

Autumn  
2024

## BISPHAM DRIVE JUNIOR SCHOOL

21st Century Learning for the 21st Century Child



September 6th 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I can truly say that we have had a brilliant start to the new academic year. The children came in bright and refreshed and have settled quickly into their new classes. I have been going in and out of classes all week and it is wonderful to see how engaged they all are. I know that I speak for all staff when I say that there is a wonderfully positive buzz around school.

I started the week with an assembly that referenced the long history the school has of providing excellent education in Toton. I went on to talk about how we pride ourselves in being 21st century in our approach to teaching. This was all prompted by the discovery of a school beret that dated from the very earliest days of the school, you would be amazed how many children wanted to wear one as part of our uniform, but don't worry there are no plans for this to happen.

Class teachers have spent the week establishing their expectations of pupils. They also shared what they will be learning and how they can get support and help if they need it. You can find all of this out if you attend your child's meet the team meeting. They all take place in the week commencing 16th September, look at key dates on this bulletin to find when yours is. You can also join us on the 20th for our Macmillan Coffee Morning when you get the chance to see classes in action. I do hope you can make one of these.

Have a lovely weekend.

Andrea Goetzee,  
Headteacher



## Notices

**Forest School -** Attached to this bulletin you will find copies of the dates of sessions for this term. Your child should have the group they are in noted in their personal organisers if they cannot immediately remember. Please take careful note of the kit list as this has been amended slightly in line with current best practice around health and safety. We love the children to take managed risks as they explore the activities but we must ensure that they are doing so in such a way as to minimise that risk - we ask for your support in ensuring that they are correctly dressed. The children themselves have had this explained in assembly this week.

**Forest School fridge info -** Today we have also sent home a hard copy of groups and dates for you to add to your family notice boards to make it as easy as possible to work out when your child's sessions are. This can also be found on the Weduc app.

**Book loss charges -** Over the summer we have been checking our book stocks and have noted that we have not had a significant number of library and phonics books returned to school. This represents a loss totalling over £500. We cannot sustain this type of loss and still offer the children the breadth of reading books we want to and that they need. Reluctantly, this year we have had to take the decision to make a charge for non returned books of £5.00. This does not cover the cost of the books to school but will go some way in helping us to replace them.

## Key Dates

### September

16th Year 4 Parent meeting 6.00 pm  
17th Year 5 Parent meeting 6.00 pm  
18th Year 3 Parent meeting 6.00 pm  
19th Year 6 Parent meeting 6.00 pm  
20th Open morning and Macmillan Fund-raiser 9.10 - 10.30 am  
25th Individual pupil photos  
27th Year 6 Visit the Safety Zone

### October

3rd National Poetry Day  
4th Flu immunization  
w/c 7th Year 5 residential visits  
10th World Mental Health Day  
18th Behaviour Reward Afternoon and end of half term

### November

4th Back to school  
4th Parents' evening  
6th Parents' evening  
w/c 11th Anti Bullying Week - theme Choose Respect

### New Office Staff

Miss Ward has moved to a new school and now we have Mrs Andrea Ogando in the office. I am sure you join me in welcoming her. As we share the same first name we will both try to always use our surnames when writing to you so that you are clear who any messages are from.

Andrea Goetzee!



We will be holding a coffee morning in school a week before the national one to coincide with our open morning. These are popular events and are made even more special if you are able to send in cakes. Cakes can be accepted either to the office or your child's class on the 19th and 20th September. Please help us help Macmillan.

## Important Medical Information

We are constantly reviewing how we manage medicines in school and as part of this would like to compile a current list of all of the children who should have inhalers with them. It may surprise you to know that many children are not quite sure whether they currently need one or not. Please will you email the school office or sent a Weduc message if your child uses an inhaler so we can do regular checks. This information will be kept securely and only be used for checks or for teachers to know precisely who should have an inhaler when we go out of school.

**EPIPENS** - If we hold an Epipen in school for your child we will review the use by dates and let you know when they need renewing. P

Please help us to help your child by keeping us up to date with any changes to their medical needs, particularly if this relates to medication or emergency aid.