been marking Anti Bullying Week as this is something we always need to keep in focus if we are to prevent it happening. Each class wrote a poem and we will be recording these and re-releasing them as a podcast on the website in the next week so you can hear the children's voice in this.

Other events have been a national tournament based on the use of TT Rockstars. 4359 schools took part and by the end we rated number 1409 which was a good placing given the time we had. Thank you for encouraging your children to use this great learning tool.

Today, of course, is Children in Need day and we had spots before our eyes in school. Thank you for your donations, we raised £287 for the charity.

The deadline for booking the school Christmas Lunch is fast approaching. Please book by 4pm on Monday 20th November as we will not be able to take bookings after this.

Finally, one or two of you have commented I haven't been around for a few days. Sadly, as happens in life, I have had to take some compassionate leave. However, Mr Belton did a great job keeping things going and we are back to normal now.

Andrea Goetzee, Headteacher

## Notices

BFG fundraising - I am very happy to inform you that the recent Film Night event raised over £670 for BFG funds. This will all go towards purchasing things to improve the experience of every child in school. The next big purchase will be a range of play equipment to further enhance the experience of children at break and lunchtimes. Next week's disco will contribute further to these funds. As predicted tickets sold very quickly and the limit set by our fire safety survey was quickly met, I do hope that if you wish to attend that you managed to secure your tickets. As mentioned last week the office will contact you on Monday to confirm your tickets.

Donations - I have agreed that there will be a non uniform day next Friday in return for donations of any chocolate related item for the popular Chocolate Tombola. The BFG are also keen to have donations of cakes on the day (1st December) for sale at the event. Please support the BFG in raising funds for all of the children.

### School Referendum

As I mentioned on last week's bulletin the School Council organized a vote on the use of fidget toys. These are designed to help people who struggle to concentrate and need something to help them stay focused. These have become very fashionable and some classes can have up to 50% of children using them. The School Councilors felt that they now presented a considerable distraction in some classes and were actually achieving the opposite of what was intended. So we asked our 234 pupils.

The results were as follows:

Fidget toys should only be brought in to school if the Class Teacher and/or SENCO (Mr Henshaw) agree that they would benefit a child.

Yes 73% No 27%

Only silent fidget toys should be brought in



### Key Dates

#### November

24th Non uniform for chocolate donations  
 30th At Andrew's Day children can wear service uniforms to school if they wish



#### December

1st BFG Christmas Disco 6.00 - 8.00 pm  
 4th Year 5 Matinee performance 1.30 pm  
 5th Year 5 Evening performance 6.00 pm  
 11th Year 3 Matinee performance 1.30 pm  
 12th Year 3 Evening performance 6.00 pm  
 15th Christmas jumper day in school  
 18th Whole school church visit, Christmas lunch and theatre performance  
 19th Christmas craft and coffee morning  
 20th Reading Reward Afternoon  
 21st Christmas party day  
 22nd Behaviour reward and end of term



### Christmas Lunch Booking Deadline

As we have to order far in advance for the school Christmas Lunch the deadline for bookings is 4pm on Monday 20th November. No bookings can be added after this.

### Headteacher's Awards

Orion	Pegasus
Hydra Eleanor H (x2) Eden Z. Hongyu (x2)	Leo Heather L.
Columba	Volans Lyra T.M. Jasper V. (x2)
Andromeda	Phoenix Benjamin B. Lara B. Melody J. Daniel W. Toby W. Anson C. Holly L. (x2)

#### HEROES

Orion: Grace G.  
 Pegasus: George T.  
 Hydra: Keira W.  
 Leo: Isaac S.  
 Columba: Evelyn K.  
 Volans: Tilly S.  
 Andromeda: Eleanor S.  
 Phoenix: Toby W.  
 Forest School: Jess G.

#### Parent Governor Vacancy

Thus far we have not received any nominations for our parent governor vacancy. This is a really valuable role where you will be able to support the school in delivering the very best education possible to all of our pupils. We only have 2 early evening meetings a term as we know everyone is busy. If you think you may be interested please contact the school office and either Mrs Goetzee or Mrs Cooper (Chair) will call you for a chat.