

NEWSLETTER - 14th JULY

Dear Parents

Message From Mrs Kenny

As we break up on Friday 17th July, this will be the final newsletter of the school year. I would like to thank all parents, carers, children and everyone in the community for their ongoing support this year. We have had an extremely challenging time since March but I am proud that staff and children have managed to maintain some sort teaching and learning during these unprecedented times. It has certainly been a challenge for us as teachers and you as parents, but I am again thankful for all the support that we are able to give each other.

I hope that as parents/carers, you have been pleased with the home learning provided, the telephone conversations from teachers, and the transition information that has been undertaken virtually! It has certainly been a new way of working but I feel confident that we have risen to the challenges and carried them out with a smile on our faces and with good humour!

From a personal point of view, I have never been prouder of the team that we have at Boldmere Infant and Nursery school. The commitment and hard work shown by all staff has been unquestionable and I cannot thank them enough for their support. My thanks also go to our Governing Board who have been with us on this journey, offering advice and giving us strength and encouragement.

Finally, we would like to wish our year two children every success as they move to Junior school in September.

We hope that you all have a lovely summer holiday and we look forward to seeing you all in September.

Urgent- Report Collection

There are still approximately 80 reports that have not been collected along with children's classwork, pump bags and medication. Please collect from the school office today, tomorrow or Thursday. If you would like someone else to collect on your behalf we are happy for you to agree to this, just call the office to organise collection.

Any reports not collected will be posted out on Friday, however please can I stress that each report will cost £1.40 to post.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Staff Leavers

We will sadly be saying goodbye to Mrs O'Rourke who is based in the resource base as the Giraffe class teacher on Friday 17th July.

Mr Halfpenny who is based at the Junior school will also be leaving us on Friday to train as a secondary Modern Languages teacher.

Good Luck Mrs O'Rourke and Mr Halfpenny, you will be missed by us all!

Diary Dates:

Autumn Term 2020

1st September - PD day - school closed to pupils.

2nd September - PD day - school closed to pupils.

3rd September - School re-opens to Year one and Year two pupils.

7th September - BIB, Giraffe class children return part time.

7th September - Nursery Butterfly induction sessions

8th September - Nursery Ladybirds induction sessions.

9th September - Reception, Hedgehog class induction sessions.

10th September - Reception, Kangaroo class induction sessions.

11th September - Reception, Turtle class induction sessions.

14th September - BIB, Giraffe class children return full time.

14th September - Reception children start part time.

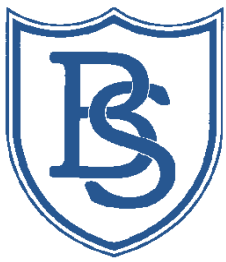
14th September - Nursery children start (staggered intake).

21st September - Reception children start full time.

23rd October - Break up for half term holiday.

2nd November - School re-opens to all pupils.

18th December - Break up for Christmas holidays.



NEWSLETTER - 14th JULY

Transition And Home Learning

A reminder that videos from your child's new class teacher are available under the transition tab of the website, please click on the relevant year group.

A summer checklist is also available with some suggested activities for you to use during the holidays if you wish too.

You can also still access the bedtime stories if you follow the links we have previously sent to you. This allows children to watch stories from their new class teacher and teaching assistant.

All of the transition resources will be on the website throughout the summer so that you can access them when you feel it is appropriate.

The home learning tab on the website will remain live until the end of the autumn half term.

Free School Meal Vouchers Summer Food Fund

Summer Food Fund free school meal vouchers (Government scheme covering FSM over 6 weeks holiday), were ordered last week and families who are entitled will be receiving them this week.

All vouchers will be distributed via 'Edenred' on behalf of school. Due to the volume of vouchers going out across the country there may be a delay in the vouchers reaching you, so please be patient and a reminder to check your spam/junk as vouchers may appear in those folders.

If you are having issues with using the Edenred system, you can contact them direct:

Phone - 0333 400 5932

Email - freeschoolmealsparentscarers@edenred.com

E-Safety

We are aware that during these unprecedented times, there has been a huge reliability on the use of information technology when children are at home. When children are using such technology in the home, along with social media and gaming platforms that are also widely available, it is important for the children to keep safe whilst online in any capacity. With this in mind, we would like to draw your attention to all e-safety resources for children and parents on the school website, which we hope you will find useful if required.

Please continue to monitor/supervise your child's use of technology, as when these devices are used correctly and safely, they are amazing tools to be used.

Plea For Resources

We are planning ahead to September and are looking towards providing opportunities for our Year 1 children to have some "play-based" experiences during each day. These activities will help facilitate the transition from Early Years Curriculum (taught in Reception) to National curriculum (taught in Year 1). As a result of school closures this academic year, we believe that opportunities for play based learning will be vital for the autumn term's provision. If you have any resources that could be donated, we would be most grateful. Items such as construction toys, building sets, small world people and animals and role play items (not clothing) would be appreciated. If you are having a sort out during the summer holidays, or if your children have out grown items please send donations to the Infant office.

September Return For All Pupils

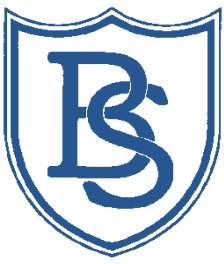
We are currently finalising our plans to welcome all children back to school in September as per government guidance. The plans will be circulated tomorrow and will provide you with the necessary details of the arrangements now in place. Please ensure that you check your Parentmail account so that you receive these arrangements, which will also be shared on the Covid-19 section of the school website.

Virtual Sports Day

Well done to everyone who took part in our virtual sports day last Thursday. It was lovely to see you and your families getting involved at home.

Year Two Parents

The Junior school prospectus, information and transition forms have now been uploaded under transition on the school website. We will be sending out paper copies of the forms that need completing and returning to school.



NEWSLETTER - 14th JULY

Reading Together Day - Thursday 16th July 2020

This Thursday is the very first Reading Together Day, which invites children and families across the UK to take part in a celebration of the magical world of stories and the power of shared reading.

The aim of the day is to bring families, friends, schools and wider communities together to share stories and have fun! A whole host of activities and events from a group of incredible organisations will enable people of all ages to celebrate reading, make connections, and build important literacy skills, whilst also helping to support wellbeing.

Further information can be found on <https://www.booktrust.org.uk/> here you will find a timetable of virtual events throughout the day starting at 8:30am with the summer reading challenge reading song; a reading treasure hunt at 5:30pm and ending at 6:30pm with a bedtime story with Dolly Parton. Events continue throughout the evening with top tips for reading together as a family. Happy reading!

Virtual Videos

We are super excited to see that our virtual tours and stories have been so positively received by parents and children. Our toilet roll video and our welcome video message have each had over 1000 views, which is amazing! In addition, staff have been posting virtual stories each day and Mrs. Kenny would like to thank all staff for taking the time to read these bedtime stories. In actual fact, the teachers and teaching assistants were having a fun little competition to see who would receive the most views for their storytelling efforts! I am now pleased to announce that the winner of the competition is..... (drum roll) Mrs. Mason, reading "The book with no pictures" with a huge 654 views. Congratulations Mrs. Mason!

Sustrans Outside In

Please see the attached flyer for free resources to help you with fun ideas and inspiration to keep the children entertained and to bring education, health and wellbeing activities into your home during the summer holidays.

You can access the resources by registering for a free parent newsletter and you will receive weekly indoor and outdoor activities designed for you.

Busy Bodies

We would like to wish all of our Busy Bodies families a super holiday. Congratulations and good luck to our Year 6 children moving onto new pastures, you will be missed. We look forward to meeting our new reception children in September and welcoming back our current families. September booking form and payments- Thank you all so much for your understanding regarding September and the uncertainty surrounding these times. We will not be debiting any of your Busy Bodies accounts for September fees at present, please do not pay any booking fees for September until we return on 1st September and dates can be finalised.

Registration forms, these need to be completed for new reception children only, unless any of your circumstances or contact details have changed.

Happy Holidays!

Birmingham's #You've Been Missed Campaign

Birmingham's #you've been missed campaign is to support children and young people, parents and carers and professionals throughout the Covid pandemic. As part of the campaign, Lydia Stafford, a Mental Health Nurse working in the Forward Thinking Birmingham's early help team is leading 3 webinars to support parents. Please see the attached flyer for more details.

Mrs S Kenny
Head of School
14.07.2020