

Summer
2024

BISPHAM DRIVE JUNIOR SCHOOL

21st Century Learning for the 21st Century Child



April 26th 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week saw us celebrate William Shakespeare in school. The children found out a little more about the man himself while being introduced to some of his most famous works - some of them were surprised by how gruesome the writings of centuries ago could be. I have also enjoyed viewing the stop motion animation work year 5 have completed on Macbeth, which we hope to load onto our YouTube channel for all of you to enjoy.

Of course, year 4 began their week with a visit to a Hindu temple. As ever, the children behaved really well and represented the school in a way that made all of us proud.

In the course of some routine work with audit, who check us regularly, I was reminded that as we are a publicly funded body it is important for you as parents to know that our finances are open for scrutiny. If you wish to look you can check on this via the Governor page on the website. Also should you ever wish to see the minutes of the Governing Body meetings they are also available in the school office for you to check.

If you are looking for something to do this weekend the 'Ay Up Market' is running in Nottingham. This showcases the talents of local food producers and crafts people.

Our school chef Ms. Town is a big Star Wars fan and she always urges me to mark what has been informally titled Star Wars Day on May 4th. As this is a Saturday, on Friday next week, we invite children to dress in costumes related to the franchise. This is not compulsory and is entirely just for fun. Ms Town will also be serving a specially themed menu that day. May the 4th be with you!

Andrea Goetsee,
Headteacher

Notices

WhatsApp - From time to time I feel the need to send you a message about monitoring your child's use of social media, in this case WhatsApp. While the legal age for use has been lowered to 13 that is still older than any Bispham child. That being said, it would be naïve of me to think that none of our pupils use it. In recent conversations with some parents I have asked about their views and was quite shocked by what they told me.

It seems that parents, who check phones at random times, are regularly shocked by the crudity of the language being used by children they know in day to day life. Similarly, the aggression and bad language, insults and threats to friendships and to share information are regular occurrences. It is as if children forget that what they are sending is being read by real people.

This is deeply alarming. That this type of behaviour seems routine for some is extremely worrying. I cannot urge you strongly enough to monitor what your child does on phones, tablets and gaming devices. We have had incidents in the past where matters have got out of hand and I have had to bring in advice and support from agencies outside of school to ensure children are safe.

I know it won't be popular, but check your child's phone with no notice. This is the only way to know how they are using these platforms so that you can have conversations with them and ultimately make sure they are safe.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/2023-01-12-is-whatsapp-safe-for-my-child/>



Key Dates

May

1st Year 5 visit Mosque

6th Bank Holiday

w/c 13th SATs Week

24th End of half term

June

3rd - 14th Year 4 statutory times tables check

5th Sports afternoon with 6th as bad weather back up

20th Banks Road Sports Afternoon here

21st & 24th Inset Days

25th Year 3 visit to Cresswell Crags

28th BFG Summer Fair

July

w/c 1st Year 6 Adventure Week

3rd Class and Team photographs

9th Transition Day

12th Reports Out

17th Optional Parents meetings

22nd Year 6 Matinee Performance

MAY 2024	
MON MAY 13TH	English Grammar, Punctuation, and Spelling papers 1 + 2
TUES MAY 14TH	English Reading
WED MAY 15TH	Maths Paper 1 (Arithmetic) Paper 2 (Reasoning)
THUR MAY 16TH	Maths Paper 3 (Reasoning)



Headteacher's Awards

Orion **Grace, Jack**

Pegasus **Siya**

Hydra **Joshua**

Leo **Emily B, Brooklyn**

Columba **Howard, Thomas T-R. , Oliver, Hiro**

Volans **Jacob, Adam, Joshua, Amelia**

Andromeda **Isla, Ellie**

Phoenix **Molly, Preston, Holly, Alfie, Melody, Anson, Josie, Bonnie**

HEROES

Orion: **Jacob D.**

Pegasus: **Kani D.**

Hydra: **Olive B.**

Leo: **Ruqayya J.**

Columba: **Amun C.**

Volans: **Delilah B.**

Andromeda: **Isla L.**

Phoenix: **Josie W.**

Forest School: **Macey D.**

Door request

As we undertake repairs around school we try to keep costs down as far as possible to allow as much budget as possible to be available to support learning. At present Mr Fitch is working on our outdoor stores and if you have a lockable UPVC door spare, as a result of your own refurbishments, it would be very useful to us. Contact the office if you can help.