

NEWSLETTER 15 – 6th January 2017

Dear Parents, Pupils & Governors,

Happy New Year and welcome to the new term.

Term Time Holiday – Updated Guidance - As you will all be aware, current attendance regulations stipulate a Head teacher may not grant a leave of absence during term-time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis and on its own merits. It is for the Head Teacher to decide what he views as 'exceptional' and it is at their discretion if the circumstances warrant the leave to be granted. If the leave is granted, the head teacher is able to determine the number of school days a child can be absent for. The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent. 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 matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Attendance, Compliance and Enforcement Service of Warwickshire County Council. Where a Fixed Penalty Notice is issued and not paid within the required timeframe as set out on the notice, the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal proceedings under S444 Education Act 1996. Parents are asked to respect the new regulations under which the school must work and if there is a need to take a child out of school during term-time, an application or request must be made in advance and make clear how the circumstances are exceptional.

Clubs – Tchoukball (Y3 & Y4), Athletics (invited) & Performance Club have now started. Girls Football, Forresters (invited), Artbase, Cooking Club (group 3) and Arts and Crafts and Boys Football restart w/c 9th Jan.

School Meals – School meals are now £2.20 but free for all children in Rec, Year 1 & Year 2. Our catering team is providing a special menu on Thurs 19th Jan - Sausages or Cheese Pizza served with Crispy Diced Potatoes, vegetables or salad followed by Chocolate Swirl Mousse, Mini Chocolate Donuts, Yoghurts or Fruit.

Admissions for Sept 2017 - To secure a school place for children born between 1st September 2012 and 31st August 2013 you need to apply online at www.warwickshire.gov.uk/admissions by 16th January 2017.

Violin Lessons – There is currently space for pupils (Y3-Y6) to have violin lessons in school, termly cost is approximately £60. Please see the office for more details.

Cold Weather – Please send your child into school with a named coat, hat and gloves during this cold weather.

Homework – Please encourage your child to complete homework and return to school at the set time.

Bidford Rural Cinema – Following requests from parents of younger children, the film "STORKS" is being screened on Sunday 8th January @ 11am at The Crawford Hall – ticket office opens at 10.30am.

Book of the Week – Children in year 1 & 2 have been exploring The Oxford First Atlas. They have been looking at the different Continents and finding out where various animals live.

Mr A Simms

The latest from Bidford School Association...

Happy New Year!

We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas.

The children have all been treated to a panto today in school – “Jack and the Beanstalk” – we hope they have really enjoyed it!

This was funded by all your generous donations as well as the cashmatching from volunteering parents – so a huge thank you!

We will be planning our next event very soon – a great disco night for the grown-ups!

The BSA Committee:

Emily, Glenda, Laura and Sue
Emily Lee – Chair (07989323997)

Glenda Vassie – Vice-Chair (07928656855)
Laura Simpson – Secretary (07712166158)
Sue Woodward – Treasurer