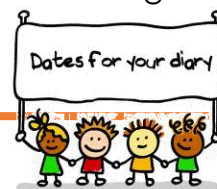


Bitterne Park Primary School

September

Dear Parents

Welcome to the first Newsletter of this academic year and a warm welcome to all of our new families who are joining us and all who are already part of our Bitterne Park Primary School family. We are looking forward to continuing to build strong relationships that focus on making the very best provision for the children within our care.



Dates for your Diary

- Monday 2nd October – Year 5 to Calshot Activities Centre
- 3rd-5th October – Year 6 to Price Waterhouse Coopers LLP
- Monday 16th – Friday 20th October – Target Setting Meetings
- 23rd to 27th October – Half Term
- Monday, 6th November - School Photographer
- 21st to 28th November – Book Fair
- Friday 24th November – Nasal Flu vaccine
- Wednesday 29th November – Young Shakespeare 'Macbeth'
- Tuesday, 12th December – Year R, Year 1 and Year 2 'Big Foot' Pantomime in school
- Tuesday 12th December – Years 5 and 6 Mayflower Pantomime Trip
- Wednesday 13th December – Years 3 and 4 Mayflower Pantomime Trip
- Friday 8th December – Staff Inset Day – School closed to children
- Friday 22nd March – Staff Inset Day – School closed to children
- Monday 3rd June – Staff Inset Day – School closed to children
- Tuesday 4th June – Staff Inset Day – School closed to children
- w/c 8th July – Year 6 Residential to Skern Lodge

Inspire, Thrive, Achieve

Coffee Morning

Our next coffee morning will be on Thursday 5th October. We hope this will be another way to drop in and have an informal chat and coffee with a member of the senior team.



School messages

Children can enter the building from 8.20am in the mornings for an 8.30am start. In order to ensure the safe handover of children at the end of the day, please put in writing any alternative adult you give permission to, to collect your child/ren and give to the school office. Teachers will be teaching and may not remember slips of paper and new instructions.

As ours is a large and busy school, please note that the office cannot guarantee that messages received after 3.00pm will be delivered to classrooms in time for the end of the school day. Please plan as far in advance as you can.

PE days

Please ensure your child has their correct PE kit in school for the day they have their lesson. Ideally they need to leave their kit in school and take it home to wash at the end of each half term.

Monday	Year 1
Tuesday	Year 5
Wednesday	Year 6
Thursday	Years 3 and 4
Friday	Years R and 2



NHS Flu Vaccinations

On Friday 24th November, the NHS will be coming in to school to offer a nasal flu vaccination for your child.



Uniform

A big thank you to all parents who have sent their children in the correct uniform. Our children are looking very smart. Uniform is an important part of our culture and our children certainly look very proud to be part of the Bitterne Park family. We politely ask parents **not** to send their children to school wearing unsuitable shoes, eg trainers or boots – warm/welly boots can be worn at playtimes but sensible shoes inside please. School is very well heated, making boot wearing indoors, all day inappropriate. Shoes/trainers need to be pure black (including the soles) with no logos.



We also please ask that the children bring in their bookbags each day and not backpacks as the corridors become congested when they end up on the floor.



Safety reminders!

Please can you ensure your child/ren do not play on the play equipment (play trails) before or after school. They are not suitable for use without school adult supervision.



We also ask that children or adults do not ride bikes and scooters on the school playgrounds.



We again politely remind you that dogs are not permitted on the school site – this includes being held in arms.
Thank you.

Water in school

Children are provided with cups and fresh water in class and therefore water bottles, if required, are kept with the children's lunchboxes ready for lunchtime.



School Dinners

We encourage all of our children to have a hot school dinner, whether they are infants or juniors. We have worked very closely with the school council, children and our caterers to ensure that the food offered is home cooked and delicious. We regularly chop meals off the menu and add new tastier options. We have a third 'Jacket potato with filling' option for those who do not like our meat or vegetarian option. We now also have a 'meat-free' Wednesday. Please do consider this as a filling option to support your child's learning in the afternoon. The menu is available on our website at www.bpps.live.net or on the Southampton City Catering website <https://www.citycateringsouthampton.co.uk/>.

**CITY
CATERING**

Food for good™

If your child is going to arrive late to school and they wish to have a cooked meal at lunchtime, we would be grateful if you could let the office know in advance by telephone. Unfortunately, if your child arrives after 9.30am, and we have not been notified, your child will receive a "spare" meal. Always best to be on time, or phone ahead. Thank you.



Allergies

We have a number of children and staff with severe nut allergies. With this in mind, we do not have any nuts or nut products at snack time or in packed lunches. These include peanut butter, Nutella or Pesto (which contains Pine nuts). These can be a major cause of anaphylactic shock in some adults and children. Your care and support with this is greatly appreciated.

Inspire, Thrive, Achieve

Curriculum News at BPPS

Phonics

We are very excited about the Pip and Pap Parent and Child workshops. Within each workshop, you will have the opportunity to work with your child in the classroom on a reading activity and an art activity! For Year R, this is on a Thursday, for Year 1 it is on a Friday and for Year 2 it is on a Tuesday. We hope that you can make the sessions and we look forward to seeing you in school!



Year R

All of our teachers and lovely teaching assistants in Year R have been blown away with how polite, kind and settled the children have been. The children have learnt all about our routines of the day and they have been playing and exploring in all of our areas.

Our topic focus is going to be "All about me" and we cannot wait to learn about all of our class' favourites and things that we like to do and play with at home. We are going to be starting to learn our sounds in school and look forward to embarking on the reading journey!

Year 1

Year 1 have made a positive start to the term with everybody coming in beautifully in the mornings and ready to start the day. In English, we are beginning to write sentences about pirates. Our goal is to write the scariest pirate description!

In the afternoons, we have really enjoyed learning how to draw animal patterns in Art and investigating maps in Geography. Well done Year 1, a great start to the year!



Inspire, Thrive, Achieve

Curriculum News at BPPS

Year 2

Year 2 have had a marvellous start to their year. We have been set a challenge from George, who needs us to come up with a recipe to make his wicked Grandma a nice, kind and caring Grandma just like he has always dreamed of.

Science has been fun with making rice dance and creating lava lamps.

We have been working on our questioning skills just like real scientists.

In Geography, we have been learning about London in our Capital city topic - we have been thinking about why we would like to visit and also how to persuade others to go.



Year 3

WOW! What a great start to the year! All the children in Year 3 have been learning their numbers from 100 to 1,000 and so far they have been 'Marvellous Mathematicians!' Keep up the excellent work Year 3! Alongside Maths, the children have been learning about rocks, the UK and how to be a good neighbour. The discussions that have been going on in class have been superb and so much great vocabulary is being used!



Year 4

In Year 4, we have had an exciting start to the year and the children have been very eager about our writing topic. They have been enthusiastic about (and petrified by!) Miss Trunchbull! They have made amazing progress in using the creative toolkit to write a character description. The children have used their retrieval skills to develop their understanding of place value. They have been efficient in partitioning and everyone has loved starting rounding to the nearest ten.



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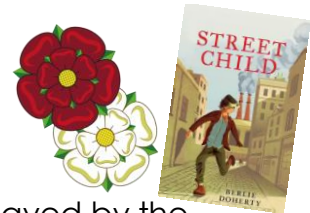
Curriculum News at BPPS

Year 5

In Year 5, we have been refining our skills with place value in Maths and are ready to move onto exploring addition.

In Guided Reading, we have been using different techniques to explore new vocabulary and discover new exciting books such as 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty.

We have been investigating what makes a setting unnerving and trying to replicate those effects ourselves in our writing. In history, we have been learning the chronology of 'The War Of the Roses' and how to critically assess a source of information.



Year 6

We are so pleased with the attitude for learning displayed by the children in Year 6 - their focus and hard work is already abundantly obvious.

We have recalled our knowledge of place value and number properties, including the value of a digit's position and rounding any number up to and into the millions.

Our World War Two topic is well underway, as is our science project on light and how we see things. In addition to all of these things, we have now filled the positions of House and Sports Captains and Vice-Captains. Well done to all!



Enrichment at BPPS

House Competitions



Knowledge - This half term's knowledge competition is focusing on our times table knowledge. We are very impressed with how excited the children are for this and their super times table knowledge!



Charity - We are supporting The Rotary Club Shoebox Scheme. If you would like to support this, please send into school a shoebox filled with items, such as: toys, clothing, games, books, pens, pencils etc... they need not be new as long as they are in good condition **OR** individual items that can be used to make up shoeboxes. Due to the increased difficulty in sourcing empty shoe boxes, the Rotary Club have provided standard sized boxes, which will be available from the school office for a voluntary donation of £2. Before filling your shoebox, please cover the box and lid separately with festive paper and secure with a single elastic band. Please return boxes to school by **Monday, 16th October**.



Sport – The sports competition will be cross country, which the children will complete in during their PE lessons.



Creative – We now have a new creative competition each half term to allow the children to let their creative juices flow. This half term, we would like the children to design a flag to represent their house. Your child can be as creative as they wish!

Inspire, Thrive, Achieve