# **Boldmere Junior School**

### **Weekly Newsletter**

This month's value - Appreciation

#### A message from Mr Sadler, Head of Junior School

#### Dear parents and carers,

As was to be expected, World Book Day was marked in fantastic fashion in school last week, the highlight of which was the 'remote' visit of children's author Jen Carney. As a parent myself, I know too well that when you ask your child what they learned in school today, they invariably can't remember: hopefully however, last Thursday saw a great deal of responses along the lines of 'It was great, I learned to draw a hedgehog!' Other highlights of the day included enjoying a range of books in a reading café complete with biscuits and hot chocolate and of course, this was complimented by the fact they'd already had an extra ten minutes in bed first thing, on account of not having to get out of their pyjamas for school. What a colourful sight that was during our celebration assembly that morning: a sea of colourful dressing gowns and onesies at quarter past nine in the morning, some of whom can be seen later in the newsletter! Thank you so much also for the wonderful book donations: our library stock has now increased by around 200 thoughtfully chosen books!

Attendance: Now that we move into what we hope will be Covid free times, we will resume the rigorous monitoring of attendance and in particular seeking to reward positive attendance. In adopting the idea of one of our year six prefects, this half-term sees the launch of a weekly attendance competition where the best attendance over a half term period will receive an end of term tea-party with their counterparts from the infant school, along with myself and Mrs Kenny! This week's winners where 3U which gave cause for double celebration; they were also our donut eating coin-wars winners too!

After school clubs: this half-term's after school clubs will begin this week so thank you to parents for the prompt return. The clubs continue to be extremely popular but I understand that the vast majority of children did manage to be allocated the club they requested, although we are aware there were a number of disappointed children in Year Three particularly. Just to reassure parents, we do keep registers of club allocation so those that have missed out on this occasion will get an opportunity in the near future.

Contact with school: A reminder that the best means of contacting school staff is via the school office, either by telephone or emailing the <u>enquiry@boldmere.bham.sch.uk</u> email address. Additionally, myself and other senior staff are on the school gate on 99.9% of occasions and can also relay any messages to class teachers. As we now move away from remote learning provision, the year group contact email addresses will now become defunct as of this week.

## Values **Ambassadors** 3H - Bella 3P - Ravaughn **3U - Finley** 4K – Lily-Mae 4W - Lauren 4M - Poppy 5E - Riley 5B - Victoria 5PJ - Phoebe 6FS - Zara 6F - Siena 6J - Lauren Well Done **Everyone!**



#### "Little girls with dreams become women with vision." – Unknown

To all the women in our community, happy International Women's Day.

International Women's Day (8<sup>th</sup> March) is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women and girls, as well as recognising the work that needs to continue to be done to close the gender gap.

In our assembly yesterday, we took some time to think about the many women in our lives who inspire us. The children were able to talk about famous women who inspired them and women they knew who they appreciated. We were grateful for women such as our friends, grandmas, carers, mums, sisters and aunties and the many ways they support and teach us.

#### **BIB News**

A busy first week back after half term and what a week!

Well done to LK and Giraffes for 100% attendance.

The children enjoyed hearing stories read by our Secret readers as part of book week.

Mr. Ryan, who teaches the children PE, is supporting for two lunchtimes per week from this half term. The children love spending time with him and as the weather improves we will be able to go outside more with the children during these sessions.

Miss Greenland, has loved meeting all the BIB children. She is looking forward to working with the Teachers and children over the coming weeks.

A reminder from the newsletter last week, that there is a 'Parent Webinar' run by the Communication and Autism Team' Top Tips for Transition for Autistic Pupils,' that might be of interest to you. Please do book on.

#### **Celebrations**

Jayden Wilcox in Giraffes, for trying hard to write his name.

Sam Burchell in LK, for trying hard and focusing on his work in lessons.

Jeffrey Hitchman in ED, for working well with his peers in 4M.

#### Congratulations all!

#### **School Meal Prices**

The cost of a school dinner is rising to  $\pounds 2.40$  from 18<sup>th</sup> April. Although this is an increase, the daily cost is still cheaper than our previous supplier as they have also increased their prices. The increase is in line with rising food and transport costs for the catering industry.

#### **After-School Sports Clubs**

We are really pleased that we are able to have children back doing after-school sports clubs! Starting from this week, we have begun on Spring 2 clubs for each year group that are being run by Kick Start Academy. These clubs will look at covering a range of skills in PE as well as teamwork, but most importantly, we are hoping the children attending have lots of fun! There are still a few remaining spaces for children in Year 5 and 6 so let us know if your child would like to attend this club. Unfortunately, we have not been able to offer places to everyone in lower school but these clubs will continue in the Summer Term.

#### **School Sports Teams**

We are also really pleased that we have been able to get our school sports teams up and running again. This week, we have cross-country to look forward to and we have swimming on the horizon too!

Our school football teams are also competing in the HMS Shield. In the last week of last half term, the girls' team were unfortunately knocked out of the HMS Shield as they lost away to Calshot. Our boys' football team won their first round game 7-0 at home to Beeches Primary and will play next in the quarter final vs Calshot away too. More details about this fixture will be sent out soon.

#### Information for parents and carers on COVID-19 vaccination for 5 to 11 year olds

Children aged 5 to 11 years who are in a clinical risk group or who live with someone who is immunosuppressed can get the COVID-19 vaccine, in line with advice set out by the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI). Eligible children include those with diabetes, immunosuppression, learning disabilities, and other conditions as outlined by the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) in the Green Book.

Vaccinations help to increase protection against COVID-19, which is particularly important for those with underlying health conditions.

Further information is available in the guide for parents of children aged 5 to 11 years published by UKHSA. We have published some frequently asked questions on the vaccination programme including information on eligibility, accessibility and advice for parents of children at high risk from COVID-19. Following advice from the JCVI, healthy 5 to 11 year old children will also be offered two 10 microgram doses of the COVID-19 vaccine. The NHS will prepare to extend this non-urgent offer to all children during April.

#### **Busy Bodies News**

<u>After school sports club</u>: Children attending after school sports clubs Monday to Thursday, firstly come to busies to register, we then know that they are in school and attending the club that day for our safeguarding policy.

Different year groups attend each day of the week, this also enables us to prepare a snack for the children on returning to the setting. The sports coach directs all Busies children back to Busy Bodies as he holds the same register of children attending following his session.

<u>March booking forms</u>: Many thanks to all our parents/carers for returning your booking forms, many of you before the deadline and on time. We really appreciate this effort as it saves many hours of following up late forms and the paperwork involved with adding to the registers after they have been printed for the following month. This gives us extra time to plan extra activities and crafts ahead for our wonderful children to engage in.

**Fees**:Your March fees will be debited this week, followed by any extra/additional sessions in February. These will be clearly detailed on your ParentPay account. Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact Helen or myself (Kerema), we will be happy to help.

**Parent Survey:** Wow! What a fantastic response we have had from all our families in response to our parent questionnaire that we have sent out. All the Busy Bodies staff would like to express our thanks for taking this extra time to complete this in your busy daily schedules, this is very much appreciated. We will send out our response to all your comments with our April booking form.



This year, Comic relief are supporting the humanitarian crisis in the Ukraine so we would like to invite children to dress in **yellow and/or blue** with a red nose of course, and give a **£1 donation**. **The School Council** have also come up with a few fun events for the day:

- **Bake sale** Please could you donate any home or bought bakes to school on the Friday morning. School councillors will be responsible for collecting and selling these during the day. Please put your child's name and class clearly on any boxes/tins if you want them returned. Children will be able to buy a baked sweet treat from **20p 50p**.
- Guess Mr Sadler's favourite cup cake In each class, children can pay £1 for a guess, choosing from 30 cup cakes. The winners in each class will be rewarded a prize.
- **Chocolate raffle** Have the chance to win from a big selection of Easter eggs tickets **£1**. Tickets to go on sale beginning next Tuesday.
- **Teachers forfeit-** Pay **50p** to see your teacher do something funny for a good cause! Forfeits to be decided! Past examples were: teach with their hands tied behind their backs all day, wear school uniform/pyjamas, flip pancakes or be soaked with water pistols! This was surprisingly popular with the children last time!
- Super soak a member of staff! The class that raises the most money will have the opportunity to soak a teacher in the stocks! Who could it be?

Please send your child in with some loose change if they would like to take part in any of the above activities. Donations can also be made through parent-pay via a direct link below: <a href="https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=6929">https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=6929</a>

Thank you in advance for all your support. We hope the children and staff can finally enjoy a Red Nose Day to remember this year!

#### **PTA News**

**Coin Wars Prizes** - We really enjoyed seeing the photos on Twitter of 3U and 2S enjoying their donuts last week – such happy faces! We hope the other classes enjoyed their little pack of sweeties as a THANK YOU from the PTA for such a super effort for Coin Wars 2022.

**Mothers' Day Elfridges** - The Elfridges shop reopens its doors on Friday 25th March for children to select a gift for the significant female(s) in their life. Gifts are suitable for Mothers, Carers, Grandparents, Aunties etc. Elfridges is strictly a pre-order only service. Tickets cost £2.50 each and are available to purchase now at <u>www.pta-</u><u>events.co.uk/boldmere</u> Ordering will close at midday on Wednesday 23rd March.

**PTA Summer Ball** - The tickets for the 2022 Summer Ball are now available to purchase and are selling quickly! Don't miss out, it is sure to be a fantastic evening including a 3 course meal, live band, auction and games. Tickets cost £50 each and can be purchased now at <u>www.pta-events.co.uk/boldmere</u> The Ball will take place at Aston Wood Golf Club on Friday 10th June 2022 from 7pm until 1am. If you have any queries please contact <u>boldmereptaball@outlook.com</u>

**Online Shopping -** Please consider using <u>www.smile.amazon.co.uk</u> (add "Boldmere Schools PTA") or <u>www.easyfundraising.org.uk/boldmereschoolspta</u> Both are free and easy to sign up to. Once you've signed up the PTA will receive a small but essential percentage of every purchase made that will benefit our school and all our children.

Diary Dates
Remainder of 2022
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> April
Break up for Easter holidays
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> April
Children return to school
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> May
Children break up for May half-term.
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> June
Children return to school
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> July
Children break up for the summer holidays
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> September

#### Last week's celebration assembly

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