

NEWSLETTER 1 – 5th September 2014

Dear Parents, Pupils & Governors,

Welcome to the new school year – everyone arrived looking smart in their uniforms. We also welcome Mrs Mears who has joined our teaching staff this term. All children should have a coat for playtimes and full a PE kit. Please ensure everything is named – we have already had some mislaid items!

Donation – Thank you to Bidford Parish Council for their kind donation to fund projects organised by our Junior Road Safety Officers – look out for details later this term.

Reception - Reception children have made a really good start, thanks to parents for preparing them for this big step and to the BSA for helping our new parents with a welcoming coffee morning. On Monday, all reception children will be met at the gate and taken into their classroom by school staff.

Term Time Holidays - As you will all be aware, Government attendance regulations stipulate that Headteachers may **not** grant a leave of absence during term-time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child will be required to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence, which may result in legal action being taken against the parent(s), by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice. Failure to make an application for leave in advance can also result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to the parent(s). See separate letter for further clarification.

New Classrooms – Come in on Wednesday 10th September after school and let your child show you around their new class. Please wait for your children to collect you from the playground.

Reading Books – KS1 and KS2 reading books will be issued from next week. Year 1 books will be changed on Tuesdays and Year 2 on Wednesdays. Books for Reception children will be sent out in a few weeks. Children should be heard to read daily – please sign the reading record and comment as necessary.

Contact Details – Data collection sheets are being sent home for all children – please check the detail carefully and amend as required. Return signed forms by Friday 12th September.

Water Bottles – It is important that children drink plenty of water during the day and all children will need to bring in a named, clear water bottle each day. Please do not send in juice. Water is provided in the dining hall at lunchtimes.

Bump Notes – We send home a ‘bump note’ if a child has any kind of bump to the head during school time (however minor), so that parents can look out for any possible after effects.

Nut Allergies - Several children in school have severe nut allergies. Please help us ensure their safety by not including any nut products in packed lunches.

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Key Stage 1 Animal Project- Pupils in year 1 and 2 are hoping to start their own 'Snailariums' during the Autumn term. If you have an unwanted aquarium tank or plastic pet home please contact the office.

Clubs – During the year we provide a variety of after school activities. Some of these are privately run by external providers who take responsibility for the children and charge a fee.

- Girls Football Year 3 - 6 starts Monday 8th September 3.20–4.30pm
- Arts & Crafts Year 1 - 6 starts Tuesday 9th September 3.20-5.00pm (fee payable)
- Spanish Club Rec – Year 6 starts Friday 12th September 3.20-4.20pm (fee payable)
- Sewing/Needlecraft Year 3 - 6 starts Wednesday 17th September 3.20-4.30pm (fee payable)

Letters are available from the office and details of other clubs will follow over the next few weeks.

Dates for your Diary –

- Year 3 Swimming lessons start on Wednesday 10th September
- A 4 week Phonics Workshop for parents of Reception and KS1 children starts on Wednesday 17th September – please see separate letter.
- Individual pupil photographs will be taken on Tuesday 30th September.
- Harvest Festival will be on Monday 6th October in the morning – Rec & KS1 10.00am KS2 11.00am.
- School Open Mornings for prospective parents will be on Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th October between 10 and 11.30am – please spread the word!

Book of the Week – Children in Years 3 and 4 have begun reading 'Littlenose the Hero' by John Grant. Littlenose, the adventurous caveboy meets Two-Eyes the mammoth and together they explore their Stone Age world!

Mr A Simms

BSA Newsletter – Friday 5th September 2014

Welcome Back Everyone

We are the BSA – Bidford School Association
(alternative name for PTA)

AGM

The AGM, which all sounds very formal, will be held in the next couple of weeks (date to be confirmed next week). The formality is only in its name so please come along and have a glass of wine and some nibbles. Vicki will be letting us know how and where we raised money and we can let you know what it bought.

The committee for this school year will also be elected and all roles are completely re-elected so if you are interested in having a role (you can ring me if you want to know what's involved) or just want to come along and have a listen please do. Everyone is always welcome as are all ideas because without them we can't do this.

Looking forward to seeing you all.

The BSA xxx

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