

## **NEWSLETTER 1 – 9<sup>th</sup> September 2016**

Dear Parents, Pupils & Governors,

**Welcome** to the new school year – everyone arrived looking smart in their uniforms. Thank you to all the parents who encouraged their children to complete work over the holidays and take part in the library reading challenge. All children should have a coat for playtimes and come into school in their full PE kit on their PE days (see separate letter). Please ensure everything is named – we have already had some mislaid items! I would like to thank Mr Littleford and his team for their hard work over the summer in preparing the school building for the start of term – all the carpets have been cleaned and the school looks fabulous.

**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. Guidance and the extract from the WCC Attendance policy have been sent home with this letter. 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). All unauthorised applications will be referred to the ACE team.

**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 14<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 to indicate that the book has been read 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 and the completed nationality and ethnicity information by Friday 15<sup>th</sup> Sep. The Privacy Notice detailing how we use information about children has also been sent home and is available on our website [www.bidfordonavon@warwickshire.sch.uk](mailto: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** automatically receive free milk, please let the office know if you do not wish your child to receive milk. Children who qualify for welfare free school meals are also entitled to free milk – please ask at the office.

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**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.

**Woodwind Tuition** – County Music are offering a free taster session, with the new teacher, for anyone in Years 3 to 6 who is interested in starting or continuing woodwind lessons (in school time). Please come to the office to register your interest.

**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.

**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.

- Arts & Crafts Rec – Year 6 starts Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September (fee payable)
- Artbase Year 1 – 6 starts Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September 3.20 – 4.20pm (fee payable)
- Girls Football Year 3 - 6 starts Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September 3.20–4.30pm
- Cooking Club Year 4 Group 1 starts Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September 3.20-5.00pm
- Girls Netball Year 5 & 6 starts Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September 3.20-4.30pm
- Performance Club – Young Voices Year 4-6 starts Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September

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 14<sup>th</sup> September.
- The ‘Bidford Bash’ is being held on Saturday 17 September 2016, 12 noon - 11pm on the Big Meadow. Family fun with stalls, rides, live music, raffle, food stalls, bars and lots more.
- Individual pupil photographs will be taken on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October.
- Harvest Festival will be on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October in the morning – Rec & KS1 10am, KS2 11am. Parents welcome.
- School Open Mornings for prospective parents will be on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October between 10 and 11.30am – please spread the word!
- Parents Evenings will be held on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October and Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October.
- **TTD (school closed to children) Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October.**

**Message from Rev Ruth** - Party Church Returns to St Laurence’s on Sun 11<sup>th</sup> Sept 4 – 5.30pm. Party Church is a different form of Church we run on the Second Sunday of the month and is something for adults and children to do together, come as a family or bring your grandchildren. There are lots of craft activities to do, a bible story and some singing followed by food. Our themes are 11<sup>th</sup> Sept *Celebrating Harvest*; 9<sup>th</sup> Oct *The Lords Prayer*; 13<sup>th</sup> Nov *Remembering the Saints*; Mon 19<sup>th</sup> Dec (note the day!) *Plenty of Christmas Crafts*.

**Book of the Week** – Children in Mrs Bent’s class have been reading ‘Row your Boat’ by Pippa Goodhart. The story is based around the well-known children's song - two children are rowing their boat gently down the stream, when suddenly it stops at a magical island.....

**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, which is published every week. You'll find out everything you need to know about upcoming events, buying tickets, taking part... so make sure you take a minute to read it every Friday!**

**We love arranging BSA events and we know our pupils and parents / carers always have fun!**

**Some of the things to look forward to this term...**

- » Autumn disco! We are hoping this will be before the first half term holiday – look out for the date next week!
- » Soon we'll have a meeting (an AGM) to confirm the BSA team for this year, decide what the school needs BSA funding for most, and set the dates for our 2016/2017 activities
- » Coming later in the year will be the Christmas Fair, plus a dress-down day amongst other things!

**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 Sue***

Emily Lee – Chair (07989323997)

Glenda Vassie – Vice-Chair (07928656855)

Laura Simpson – Secretary (07712166158)

Sue Woodward – Treasurer