

Boldmere Junior School

Weekly Newsletter

A message from Mr Sadler, Head of Junior School

Dear parents and carers,

First of all, apologies for the lateness of this newsletter. After any form of break, even if only a short one due to the events of Monday, the first day back at school is always incredibly busy consequently this newsletter is being shared a day later than usual.

Last week saw another excellent week in school and as I have alluded recently, all children, and particularly our 'newest' children have settled incredibly well into their classes and have become familiar with their new routines and expectations. A definite highlight of last week was the celebrating of Roald Dahl Day in school when it was so lovely to see children and staff get into the spirit of the occasion with their excellent costumes paying tribute to those legendary characters we have all grown up with. Events such as this are integral to instilling 'the fun' into Boldmere but equally, I would also like to reassure parents that the event was not simply an isolated day with children's writing for the entire week being centred on the world of Roald Dahl. Do take the chance to see this first hand when you are given the opportunity to see children's writing books during next week's parents' evenings.

These early stages of the school year also saw the first of the many sports' competitions that children will be given the opportunity to take part in, this occasion being the first of the cross-country running events. As ever, this was a particularly challenging and even gruelling event so a huge well done to all sixteen children who took part, with a special mention to Elijah who finished seventh in the boys' event and Lilly who finished eleventh in the respective girls' event. I look forward to sharing further news and successes of future events throughout the year.

Continuing on the sports' theme we this week began our curriculum swimming lessons with some of our Year 6 children visiting Erdington Leisure Centre, the venue we will be using for this year's swimming lessons. All lessons will take place on a Tuesday afternoon. Swimming provision at Boldmere is such that Year 5 will begin their weekly swimming lessons immediately after half-term (two classes in the run up to Christmas and then the third class afterwards) followed by Year 4 into the new year. Children will also be given the opportunity to try out for the swimming gala team later in the new year. Further detail regarding all of this will be shared closer to the time.

Finally from me this week, we have had a number of concerns raised related to children playing with trading cards such as Pokemon cards or the match attack football cards. In the past, I have had to temporarily ban such things in school universally but this is not a draconian measure that I am seeking to implement at this point in time. I see first-hand that many children take pleasure from playing with them in an appropriate and sociable way. This said then, it is instead our intention to serve regular reminders to children as to appropriate and sociable practice when playing such games as was message given in assembly last week for example. Additionally, we are also serving reminders to the children regarding our core school values and in particular those related to respect and honesty, emphasising what this should look like in school. The message is a simple one – we will do all we can to teach children to look after their own belongings, and treat those belonging to others with the appropriate levels of respect.

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 via the website below.

https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20119/school_admissions

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 8.50am in the morning. Registration closes at 9.00am. Any children arriving after 9.00am will be deemed late. Any children arriving later than 9.30am 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

A reminder that 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. Parents should yesterday have received information regarding the booking of appointments with until next Monday to do so.

Forgotten Items

Please ensure that your child has all the items that they may need when they arrive for school including PE/ swimming kits, lunches/snacks, water bottles and musical instruments to minimise disruption to children and staff during the school day.

School Meals

School dinners must be booked via School Grid in advance, you can book several weeks ahead for convenience.

If you forget to book a meal and do not provide a packed lunch your child will only have a very limited option of a jacket potato or wrap depending on availability. The school is not able to place lunch orders on your behalf, even in emergencies, after 9.30am.

BIB Newsletter

Our first full week back at the BIB and lots to celebrate.

We have begun to concentrate on further developing independence skills in the BIB. ED went on a walk to the local train station in preparation for a train journey and city center visit in the future.

Our indoor PE session is now held in the Junior Hall and all the children adapted well to the different setting and changing into their kits before the session.

Giraffes welcomed two new children to their class and they have both settled well in the new routine.

'Queen Day' on Friday was an opportunity to reflect on Queen Elizabeth's time as Queen. We celebrated her reign by making a variety of craft items and cakes, sandwiches and biscuits for a picnic.

Stars of the week

LK **Sam** for some fantastic number formation during Maths.

ED **Kara** for writing an incredible character description.

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.

MISSING SCOOTER

Unfortunately a child's scooter went missing from the school site last week, please let the office know if you have any information or may have seen it in the local area.

Description: A blue Invert branded stunt scooter with blue and black handle grips. It has black and coloured wheels.

Unwanted Guitars

If you have a $\frac{3}{4}$ sized nylon string guitar that you no longer need our guitar tutor, Mrs Robinson, may be interested in buying this from you. She can be contacted on 07932 395158 if you would like to contact her about this.

Busy Bodies

This week our new Reception children will start full time, it will be a pleasure to show them all around our club and guiding them around all the new exciting areas they will have access to. This morning they all seemed very content, having their breakfast together and settled in well. We hope for this to continue throughout the remainder of the year.

October booking forms are available for collection from a Busy Bodies member of staff, the junior school area or from our school website. **Please return your form by next week Wednesday 28th September and fees are due in by Friday 30th September.**

We have not charged for any sessions that were booked for Monday 19th September-

Please be aware that if you have already paid for this session, you will be able to use this payment towards your October fees.

Clubs- Our children have now started up other school related/ outside sports club and activities. Please notify us should your child be booked in and will no longer be attending their session, or if they will be coming to us at a later start time due to commencing their new clubs.

Diary Dates – 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

BOLDMERE PTA NEWS

This week we have PTA volunteers busy planning the upcoming Fireworks event and the Christmas Fair (date TBC very soon). We are proud of the work the PTA do and the support of the school family and community. If you would like to find out more about how you can contribute to the PTA, please come along to our Meet & Greet evening on Tuesday 4th October at 8pm in the Training Room.

PTA Fireworks Event – Can You Help?

One of our biggest events of the year is the annual Fireworks display which this year will happen on Friday 4th November. These events are only possible due to our parents, carers and teachers volunteering their time. If you would like to volunteer to help set up, help run a stall, be a marshal or help clear up, please visit www.pta-events.co.uk/boldmere and register with the activities shown. In return for your help, all volunteers will receive free entry to the event and vouchers for free refreshments. Thank you in advance.

PTA Pre-Loved Uniform Shop

Thank you to the many people who sent in uniform donations last week and to the invaluable help we had sorting through the donations. We are pleased to say the online shop has now re-opened and can be accessed through the following link www.pta-events.co.uk/boldmere then by clicking on Shop, Uniform & Merchandise. If you have more items to donate, please either send us an email or contact us via your PTA class rep. Thank you.

Diary Dates

- 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 very soon.

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

SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL WARDEN VACANCY

For further information or to apply please see the link below:

<https://www.wmjobs.co.uk/job/114019/school-crossings-patrol-warden/>

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