



NEWSLETTER - MARCH 3



Dear Parents/Carers,

My first words in today's newsletter are aimed primarily at Y2 children and families. Due to technical issues yesterday with Parentmail, there has been a delay in our correspondence regarding the Y2 trip to the Black Country Living Museum. As you are probably now aware, payments made for the trip were refunded yesterday as the trip has been cancelled. This is obviously hugely disappointing for staff and children and the decision has not been taken without considerable thought. The deadline for payment was this Wednesday and as of yesterday, we were £440 short of meeting the costs for transport and entrance fee. School were required to pay a non-refundable deposit to the museum yesterday. In previous years we have done this, despite having insufficient funds from parents at this point. School is currently having to make difficult decisions regarding our financial expenditure and as a result, cannot justify this spending. We simply cannot pay money out in advance of "hoping" that parent contributions will cover costs.

Although many parents had made their payments, a number had not done so, or had only partially paid, despite reminders last week. There has been some discussion around the use of the term "voluntary contribution" and we perhaps need to explain further.

Educational visits are not a compulsory part of the National Curriculum, they are simply an excellent way to teach it, and the value of educational visits cannot be underestimated. School endeavours to keep educational costs to a minimum and only passes on to parents the charges incurred. Parents are only asked to cover the costs of their child and are never asked to subsidise other children. However, we perhaps need to stress that without parents paying the full amount requested, the trips cannot take place. School cannot subsidise these financial payments. As ever though, if you are having difficulty in meeting the financial contributions requested, please contact school to discuss ways that we may be able to support.

Diary Dates

Friday 22nd March - Easter Bonnet Parade 9.15am

Friday 22nd March - Break up for Easter holidays.

Monday 8th April - School re-opens to all pupils.

Monday 6th May - May Day Bank Holiday - closed to all pupils

Easter Bonnet Parade

Reminder that this will take place on **Friday 22nd March** at approximately 9:10am after morning drop-off. Weather permitting, children will take part in a parade around the playground/field wearing their bonnets/hats!



Congratulations Board

Congratulations to these children who are on the Congratulations Board this week:

Year 1: Hannah, Flora & Zion

Year 2: Aamina, Lyra & Olive

Nursery September 2024 Intake

Offer letters will be sent out on **Friday 22nd March 2024** via email.

Reply slips need to be returned to school by **Friday 12th April 2024**.

Reception September 2024 Offer Date

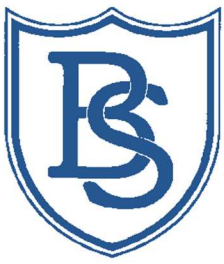
A reminder that offers of Reception places for September 2024 will be made by the Local authority on **Tuesday 16th April 2024**.

Easter Holidays

A reminder that we break up this week on **Friday 22nd March**. We would like to wish all of our families an enjoyable Easter break.

We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on **Monday 8th April**.





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Our final week of term is here and we would first of all like to say well done to all children for their hard work this term. It is lovely to see how all children are so well settled, aware of routines and are making real progress. On this note, we will be sending progress report cards to parents after Easter, detailing summer targets and this will then be followed by the end of year reports on 4th July and Celebration evening on 11th July. As ever, if you have any concerns in the meantime, please email your child's year group email address or speak to the class teacher.

Our first week back after Easter will be an exciting one, culminating in an Eid party day on Friday 12th April. We are having Bhangra workshops for all children, including all BIB classes, on 9th and 11th and children will receive a party bag to decorate and return with party food for their Eid celebrations on 12th. We have requested a £3.00 parental contribution for the workshops, payable on Parentpay as soon as possible please.

We would like to inform everyone that morning access to the school site after Easter will be changing slightly, in response to safeguarding issues raised across the Federation. The main gates between the two schools will remain closed until 8:40am each day. Please can we remind parents/carers that children attending Infant school are the responsibility of parents/carers until the child is welcomed through the school door, and into class. Children should be accompanied to the doors by their responsible adult.

On a final note, it is with a heavy heart that we say goodbye to Mrs. McDonald at the end of this week. Mrs. McDonald is retiring from Boldmere after 20 years of service. She has been a huge inspiration to many staff and children, and her knowledge of Early Years Education (in particular outdoor provision and learning!) cannot be matched! Although we will miss her terribly, we wish her luck with her retirement and would like to say a big thank you for the service that she has given to Boldmere.

Behaviour Approach- Positive Reinforcements

We have recently been reviewing and refining the positive reinforcements that we use as part of the school behaviour approach. Our children are motivated by praise and we want to ensure fairness and consistency. We want to ensure that praise is meaningful and that it acknowledges and reinforces behaviours which are within children's control, and supports pupils to understand how their actions have led to success.

After gathering views from children, parents/ carers and staff, we have made some amendments to the 'Positive Reinforcements' section of the Behaviour Policy. Please see below how praise and positive reinforcements are implemented at Boldmere Infant and Nursery School.

- Adults offer verbal praise to raise behavioural awareness.
- A visit to the Head of School's office to receive a Head Teacher's or Assistant Head Teacher's sticker to celebrate hard work and effort.
- Every week a child from each class is recognised for good behaviour, attitude and achievement. They are then celebrated during Celebration Assembly.
- 'Team Tokens' are awarded to children who are modelling the school values. The tokens are put into year group tubes. When a year group fills their tube they are awarded with a treat, for example, time on the bikes and bike track, or extra golden time
- Class points (monster points) are awarded to children for individual effort, contribution and hard work. Children receive a bronze certificate when they have earned 10 class points, a silver certificate when they have earned 20 and a gold certificate signed by Head of School when they reach 30 points. Throughout the school year all children will have the opportunity to attend a 'Tea Party' with the Head of school to celebrate their achievements and contribute to pupil voice.



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Busy Bodies

April booking forms

As of today, we have 60 booking forms outstanding, forms are due Wednesday 20th and fees due by Friday 22nd.

Crafts

This week sees the start of our Easter crafts, there will be lots of egg-citing things happening at Busy Bodies.

We hope that all our Busy Bodies families have a wonderful Easter break!



Science Selfie Competition

Calling all scientists ...

Our Science selfie competition was a huge success last year so we are repeating it again. As part of our science week which begins on April 22nd we want to encourage you all to think like scientists. We would like to see some selfies of you doing something scientific at home. This could be carrying out a mini beast hunt, planting seeds, making slime, meeting a scientist, visiting a museum... the ideas are endless ... just use your imagination!

All you have to do is take a photo and then, in one sentence, explain what science it is you have been learning.

You can bring in your photos, drawing and diagrams to your class teacher. Don't forget to add your name and class.

Closing date for entries is **Tuesday 23rd April**.

There are prizes to be won for the best three entries!!

Mrs McComish
Science leader

Email addresses for correspondence specific to your child's class/year group.

bib-contact@boldmere.bham.sch.uk

nursery-contact@boldmere.bham.sch.uk

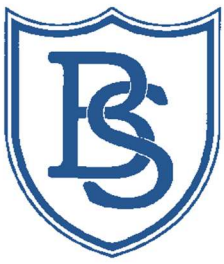
reception-contact@boldmere.bham.sch.uk

yr1-contact@boldmere.bham.sch.uk

yr2-contact@boldmere.bham.sch.uk

Dolce School Catering

If you would like to contact Dolce our school catering company regarding anything to do with school lunches please contact them via customercare@dolce.co.uk



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Absences & Lateness

Please can we remind all parents/carers that you need to call (01214642338) or email (enquiry-inf@boldmere.bham.sch.uk) before 9am in the morning if your child is going to be absent from school or if they are going to be late for any reason. If we have not heard from you then a call will be made to you as part of our responsibility to safeguard children.

Lunchtime Clubs

We have a few spaces left on the Year Two Boys Football and Year Two Tennis lunchtime club. If your child is interested in a place please contact the school office.

Ordering Lunches Via School Grid

Please can we remind parents that you need to order lunches for your child via School Grid. If your child is absent from school, please remember to cancel any ordered lunches as soon as possible to help reduce any wasted meals.

Dogs

Polite reminder that dogs/puppies are not allowed on the school site, whether they are walking or being carried. The ONLY exception are guide dogs.

Medical Appointments

A reminder that if your child will be absent from school, arrive late or have to leave early due to a medical appointment we do need to see some evidence in the school office.

We will need to keep a copy of this to support your child's medical attendance mark on the registers.

Newsletter:

The weekly newsletter can also be found on the school website: <https://www.boldmere.bham.sch.uk>

Values

Our value this half term is appreciation.



Mrs S Kenny
Head of
School
19/03/2024

Samantha Kenny

