

Boldmere Junior School

Weekly Newsletter

A message from Mr Sadler, Head of Junior School

Dear parents and carers,

"I declare before you all that my whole life, whether it be long or short, shall be devoted to your service and the service of our great imperial family to which we all belong."
Queen Elizabeth II, 1926-2022

Rarely are such pledges made by those in the public eye so diligently and respectfully honoured. For all she has done, on behalf of the community of Boldmere, we thank her. Any children wishing to do so can visit the following <https://www.royal.uk/> to join the millions of well-wishers across the world in offering their condolences. I am certain by now parents will be aware that Her Majesty will be officially laid to rest next Monday which has consequently been declared a bank holiday. This means that school will be closed to all children and staff and will reopen on Tuesday 20th September. As parents will no doubt expect, we have endeavoured to ensure that the focus in school at the moment is not of sorrow, but more of transition, succession and opportunity; all truly relevant at the start of each new school year. Despite this sad news, the year has otherwise started off in a really positive manner in school with the 'new' cohort of year three children having settled extremely quickly, as have our older children who have moved up to their new year groups. New beginnings for them and also from a staff perspective with our three new teachers, Mrs Quirk, Mrs Shakespeare and Miss Morgan all hitting the ground running within their respective year groups and enjoying their early tenure with us! Finally, to round off this 'new beginnings' thread, I take great pleasure in sharing with you the wonderful news that Mr Uppal, and his partner Miss Sandford, welcomed into the world their daughter Eva late on Sunday night. Congratulations to them both, and also to Mrs Kilday who a few weeks earlier gave birth to baby Alfie at the beginning of the summer holidays. We wish them all well.

Back to school matters and a huge thank you in recognition of the fact that the children collectively look incredibly smart on their return to school. I am delighted to see so many children wearing school ties...so many in fact that we have completely sold out. We have placed an order with the suppliers for a new batch, albeit clip on ties in the expectation that these will be easier for children. We've been given an approximate six week return for these so watch this space.

A reminder that parents of children who eat school meals are strongly encouraged to pre-order these in advance. Admittedly, there have been a couple of issues with the technology associated with this but we believe this has now been resolved. Just to advise, we operate a lunchtime rota with year groups being called for their meals between 12.25pm and 1.00pm, depending on their sitting. In first this week are Year 3, followed by 6, 5 then 4.

Finally from me this week, I am aware that this is a nervy time for a number of our children as they are in the midst of deciding preferences with regard to secondary schools. We will share with you the open days of schools as we learn of them but I would strongly advise that parents of current year six children regularly check the respective school websites to learn of these. The local authority deadline for secondary school preference forms to be completed by is 31st October 2022. Good luck also to a number of our children who will in the next few days will sit the grammar school entrance tests days.

Year 6 - Secondary Transfer Preferences

Letters were sent home with your child in July outlining the Birmingham City Council Secondary Transfer process – please note the online site is available now until 31st October for you to make your choices.

If you live outside of Birmingham City Council please check with your Local Authority.

The School Day timings:

A reminder that the school day begins at 8.50 in the morning.

Registration closes at 9.00am. Any children arriving after 9.00am will be deemed late. Any children arriving later than 9.30 will see their absence recorded as unauthorised. Frequent unauthorised absence can lead to prosecution.

The school day finishes for all children at 3.25pm. Only in exceptional circumstances will children be permitted to arrive or leave outside of these times.

Autumn Term Parents' Evening:

Advanced notice, the first of our termly parents' evenings will take place on **Tuesday 27th and Wednesday 28th September** between 3.30pm and 6.00pm

Appointments will be face to face with parents invited into their child's new classrooms to meet teachers. Further detail and booking arrangements to follow at the beginning of next week.

Music Lessons

Parent Pay will be updated by the end of this week with music fees for this term

Values Ambassadors

Children who go above and beyond in demonstrating the school's core values will be selected by their class teachers on a weekly basis and will have their achievement celebrated in our celebration assembly. This will begin from 20th September.

BIB Newsletter

Welcome back everyone! It was so lovely to see everyone last week. I hope you all had a great Summer break and are looking forward to the Autumn Term.

We also welcome two new members of the BIB Team. Miss Martin, who will be taking over in class when Miss Driscoll leaves to have her baby and Miss Shakespeare, who is joining Giraffe class.

Notices

With the sad news of Queen Elizabeth's passing, we will be closed on 19th September 2022 for the Queen's funeral.

'Mr. Ryan' will be taking the BIB children for P.E again. This term, the children will have both an indoor and outdoor P.E session. Please ensure that children have suitably warm 'outdoor' P.E kits.

Children who have transitioned from Year 2 to Year 3 are no longer entitled to free fruit. So please can you make sure that your child has a snack for break time please.

Please continue to read with and share stories with your child, making a note of when this happens in your child's reading diary.

Our sensory room has been fitted out over the Summer break. We are absolutely thrilled with it. We will continue to develop it and purchase new equipment over the coming months.

To enable us to support your child's sensory needs effectively, a sensory profile will be sent home to be completed. Please return this to your child's teacher once completed.

Thank you

We have been lucky enough to receive some free resources for the BIB since the start of the year. Last term, 'The Loft men' generously provided us with a bespoke door to create a storage area in the Early Years Garden, free of charge.

Finally, a big thank you too all of you for your support. It really does make a difference.

Boldmere Schools – School Governor Vacancy

We currently have a vacancy for a parent governor within our governing board. Please see the attached information of the criteria for this position along with a nomination form.

We are keen to hear from any parents that may be interested in this role or may like further details.

Busy Bodies

Welcome back to all our families, we hope that all our children have settled back into school and Busy Bodies. It has been a pleasure welcoming all of our children to the club and hearing your stories of the summer break.

The past week has flown by so quickly, however we have seen all our children enjoying their new classes and playing together with their friends.

A polite reminder- All new reception children have now been assigned to our ParentPay payment items, therefore all our families are now able to pay for their Registration fees and September fees. Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate in contacting the Busy Bodies Manager who will be happy to help.

October form- Available for collection from the Busy Bodies desk/ Junior school office and downloadable from the school website from next week.

SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL WARDEN VACANCY

Please see the link for further information or to apply

<https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.wmjobs.co.uk%2Fjob%2F114019%2F>

BOLDMERE PTA NEWS

Welcome back and hello to the new parents and carers joining the Boldmere family this year. The PTA are excited for the year ahead and we're looking forward to raising money to fund projects, activities and improvements that will benefit all our children.

The PTA is an independent charity run by volunteers who are parents, carers or teachers of children at Boldmere Infant & Junior School. Last year we raised and donated **over £23,000** to the school.

We're really proud of our school community and their ability to come together and raise funds that **improve our children's school experience**. Each year we lose volunteers as their children move on to secondary school – to ensure the continuing success of our PTA we need to replace these volunteers.

On Tuesday **4th October at 8pm** we'll be hosting a welcome meeting in the Training Room between the two schools, where parents and carers are invited to come along and learn about who the PTA are, what we do, how we do it and about our plans for the year ahead. There will be drinks and nibbles available.

We will also hold our AGM at the meeting, which as a registered charity we must do each year. The meeting will provide an opportunity for you to learn how you can become involved in the PTA. This year we're looking for a **secretary, members of our PR team and event volunteers**. Please get in touch to find out more.

Diary Dates

- Wk/C 12th September – Pre-Loved Uniform Donations
PTA volunteers will be collecting clean, good condition pre-loved items of school uniform. These will be sorted and placed onto our online shop.
- Wk/C 19th September - Online Pre-Loved Uniform Sales re-open
Keep an eye on our social media accounts for more information.
- Tuesday 4th October – Welcome Meeting and AGM
8pm in the Training Room, meet the PTA and enjoy drinks & nibbles
- Thursday 20th October - PTA Committee Meeting (location TBC)
- Friday 4th November - 2022 Fireworks Show
A professional Fireworks Display on the school field with refreshments. More details & ticket sales to be announced soon.

If you have any queries, particularly about how you can get involved in the PTA, please email us boldmere.pta@gmail.com

School Term dates 2022-2023

Friday 21st October

Children break-up for October half-term

Monday 31st October

Children return to school

Friday 16th December

Children break up for the Christmas holidays

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Tuesday 3rd January

INSET day – school closed to children

Wednesday 4th January

Children return to school.

Friday 17th February

Children break-up for February half-term.

Monday 27th February

Children return to school

Friday 31st March

Children break-up for Easter

Monday 17th April

Children return to school.

Friday 26th May

Children break-up for half-term

Monday 5th June

Children return to school

Friday 21st July

Children break-up for summer holidays

Monday 24th and Tuesday 25th July

INSET days – school closed to children