



Bitterne Park Primary School



July 2022 Newsletter

Inspire, Thrive, Achieve

Dear Parents

Welcome to our final newsletter of the academic year. This has been a very busy year and we have enjoyed the summer weather.

Transition Day went really well and we have welcomed all of our new teachers into school for a full transition week ahead of their start. We plan this each year so that all new members of our teaching community can really get to know our partnership and systems. The children have all now had the opportunity to visit their new class and a great deal of work has been put into ensuring this changeover is as easy for the children as possible.

This newsletter contains dates and information for the next academic year so please make a note of the dates and keep the newsletter somewhere safe.

Farewell and Welcome

Summer term is a real mix of pride, happiness and a little sadness. It is the time when we celebrate a year of achievement and personal successes for our children and staff community and a time where some teachers move on to pastures new.



We sadly say goodbye to Mr Roeves and Mrs Noss who are both retiring. We wish them a long and happy retirement pursuing their hobbies and spending time with their families and thank them for their dedication to all the children they have taught over many years.

Miss Huck, Miss Walford, Miss Walsh and Miss Prichard are leaving us to take up posts in other parts of the country. Mr Fear is pursuing his teacher training but remaining at Bitterne Park Primary- super good luck to him. We wish them all the very best in these new endeavours and thank them all for their dedication, service and support.

Mrs Clarke has now returned from maternity leave and we welcome her back into the partnership. Mrs Banks, Mrs Hixon and Miss Pike have now gone on maternity leave and Mrs Lewis and Mrs Harknett will be taking on new roles within the Partnership.



Mr Evans will be joining us as Vice Principal from within the partnership.

Miss Perren, Miss Mitchell, Miss Watson, Miss Wilson Miss Melliush, Miss Phillips, Miss Haynes and Miss Williams join our teaching staff along with Miss Wheeler, Mrs Nidasanametla and Mrs Montenero as our new Teaching Assistants.



Thank you to our School Governors



I would like to extend on behalf of the whole school our sincere thanks to the Bitterne Park Primary Board of Governors, chaired by Mr Gavin Sumpter, who generously give their time and support in ensuring we provide a good quality education for all our pupils and promoting effective ways of teaching and learning.

House Competitions

The children have continued this half term to work hard on their house competitions. They have competed in a knowledge, sport and charity competition.

History quiz competition

After four weeks of delving into the past, recalling numerous historical events and understanding the impact on today, a winner for the history quiz competition was finalised:

- 1st-Centaurs
- 2nd- Dragons
- 3rd- Unicorns
- 4th- Phoenix

Sports Day

Finally it happened!!! It was a fantastic opportunity for sports day to finally return with the whole school together. The children showed excellence, sportsmanship and commitment in every event. Thank you for the great support provided for the children from all the adults who attended.

Of course there can only be one winner, a huge well done to our Centaurs who took home the trophy this year!

- 1st Centaurs
- 2nd Unicorns
- 3rd Phoenix
- 4th Dragons

Charity

Firstly, many thanks to all the Bitterne Park community for collecting an ENORMOUS number of plastic lids and bottle tops for our piece of recycled art . . . it does seem somewhat ironic that we have constructed a collaborative piece of wall-art celebrating the beauty 'Under the Oceans' with single-use, plastic lids!

However, every little helps and our charity project this term has helped reduce plastic rubbish amassing in our natural world, whilst highlighting the need for systemic change for environmental survival.

Collecting and re-positing the variety of shapes, sizes and colours has provided pupils with an invaluable mission: a mission that has been accompanied by assemblies and in-class education about strategies for reducing, reusing and recycling. The final, huge piece of wall art is truly phenomenal!



Superstar Sports Play schemes

Superstar Sports will once again be holding their holiday activity club during the summer holidays. These will be on the following dates and if you would like your child to attend any of these sessions please book by visiting www.superstarsports.com.

25th – 29th July

1st – 5th August

8th – 12th August

15th – 19th August

Current News

Year R have had a super term of summer sunshine. We continue to be super 'busy bees' during this half term. We have continued to grow in our ability to apply our phonics learning when reading and writing. We continue to explore the adventures of Pip and Pap and have a huge amount of new guided and home reading books; we can ALL read independently - this is also thank you to the regular reading the children have been engaging with at home, too!! Some of us have become *writing superstars!!!* - We can successfully create sentences remembering to use 'full-stops a tiny-dot', 'capital letters' and 'finger spaces!!' *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* story has led us to learning about life-cycles - we were super excited about watching our school caterpillars transform into beautiful red admiral butterflies. Our recent dinosaur themed learning has led us to learn about significant people; we loved role playing Mary Anning and re-creating fossil discoveries! We continue to learn how to care for our school environment; with regular watering our bean plants grew into 'gigantic beanstalks' - we loved tasting the produce we helped to grow! 'Keeping safe in the sun' led us to making our own sun safety posters! We have enjoyed learning about and visiting year one; we had a lovely transition morning as we met our new teachers and we are excited about next term!

Year 1 have been working in groups to carry out different experiments. They have focused on predicting what might happen, planning the experiment, undertaking it and then showing their results. Highlights for year 1 have been discovering the most effective bubble mixture and the best insulator to stop an ice lolly melting! On top of their Science learning, the children have also been learning about 'fame' in RE and intrepid explorers in History. They have loved learning about Christopher Columbus and Neil Armstrong and have made fantastic comparisons between their adventures. Year 1 have been able to point out the impact of Christopher Columbus on their lives today e.g. he brought back parrots and they see them at Marwell Zoo. Year 1 have had a fantastic Summer term!

Year 2 have been enjoying becoming scientists this term by learning all about minibeasts! They have been busy exploring the school grounds to hunt for different minibeasts as well as thinking about what habitats and microhabitats they might live in. Year 2 particularly enjoyed being able to think closely about the microhabitat of a woodlouse and they even got to create their very own woodlouse house! Linking to science, in art, year 2 have also been focusing on creating minibeasts through manipulating wire in different ways. Their final project saw them work in groups to make their very own giant minibeast! They have loved learning all about minibeasts and are so proud of themselves.

Year 3 have been enjoying becoming 'dragonologists' in our writing topic this term! We have been creating our own non-chronological reports about dragons we have created. In science, we have been exploring light and shadow and investigating how shadows change throughout the day. We have enjoyed conducting our own

investigations and presenting our findings in different ways. Year 3 have enjoyed becoming historians and making our own enquiries about the Ancient Greeks. We used different sources to decide whether the Trojan War actually happened! We have linked our history learning to art and designed and created clay pots inspired by Ancient Greek pottery!

Year 4 have been exploring the methods needed to purify water to enable safe drinking. During Geography lessons, we had fun using coffee filters and sieves to filter out sand, rocks and dirt. Afterwards, we reflected on how lucky we are to have access to clean water and have learnt about different treatment methods from around the world throughout our topic. The methods that we have learnt about are large scale purification plants, desalination, tippy taps, rain harvesting jars and solar treatments. The children have acknowledged the difference between water access in LEDC and MEDC countries and made strong links back to our Water Aid day foci in Spring term.

Year 5 have been applying their understanding of the four operations to problem solving! They have interweaved their understanding with other math topics including fractions, money, time, etc. Year 5 have been reflective learners and explained which methods they believe to be the most efficient when applied to different problems. In English, they have written narrative pieces about vile villains. They created spine-shivering descriptions of their villains and used show, don't tell to make their readers feel unnerved. In RE, they have been exploring the topic 'belonging' through examples they see in their everyday lives and within different religions. They explored the five pillars of Islam and how Muslims feel a sense of belonging through prayer and worship. During PSHE, Year 5 have been expressing their opinions in heated debates about whether the national voting age should be lowered. They have explored what democracy is and the importance of a system where every voice is heard.

Year 6 have been making the most of their last term at Primary School. They've enjoyed their last ever weekly arithmetic test and last ever piece of writing (with many choosing to twist fairy tales in intriguing ways). We were all very proud to see them perform "Wow! What a Year!" - the hilariously witty end of year production - with children starring on and off stage as well as singing their hearts out. While some of us have spent the week in sunny Devon challenging ourselves with outdoor activities and tricky team challenges, the rest of us were at school also working in teams to produce a shadow puppet experience for Year R (among other fun activities and challenges). We wish Year 6 all the best for their last week with us.

Lost Property

We have a substantial amount of unclaimed lost property. Please do pop in and take a look if your child has misplaced an item of clothing, book bag etc. All remaining items will be disposed of or taken to a local charity shop on the last day of term. Many thanks

Pick up and Drop off

Please ensure that written permission is given ahead of a playdate or change in pick up organisation. Teachers will not release to anyone other than named adults on a contact list. Do not be offended if a teacher refuses to hand a child over to a friend or nominated adult other than parent without express written permission.

Medication kept in school



Please do not forget to collect **all medication**, including inhalers & epipens, by 2pm on Friday, 22nd July. Prescribed medicines needed by pupils next term will need to be dropped off at the office on 2nd September please, and a new form completed by parent.

Dates for your Diary

- Thursday, 1st September – Inset Day
- Friday, 2nd September – Children return to school
- Monday, 12th September – Year 6 swimming for 3 weeks
- Monday, 3rd October – Year 5 swimming for 3 weeks
- Thursday, 20th and Friday, 21st October – Inset Days
- Tuesday, 1st November - School Photographer
- w/c 13th March – Year 5 Bikeability
- Thursday, 25th and Friday, 26th May 2023 – Inset Days



STAFF TRAINING DAYS

Thursday, 1st September 2022

Thursday, 20th October 2022 Disaggregated

Friday, 21st October 2022 Disaggregated

Thursday, 25th May 2023 Disaggregated

Friday, 26th May 2023 Disaggregated

Please check the school website for up-to-date information

<http://www.bbpslive.net>

And finally.....

Do have a safe and joyful Summer break, we are working hard to focus on a great year ahead. Thank you for choosing our school.....