

## **NEWSLETTER 1 – 11<sup>th</sup> September 2015**

Dear Parents, Pupils & Governors,

**Welcome** to the new school year – everyone arrived looking smart in their uniforms. We also welcome Miss Butler, Mr Cooney and Miss Hodesdon who have joined our staff this term. All children should have a coat for playtimes and a full PE kit. Please ensure everything is named – we have already had some mislaid items! **Please note we have 2 Teacher Training Days this term (school closed to children).** Please see “Dates for your Diary” further down the newsletter.

**Term Time Holidays** - As you will 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).

**Reception Class** - 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.

**New Classrooms** – Come in on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> 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 18<sup>th</sup> Sep. Privacy notices detailing how we use information about children is available on our website [www.bidfordonavon@warwickshire.sch.uk](http://www.bidfordonavon@warwickshire.sch.uk).

**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.

**Milk** – If you would like your child to receive milk during the school day please apply online at [www.coolmilk.com](http://www.coolmilk.com). Children who are under 5 are entitled to free milk but still need to apply on the website. Children who qualify for welfare free school meals are also entitled to free milk – please ask at the office.

**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.

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**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.

**Message from Rev Ruth** - Party Church is being held this Sunday (13th Sept) at St Laurence Church and once a month on the second Sunday. Do come and join us at 4.00pm in Church for crafts, songs, a bible story and food. This month we will be celebrating all that God has given us in creation - we look forward to seeing you. Best wishes for the new school year - Revd Ruth.

**Bidford Bridge Bash** – Bidford Chamber of Commerce are taking advantage of the bridge being closed and holding a street party on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September. There will be a hog roast, street entertainment, face painting, live bands, bouncy castle, a fancy dress competition and lots more. The fun starts at 12 noon. Raffle ticket stubs and money should be returned to the school office by Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> Sept.

**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 Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> September 3.20–4.30pm
- Artbase Year 1 – 6 starts Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September 3.20 – 4.20pm (fee payable)
- Arts & Crafts Year 1 - 6 starts Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September (fee payable)
- Girls Netball Year 5 & 6 starts Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September 3.20-4.30pm
- Artbase Year 1 – 6 starts Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September 3.20 – 4.20pm (fee payable)
- Sewing/Needlecraft Year 3 - 6 starts Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October for 9 weeks (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 16<sup>th</sup> September.
- Individual pupil photographs will be taken on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September.
- Harvest Festival will be on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October in the morning – Rec & KS1 10am, KS2 11am. Parents welcome.
- School Open Mornings for prospective parents will be on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October between 10 and 11.30am – please spread the word!
- Parents Evenings will be held on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October and Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October.
- **TTD (school closed to children) Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October & Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November.**

**Book of the Week** – Children in Reception have been reading 'Harry and his Dinosaurs go to School' by Ian Whybrow. It's Harry's first day at school but when Harry's dinosaur friends don't join him in the classroom, Harry's not so sure he's going to like school, but the dinosaurs come to the rescue and Harry and his new friend learn just how much fun school can really be!

**Mr A Simms**

To everyone joining Bidford Primary this week... **Welcome!**

To everyone returning after the summer break... **Welcome back!**

**This is the BSA Newsletter. It's the thing to read each week if you want to know about the fun events we organise for children and parents / carers.**

- » Next up: Autumn disco! Date to be confirmed soon...
- » Soon we'll have a meeting (an AGM) to confirm the BSA team for this year and set the dates for our activities
- » Coming later in the year will be a quiz night and the Christmas Fayre, plus another dress-down day and Children in Need fun!

### **<< NEWSFLASH >>**

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September will be the **Bidford Bridge Bash** and the BSA are doing everything we can to support this exciting event!

- ✓ We are doing a crafts table – come along and make something to be proud of!
- ✓ We want all our school pupils to enter the fancy dress competition, to be judged at 3pm in the new Gift Box shop next to the florist! Any fancy dress welcome and there will be a prize for each age group.

**We would love to get to know our new parents and those that haven't been involved before. Please feel very welcome at all our events and if you want to get involved then that's fantastic – you'll have loads of fun!**

***Find us on Facebook – "Bidford School BSA"***

***The BSA Committee:***

***Emily, Glenda, Laura and Emma***

Emily Lee – Chair (07989323997)

Glenda Vassie – Vice-Chair (07928656855)

Laura Simpson – Secretary (07712166158)

Emma van Zyl – Treasurer (07879665914)