

Bathampton Primary School
Together on a learning adventure



Start of Term letter
Term One 2012

Dear Parents.

What an amazing year 2012 has turned out to be! I hope that you and your children had an Olympic Gold summer holiday and feel refreshed and ready for the new academic year.

A special welcome to the new families starting this term. The children seem to be settling in remarkably quickly! Please let your child's class teacher or teaching assistant know if your child has any problems; most can be sorted out quickly.

A warm welcome to Mrs Hoskin who is working as a teaching assistant this year. She will be working in a variety of classes. It is great to have another qualified teacher working in this role.

We welcome Melissa Davis from Skidmore College in the USA who is studying with Advanced Studies in England and who will be with Class Three every Tuesday until November 27th. We also welcome Nina Buck and Melanie Englemann who are German trainee teachers, based in Switzerland, who will be with us for three weeks.

Governing Body

We are very grateful to Louise Fitzsimons who is retiring as a parent governor after many years. Louise has given excellent support with her expertise and experience in early years education, especially in the area of recruitment. Many Governing body and Personnel meetings were made more enjoyable because of her sense of humour and common sense.

Her departure makes a place available for another parent governor. If you are interested in serving in this role please ask at the School Office for the relevant papers.

Induction Meetings Coming up!

Class teachers are keen to give parents an opportunity to find out details about class routines and learning goals. We hope that you will be able to attend one of the two sessions which have been organised for each class. The times and dates have been sent home. If you have not received a letter please ask at the office. The teachers will be giving out home information about the curriculum and class routines. Please keep these handy as a reminder. They will also be made available on the website.

Harvest Festival

The Harvest Festival will be at 9.30 a.m. on Monday 8th October at St Nicholas Church. We normally ask children to bring in non-perishable food items for Julian House from Monday 1st October, but as the building is currently being re-furbished we have been asked if a money donation could be given instead. The collection therefore will go towards those in need at Julian House.

Space, and more space

As we prepare for growing to six classes we have a luxurious period as a five class school with seven classrooms, (as well as a Learning Zone and an IT Suite). Class Five currently have the very spacious and freshly equipped Elliot block to themselves. We now have an 'Upper Learning Zone/ Music Room' in what used to be Class Four.

We are delighted to have our playground asphalt space back again now that the temporary classrooms have been moved onto the field. We are also excited about the re-development of the climbing equipment that is being organised for the October holiday.

Key dates for the Autumn Terms

Please note class induction sessions for parents in the diary dates

Friday 26th October End of Term 1

Monday 5th November INSET Day 3

Tuesday 6th November Start of Term 2 for children

Uniform

We would be grateful if all parents could ensure that their child is dressed in the correct uniform. We enclose a uniform letter as a reminder.

Children need coats, as well as their Wellies and trainers in school **every day** for playtime and outdoor lessons. P.E kit is also needed every school day.

Naming items

By the very nature of school uniform, one sweatshirt looks very much like another. Name tags **are essential** for these and other uniform items. It is helpful if lunchboxes, water bottles and book bags are also clearly named.

Time keeping

As usual it is worth emphasising that the school doors open at **8.40 a.m.**

All children need to arrive by 8.45 a.m. to give them time to hang up coats and get organised **before** 8.50 a.m. when registers are taken.

Snacks

We strongly promote healthy snacks such as fruit. Chocolate and sweets are not allowed, and I ask for your co-operation regarding this. We are also asking that children having birthdays or returning from holidays do not bring in sweets as a gift to the class as this conflicts with our Healthy Schools Plus status. Reception and KS1 children will continue to receive their free fruit and vegetables at morning break.

Keep drinking water

Drinking sufficient water helps children to learn and it helps them to stay happy. Replacement bottles are available from the school shop at the bargain cost of £1.00 per bottle. The bottles should be taken home each day, re-filled with fresh water, and brought in the next day. Please note that squash is not to be brought in.

Building Improvements

Our Site Manager Mike Ball has been very busy in the holidays and has transformed what is now Class Four. We are grateful to him for the care he has taken to make the school a great place in which to be!

Car Parking

We encourage children to walk to school wherever possible. If it is not possible to walk the full journey, please use the car park at The George and walk from there to reduce congestion outside the school.

Listening to your children reading

Children who do really well at school almost always have parents who **listen to them read** daily or near daily! This makes a really significant difference to their academic achievements, and outcomes. It is much harder for children to succeed if this is not happening at home regularly.

Checklist

- Coats for outdoor playtimes
- Wellies (in a plastic bag) for free-range play

Let's grow Vouchers

Do you use Morrison? Please collect and donate Morrison's 'Let's grow' vouchers

Friends Dates

Please watch out for Friend's dates. The AGM is coming soon, and we are keen to have new team members joining.

Holidays Diaries

Thanks to all the families who have brought in a holiday diary. It has been a real pleasure to see these project books and share some

very happy times. I suspect that many will be treasured for years to come!

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Diary Dates

Please note that we have changed one of the advertised INSET days. There is now an INSET day on Monday 22nd July instead of on Friday 3rd May, meaning that children will finish on Friday 19th July. If you had booked something for the 3rd May please tell us and we will authorise the absence.

September

Monday 10th Reception children a.m. or p.m. this week and next week

& German trainee teachers, at University in Switzerland Nina Buck and Melanie Englemann start a three week placement

Tuesday 11th USA Trainee teacher Melissa Davis in Class Three

Thursday 13th Clarinet & Recorder sessions start

Monday 17th New School Council elected this week

& Class Two and Three Induction Session for Parents 2.10- 3.00 p.m.

Tuesday 18th Class Four Induction Session for Parents 2.10- 3.00 p.m.

Violin & Cello lessons & Orchestra starts (Please note change of day)

Wednesday 19th Classes Two, Three, Four and Five Induction Sessions for Parents 2.10 - 3.00 p.m.

Friday 21st Class Five Induction Session for Parents 2.10- 3.00 p.m.

Monday 24th All Reception children in morning only

& Classes Two and Three Induction Sessions for Parents 2.10- 3.00 p.m.

Tuesday 25th First School Council Meeting

Bath Art Project Show opening

Thursday 27th Reception children Bath Chronicle Photographer

October

Monday 1st Reception children stay to lunch

Tuesday 2nd Class Four to Corinium Museum, Cirencester

& Governors' Meeting 7.15- 9.00pm

Monday 8th Harvest Festival 9.30 @ St Nicholas

& Reception Optional full week

Tuesday 9th School Photographer: individual portraits/ families

Friday 12th Admiral Arthur Phillip Service 11.00 a.m. (Classes Four & Five)

Monday 15th Reception children start full time

Friday 19th Ted's Big Day Out (Fluorescent Friday)

Ted's Big Day Out!
Fluorescent Friday

Tuesday 23rd Class One Induction Sessions for Parents 2.10-3.00 p.m.

Thursday 25th Class One Induction Sessions for Parents 2.10-3.00 p.m.

Friday 26th End of Term 1

November

Monday 5th INSET Day 3

Tuesday 6th Start of Term 2 for children
& Parent/ Teacher interview fortnight.

Friday 9th Open Morning for prospective parents 9.15 for 9.30 start

Friday 16th Class Five to @Bristol

Monday 19th National Anti-Bullying Week 2012

Tuesday 20th Class Four to Roman Baths

Friday 23rd Class Four Roman Assembly 9.15 a.m.

December

Wednesday 12th Governors Meeting

Monday 17th Children's Christmas Post begins

& Class Two Party

Tuesday 18th Class Three Party

Wednesday 19th Carol Service @ St Nicholas 1.45pm

Thursday 20th Class One & Class Five Party

Friday 21st Class Four Party

& End of Term 2

January 2013

Monday 7th Start of Term 3

February

Friday 8th End of Term 3

Monday 18th Start of Term 4

March

Friday 22nd End of Term 4

April

Monday 8th Start of Term 5

May

Friday 24th End of Term 5

June

Monday 3rd Children start Term 6

July

Friday 19th End of Term 6 for children

Monday 22nd INSET Day 5

All term dates available online

www.bathampton.bathnes.sch.uk/calendar

E-SAFETY MEETING FOR PARENTS

**Friday, 21st September at
7.00pm
in the Bathford School Hall**

Bathford Primary School have arranged for Alan Earle of SWGfL (South West Grid for Learning) to come and talk to parents about how to keep children safe on the internet. They have very kindly invited Bathampton parents to join them at the meeting The session will..

- Introduce parents to the online and mobile technologies that children and young people use and the associated risks and benefits.
- Discuss the issues that parents face in an ever changing electronic environment
- Illustrate how parents can be guided to and understand an array of relevant and practical resources and programmes
- Provide parents with an understanding of how to convert their off line parenting skills into an online world through dialogue and communication with their children

***Please do take advantage of this opportunity to find out more about this increasingly important topic,
and put the date in your diary!***

