

Boldmere Junior School

Weekly Newsletter

A message from Mr Sadler, Head of Junior School

Another incredibly busy week in school this week, a highlight of which definitely includes the maths workshops that we have run, giving parents a flavour of what the maths curriculum looks and feels like here at Boldmere. Following the lower school workshops earlier this year, it was the Year 6 parents that were invited in last Thursday, with the Year 5 parents attending their workshop this morning. As was shared during these sessions, it is an absolute pleasure to be able to host parents in school, particularly so when the emphasis is very much placed on learning and moreover, doing so with their children. Feedback from parents regarding the workshops has been very positive; huge thanks to all staff involved in this, particularly our maths lead Miss Jackson who has led these sessions expertly.

Moving in to this week, something we know many of our children are looking forward to is the Young Voices concert that will be held at Resorts World (NEC) this Wednesday afternoon / evening. This is something the children have been working incredibly hard towards under Miss Brown's guidance during the past couple of months and we wish them all the very best in showcasing their talent: look out for next week's newsletter to hear all about it!

We are well aware that in recent weeks there has been a marked increase in the requests we have made for parental donations; an inevitable consequence of the current financial difficulties faced in schools. A topic discussed in a recent parent representative meeting, and then raised further by another parent last week, is that there will likely be other ways than financial that parents can support the school, in essence offering a 'donation in kind'. It was suggested and recognised that there will be a wealth of skills and interests amongst the parental community in Boldmere that many would be willing to share in support of school improvement. Suggested examples might be parents who are keen 'amateur' photographers who would be prepared to offer their services when we take children's photographs, or others with knowledge / expertise in various trades that could support the enhancing of specific parts of the school environment. In order to try and capture what this 'donation in kind' might look like, below is a link to a short survey whereby parents can share with us examples of any support they would be able to offer. In a joint venture with the infant school, we will audit the responses gathered via this form and at the suggestion of a kind parent, Mr Bennett who is keen to offer his services, seek to form a parent working party to explore this further. Many thanks in advance for your support in this area, whatever format that support takes!

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=o1qZIB4jj0KY5rkBJrERNy4McYFALfNEjga3-UkIGCFUMzZQMVPDTjBaU1I5WTNOUIhLNVdORJCUS4u>

It has been a few weeks since this topic has been shared in the newsletter, but I will again issue a plea with regard to keeping our children safe on and around the roads outside of school. In the past week alone, we have had concerns raised by four separate parents/ residents, one that concerned the obstruction of the road and pavement through inconsiderate and illegal parking, a separate concern relating to the speed at which some vehicles are driving along Cofield Road, one regarding a blocked driveway and lastly, regarding a parent using a resident's disabled parking space. As is usually the case, it is a very small minority that are guilty of this but none-the-less, this still presents a significant risk to our children and families. Whilst our 'powers' outside of the school are limited, it is our responsibility to share with you the very real fear we have that someone could be seriously injured in an accident that is truly avoidable if everybody simply did the right thing.

Finally, I would just like to draw your attention to the very important letter shared by Mr Glasgow yesterday afternoon concerning the pending industrial strike action that many teachers are scheduled to participate in, the first of which is planned for Wednesday 1st February. As Mr Glasgow shared in the letter, we will endeavour to give as much notice as possible regarding the specific implications of this action on individual classes and year groups and will update accordingly as the situation develops. As things stand currently, we are expecting a number of classes to be closed as a consequence of this action, and certainly all year groups will be impacted.

Spring term parents' evenings:

The dates and details of our spring term parents' evenings were shared via parent mail last Friday and parents have already begun taking the opportunity to book an appointment with their child's teacher. Appointments will be conducted remotely via video call, the details for which are included in the letter shared last week. **For the majority of the school, appointments are offered on either Wednesday 8th February or Tuesday 28th February.**

Mrs Hannan will be holding parents' evening for parents of children in 4H on either Wednesday 1st February or Wednesday 8th February; slightly differently as a consequence of her upcoming maternity leave.

Medication required during the school day

If your child needs to take any medication during the school day this **MUST** be given by a parent or responsible adult to the School Office and complete a consent form for the medication to be administered by school staff.

Any prescribed medication must be in the original packaging which has a chemist label with your child's name on it.

Non-prescribed medication such as Calpol, cough medicine, Strepisils and eye drops should also be in the original container or box and can be given once a consent form has been completed.

Please **do not** send any medication with your child or in their bags.

Year 6 Leavers' Hoodies

The deadline for ordering hoodies is Friday 3rd February. Please place any orders by this date via the link below:

<http://www.sportologyonline.com/collections/boldmere-school>

Kickstart Holiday Club

Kickstart Academy will again run a holiday club during the February half-term break. The link below will take you to the booking information and further details offered by the club. <https://www.theksagroup.co.uk/venues#WestBromwich> (scroll down to Boldmere)

Parents should note that Kickstart offer a reduced rate for bookings/payment made by 10th February.

Celebration Assembly w/c 23/01/23

Congratulations to our Values Ambassadors and House point winners:

3U	Isabella	5W	Joseph
3P	Reuben	5CS	Jessica
3M	Aamnah	5B	Ieuan
4RW	Xanthie	6F	Erin
4Q	Harry	6J	Aurora
4H	Oscar	6PJ	Isaac



Tweet of the Week



Federation of Boldmere Schools
@BoldmereSchools

6PJ have been experimenting with charcoal today, taking inspiration from Henry Moore's drawings. We think they look fantastic!



9:34 · 19 Jan 23

View Tweet activity

Attendance

Last week's attendance for the school was 96.6%. Our target each week is 97%

The classes with the best attendance and gaining the attendance leaf for our tree were 6F & 3M.

This term's standings for attendance are as follows:

Week	Class
Week 1	6J and 3M
Week 2	6F and 3M
Week 3	6F and 3M
Week 4	
Week 5	
Week 6	
Week 7	

Childcare Choices Campaign

Over a million families in the UK are entitled to support with the costs of childcare from the government, but many are missing out because they do not realise they are eligible. The Childcare Choices campaign aims to raise awareness and understanding of the support available from the government with the costs of childcare. You can support the campaign and help ensure your parents and carers aren't missing out by directing them to www.childcarechoices.gov.uk where they can easily find the right offers of childcare support for them.

They could be entitled to:

- up to £2,000 a year of Tax-Free Childcare per child (or £4,000 if disabled) for children up to 11, or 17 if they're disabled
- help with up to 85% of their childcare costs for children up to 16 with Universal Credit
- 30 hours of free childcare for 3- and 4-year-olds if they're a working family in England.

Government childcare financial support is not limited to just nurseries and childminders, depending on eligibility criteria, this support could be used for breakfast clubs, after-schools clubs, activity clubs, holiday clubs, and play schemes.

The Department for Education has also developed a [parent toolkit](#) that provides social posts and assets for use on your social media (if applicable) to inform parents and carers of the support available and ensure they aren't missing out.

Parent Voices Needed!

A huge thank-you to everyone who took time out of their day to come and share in your child's maths learning during our Maths Workshops. We have had almost 300 adults attend across all 4 workshops and the feedback has been really positive. We are certainly hoping to do more of these in the future.

If you haven't yet left comments, here are the links for you to leave your much appreciated feedback:

Year 5: <https://forms.gle/dFJx7WYrFPCAn15CA>

Year 6: <https://forms.gle/a6pbi8oXMKUwg2ME7>

We are currently reviewing our subscription of **Mathletics** and are keen to hear parent/carer feedback about this platform. Please complete the following short form to share your opinions on Mathletics:

<https://forms.gle/PV6qYLuEDsfnlVfz8>

Thanks again
Miss Jackson

Boldmere Inclusion Base (BIB) News

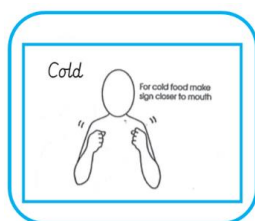
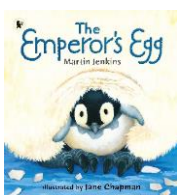
Celebrations:

LK- **Musab** for being a wonderful friend to others.

KM- **Kara** for persevering with difficult work.

Thank you to those of you who came to the Coffee Morning this week. Thank you also, to PC Duncan Long who came to speak to us all about Internet Safety and Mrs. Welch Smith, who spoke about SCERTS. I hope you found the session informative. We will be looking to plan another event soon.

As part of the English work in LK in the next week or so, do any of you have the book, Emperor's Egg by Martin Jenkins at home that Mrs. Kinsella could borrow?



Look out for the new Makaton sign on Twitter. Mrs. Bryan and Mrs. Norrie will show you how to sign 'Cold.'

Finally, please make sure that you complete and return to school, the Annual Review slips and parent views if you have been invited to a meeting, any outstanding parent questionnaires and the Internet letters that were sent out last week. Thank you for your continued support.

Busy Bodies families

Please be informed that the February booking forms are now available for your attention. Forms are due in by next Wednesday 1st February. You are able to collect one from the Junior school office area, a Busy Bodies member of staff or online via the school's website.

On this occasion, due to the proposed strike actions we would understand if parents are not able to hand their hard copies in until Thursday 2nd December. All fees are due in by Friday 3rd February.

Pilates request- We are very thankful for all the parent who have contacted us in the past week regarding Pilates sessions, this is very much appreciated and we look forward to starting some classes soon.

Birmingham School Health Support Service

NHS

Birmingham
Community Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust

SCHOOL NURSE

VIRTUAL DROP-IN

CLINIC

Every
Tuesday
and
Thursday
from
4:30-5:30pm

Your School Nurse is here to help you feel healthy, happy and safe during your school years and to get the best from your education.

Join the link and talk to a School Nurse. We provide a confidential and friendly service.

<https://nhs.vc/BCHC/C-F/Schl-Nurse/Drop-In>

 Best Care
Healthy Communities

 attendanywhere®



Ref: 01136 • 150121

Diary Dates – School Term Dates 2022-2023

Wednesday 25th January

Young Voices Performance at Resorts World Arena starts at 7.00pm

Wednesday 1st February

Class 4H parents' evening

Wednesday 8th February

Parents' evening

Wednesday 15th February – Friday 17th February

Year 4 Whitemoor Lakes Residential

Friday 17th February

Children break-up for February half-term

Monday 27th February

Children return to school

Tuesday 28th February

Parents' evening

Friday 31st March

Children break-up for Easter

Monday 17th April

Children return to school

Monday 1st May

May Day Bank Holiday – School closed

Monday 8th May

King Charles III Coronation Bank Holiday – School closed

Tuesday 9th – Friday 12th May

Year 6 SATs test week (further detail to follow for children and parents in Year 6)

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

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