

Summer
2024

BISPHAM DRIVE JUNIOR SCHOOL

21st Century Learning for the 21st Century Child



June 14th 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

It may not feel much like the summer term at the moment but we are passing all of the milestones we usually see at this time of year.

This week our year 4 pupils completed the statutory times tables check which is a formal piece of assessment but which is not reported. We are very careful about how we manage assessments in school and it is my belief that none of our year 4's felt any pressure during the testing, which is exactly how it should be.

Next week, we will be referencing the national 'Drowning Prevention Week' which is a campaign from the Royal Life Saving Society. Given the tragic history locally we thought we ought to ensure our children have some awareness regarding safety around water and we will receive an assembly on Thursday from the organisers. Some of our older pupils will also take part in a workshop designed to promote their safety.

A small plea. In school we have noted an increase in the number of children arriving as the bell rings or shortly after. Arrival at this time means that children will be later into class than their peers and they will not be ready to begin their learning with everyone else as they take time to hang up bags and coats. This can make children feel unsettled which is not the best start to their day. I ask that you arrive before the bell goes to give every child the best beginning to their day in school.

Have a good weekend especially those of you who will be celebrating Eid UI—Adha. Eid Mubarak.

Andrea Goetsee,
Headteacher

We Can't Believe They Are Retiring

We are lucky to have a well established and settled staff at Bispham, this helps make our school the happy place it is. This year we find ourselves in a happy/sad place as I announce the retirement of Mrs Wilford and Mrs Wilson. As teaching assistants they have worked beyond their job descriptions every day and have supported many, many pupils and families in the unbelievable 52 years they have given to the school between them. We are happy that they will be spending more time with their families but sad that the children and the staff will not benefit from their experience, wisdom and never ending kindness. Staff will step up to fill the enormous gap they will leave but they will be missed.

They have had an enormous impact on so many children and their families that we want to acknowledge this in some way. We want to pay tribute to that and hoped you may wish to do so as well. You are all invited to come and share a cup of tea and a biscuit with them on Tuesday July 16th after school.

We would love it if former pupils and their families wanted to come along as well so please share this invitation on any of the parent groups you think may be useful. We also know that some parents, particularly at Banks Road were even taught by Mrs Wilford or Mrs Wilson and it would be lovely if they were able to attend.

Please spread the word.



Key Dates

June

20th Banks Road Sports Afternoon here

21st & 24th Inset Days

25th Year 3 visit to Creswell 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

23rd Year 6 Evening Performance

24th Reading Reward Afternoon

24th Year 6 Leavers' social event

25th Behaviour Reward Afternoon

26th Year 6 Leavers' Assembly

26th End of school year



Headteacher's Awards

Orion **Johan, Maisie**

Pegasus

Hydra **Frances**

Leo

Columba **Howard, Ayse, Lucia, Amun**

Volans **Tilly, William, Aarav**

Andromeda **Jay, Yat Zi**

Phoenix **Leo, Alfie, Abigail, Josie, Lara**

HEROES

Orion: **Mia H.**

Pegasus: **Hannah B.**

Hydra: **Finley B. / Erica M.**

Leo: **Elsie F.**

Columba: **Betsy S. / Thomas S.**

Volans: **Eva-Lily F.**

Andromeda: **Arthur E.**

Phoenix: **Darcie G / Dahlia B.**

Forest School: **Lara B. / Freya L.**

Summer Fair Update

Tickets for our Summer Fair on June 28th have now sold out. If you have been unsuccessful in buying tickets we will be reviewing the weather forecast for the fair on Tuesday 25th June and may be able to release some extra non-food tickets if the weather is set to be fair.

Thank you for your donations for the Chocolate Tombola which I am sure will be the runaway success it was at the last Summer Fair and at the Spring Disco.