

Boldmere Junior School

Weekly Newsletter

A message from Mr Sadler, Head of Junior School

Dear parents and carers,

Just a very brief one from me this week as we hurtle towards the 2022 finish line!

Despite the plummeting temperatures, special mention first of all to our Year 5 and 6 netballers who braved the conditions in their first 'truly' competitive netball fixture of the academic year yesterday evening, with Mere Green the opponents. I will reserve giving away too much on the understanding that a match report written by one of the children is pending but suffice to say they left the court with beaming smiles and satisfied by the result of the two matches!

A few Christmas reminders next: Thursday this week is our whole school Christmas dinner day. If you have not already done so, please ensure that you book via the School Grid to ensure our caterers have a clear idea of numbers. Friday this week is when we are celebrating Christmas jumper day (albeit the national day is Thursday). Children are welcome to bring into school a £1 donation that will be given to the Save the Children charity. Next Friday afternoon we will all be visiting St Michael's Church in Boldmere. As shared previously, parents are welcome to attend the service from 2.00pm for carols and can take their children straight home from the church afterwards. (Children whose parents are not able to attend will walk back to school afterwards and be collected in the usual way). Next week will also see all classes truly warm up for Christmas through holding their Christmas parties throughout the week. Finally on a festive theme, next Wednesday evening will see the Year 4 Christmas play performed to parents. **Originally we had scheduled this for a 6.00pm start however we are now going to bring this forward slightly to start promptly at 5.30pm.** This is in recognition of a clash with the World Cup semi-final that we know many of our children, families and staff will be eager to watch...particularly as this will involve England if they manage to get past France this weekend (fingers crossed that finally, it may actually be coming home this year!). The second of the Year 4 performances to parents is on Thursday afternoon at 2.00pm.

Final point from me this week is a very serious one. As I am sure parents and carers will be aware, there have been a small number of tragic fatalities involving children this week, with the cause being the Strep A bacterial infection. Our thoughts are naturally with the families and communities impacted by this. Although contextually the likelihood of children being severely affected by this is incredibly slim, we did contact the school nursing team this week to ensure that we have the most current advice on the matter. The response we have received is captured below. Additionally, we will promote the importance of hygiene and cleanliness with children in school this week, specifically related to handwashing etc. Where absence indicates a particular class is affected by illness, we will also introduce additional anti-bacterial cleaning in those rooms.

"The nurse has contacted the UK Health security agency this morning for advice as they have had a number of queries regarding Strep A. The symptoms to look out for are sore throat, headache, fever, swollen glands and a pinkish/red body rash with a sandpapery feel. The rash may be more difficult to detect on darker skin.

She has been advised that if a child has been diagnosed with Strep A/Scarlet Fever they can return to school 24 hours after starting antibiotics. If they do not have antibiotics then they cannot return to school for 2-3 weeks, 3 weeks to be on the safe side."

Please also see the attached scarlet fever guidance for further information.

COATS TO BE WORN PLEASE!

Due to the colder and wetter weather please ensure that your child is wearing a suitable coat to school every day so they can go outside at break times and lunchtimes. Shoes should also be suitable for this time of year.

LIBRARY BOOK DONATIONS

A massive thank you to the parents that have sent in books for our school library. They are lovely and will be a brilliant resource for the children.

Music Lesson Fees

Please ensure payments of £80.00 for the Autumn Term have been paid via Parent Pay by Monday 12th December. Hardship forms are available for collection from the School Office if you are experiencing financial difficulties. If your application is agreed we will advise you how much of the cost will be subsidised by the school and what you will need to pay. This does not include Year 4 whole class music lessons.

Christmas Cards

Our Christmas post box is back in service. Children can post their cards in the box near the assembly hall.

Educational Visits Reminder

Please ensure payments are made via Parent Pay by the required deadlines to enable activities can go ahead.

Year 5 National Space Centre visit on Thursday 15th December

Year 4 Whitemoor Lakes Residential visit from 15th – 17th February 2023



Celebration Assembly w/c 05/11/22

Congratulations to our Values Ambassadors and House point winners:

3U	Clara
3P	Anashe
3M	Mila
4RW	Katora
4Q	Albie
4H	Nooriya

5W	Hugo
5CS	Anson
5B	Max
6F	Remie
6J	Sophie H
6PJ	Sophie A



Tweet of the week



Federation of Boldmere Schools
@BoldmereSchools

The 1st in our series of 'SPOTLIGHT' assemblies, and it was fantastic! Hosted by Miss Prichard-Jones, our special guest was Nadia the Firefighter! She told us all about her career, showed us some amazing photographs from 'on-the-job', and we even got to check out her uniform!



10:44 · 30 Nov 22 · Twitter for iPad

Attendance

Last week's attendance for the school was 92.96%. Our target each week is 97%

The class with the best attendance and gaining their attendance leaf for our tree was 3U.

This terms standings for attendance are as follows:

Week	Class
Week 1	3U and 3P
Week 2	3M and 5W
Week 3	3M, 4QK and 5W
Week 4	6F
Week 5	3M, 6J and 6F
Week 6	3M and 6J
Week 7	3M
Week 8	3P
Week 9	3M
Week 10	3M and 3P
Week 11	3U

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL - BRING IT ON BRUM FREE ACTIVITIES AND SUPPORT

Winter Holiday Clubs

Bring it on Brum! is running FREE activity clubs in Birmingham for those aged 4-16 who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals during the school Christmas holiday. The majority of clubs will run for 4 days during the week Monday 19th to Friday 23rd December and a smaller number of clubs will run from Wednesday 28th to Friday 30th December 2022. Each child is eligible to attend a maximum of 4 sessions during the winter school holidays.

Activities include sports and games, arts and crafts, cookery, dance and music. Programmes will vary depending on the type and location of each local club, but every day there will be a nutritious meal served up for **free!**

For the Winter programme families of children eligible for free school meals can book online or take their code to access the holiday activities and food programme. Families can visit www.bringitonbrum.co.uk from **Monday 28th November** to book their children's free places, so they can take part in a local club and enjoy the mix of fun action-packed days and tasty food provided through the programme.

Please note HAF codes have been sent to eligible families via ParentMail.

Activity Packs

Activity packs are also available for the winter school holiday; packs are available one per eligible child and are available for Primary or Secondary age.

Families can register for a free winter activity pack from Wednesday 23rd November; registrations close on Wednesday 7th December 2022 or as soon as all activity packs have been allocated. More information on the activity packs and how to register can be found at: www.bringitonbrum.co.uk/activity-packs-and-food-boxes.

Support Contact

For all queries related to the Holiday Activities Programme please contact Birminghamholidayactivities@streetgames.org



The poster features a central shield-shaped logo with a Santa hat, a soccer ball, a basketball, and a bicycle wheel. Text on the poster includes: 'Monday 19th December 2022', '£5 PP Pre-School Children Free', 'OVER 20 SPORTS TO TRY', 'MORNING SESSION 10am - 12noon', 'AFTERNOON SESSION 1pm - 3pm', 'COMMUNITY GAMES Fun and Inspiring', 'WINTER GAMES', 'BMET COLLEGE, Lichfield Road, The Royal Town of Sutton Coldfield, Birmingham. B74 2NW', and 'Tickets Available From - www.trybooking.co.uk/BZIA'. Two QR codes labeled 'SCAN ME' are positioned on either side of the central text.

BIRMINGHAM SCHOOLS ADMISSIONS

Dear Parents/ Carers,

The proposed admissions arrangements for those Birmingham schools that are their own admission authorities and that have asked Birmingham City Council to facilitate the consultation on their behalf can now be viewed.

This consultation starts on **Monday 28 November 2022** and finishes on **Monday 9 January 2023**.

The proposed admissions arrangements can be viewed here: [Proposed admissions arrangements 2024/2025](#)

Any comments on the proposed admission arrangements can be made here at the Birmingham City Council consultation website during the consultation period: [Birmingham Beheard](#)

BUSY BODIES

Polite reminders-

December booking forms- Please be reminded that booking forms were due in last Wednesday 30th November and fees by Friday 2nd December. Currently, there are several booking forms outstanding; the manager has sent a polite reminder to those requiring a booking form for this month.

Please be reminded that January booking forms should be returned by Wednesday 14th December to ensure that we have accurate registers for the weeks following the Christmas holidays.

Blank forms- Recently, we have been receiving a several filled out booking forms without children's names on it. This is a very time consuming activity, going through previous months booking forms in order to try to work out whom to allocate each form.

May we take this opportunity to politely remind parents/ carers to be vigilant when completing your forms. If you feel that you may have forgotten to put your child's names on your December/ January form, please inform the Busy Bodies Manager.

Dropping off- some families who are booked in for 8am are starting to drop off earlier each day, please ensure that you drop off according to your stated time slots. This is not only unfair to those parents having to pay for the additional session time but it is also having a negative impacting on the staff to children ratio of the club in the mornings.

Christmas Holiday Camp

We are delighted to be teaming up with The KSA Group for another fun filled, action packed holiday camp at Boldmere.

Monday 19th - Friday 23rd December

8am-6pm £20.00 per child per day

9am-3.30pm £18.00 per child per day

8am-12.30pm £12.00 per child per day

1.30pm-6pm £12.00 per child per day

Further detail and booking information can be found at <https://www.theksagroup.co.uk/venues>

Diary Dates – school term dates 2022-2023

Wednesday 7th December

Flu Vaccinations

Thursday 8th December (REVISED DATE)

Children's Christmas Dinner

Friday 9th December

Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children

PTA Elfridges

Monday 12th December

Year 4 Christmas Production – Dress Rehearsal

Wednesday 14th December

Year 4 Christmas Production - Evening performance 6:00-7:00pm

Thursday 15th December

Year 4 Christmas Production - Afternoon performance 2:00-3:00pm

Year 5 National Space Centre visit

Monday 12th – Thursday 15th December

Christmas Parties (One year group per day)

Friday 16th December

Children break up for the Christmas holidays

Afternoon church service at St Michael's from 2.00pm (Time TBC)

---2023---

Tuesday 3rd January

INSET day – school closed to children

Wednesday 4th January

Children return to school

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

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

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

Boldmere Inclusion Base (BIB) News

Celebrations

Jake in KM for showing maturity, empathy and kindness to his peers and the younger children in the BIB.

Busy two weeks ahead for us all!

Yesterday KM went on the train to Birmingham and the Apple Store for a coding workshop. A big thank you to Miss Martin for organising it and Mr. Glasgow for coming along to help us too.

We are really looking forward to our Christmas Craft afternoon on Thursday 8th December at 1.45. If you are yet to confirm your attendance please do let your child's class teacher know.

Please continue to send in your family photographs for the display in main school. We have a few but would like as many as possible please.

Christmas Jumper Day is on Friday 9th. Your child is welcome to come in their Christmas Jumper but it is not compulsory. End of term reports will also be sent home at the end of the day too.

The BIB Christmas party will be on Thursday 15th. More details were sent earlier today via Parent Mail.

Save the date- due to the cancellation of the Coffee Afternoon recently, the next one will be 18th January in the morning, 9.15-10.30. Agenda and further details will follow in the New Year.

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