

NEWSLETTER - OCTOBER 3

Dear Parents

Mayor Eco Challenge

We are very excited to announce that we have won a grant from the Lord Mayor of Sutton Coldfield to support us with an environmental project. We have chosen to spend the grant on the Reception quad area as this is an area that is used by the children every day, in all weathers. Part of the project is going to be a vegetable patch where the children will be responsible for planting, looking after, harvesting and hopefully eating the produce! The children will be involved at every opportunity and we will keep you updated with the exciting changes that we will be making.



Reading Challenge

Research confirms that reading and being read to regularly at home has a positive impact on a child's academic success. It is also a fun way to relax! To encourage our children we will be sending home the 'Book Explorer Challenge'. This covers a range of books and children's authors. Please sign the relevant square every time your child completes a book at home.

The Lord Mayor's Dress Down Day - 20th October 2017

The Lord Mayor of Birmingham is supporting the charities listed below throughout his term of office and has invited schools and other organisations to take part in a 'Charity Dress Down Day'. This event is taking place on Friday 20 October 2017 to raise funds for the Lord Mayor's Charity Appeal 2017/18. Your child may wear their casual clothes to school as this will be a non-uniform day and we ask that they bring in a £1 donation.

Dementia UK - provides Admiral Nurses for families affected by dementia.

Whizz Kidz - provides children with a disability with the essential wheelchairs and other mobility equipment they need to lead fun and active childhoods.

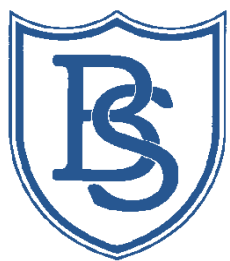
Cherished (including Blossom) - a company based in Sutton Coldfield providing mentoring and support for girls in the community.

Road Safety

It has come to our attention that a number of drivers are driving at speed down Cofield Road in the wrong direction. This is not only very dangerous but is illegal. We are asking local residents to call the police if they witness any driving offences taking place. Please drive with due care and attention around school to ensure the safety of all our children.

Message from Head Teacher

We continually review teaching and learning across school to ensure we are constantly striving for the highest quality provision and the best outcomes for our pupils. Much of our monitoring is carried out by senior and middle leaders in school but we also work closely with local schools to support each other with our school improvement. As part of the North Schools' Company of local primary schools Mrs Caley, Mrs Mason and I work in partnership with other head and deputy head teachers to carry out learning reviews with a focus determined by the host school which supports their school improvement targets. This year we are working with Newhall Primary and New Oscott Primary Schools and will carry out learning reviews in each school. This is an excellent way to carry out rigorous reviews of teaching and learning as well as being a valuable opportunity for external feedback and sharing good practice across our schools.



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Harvest Festival Reminder

On Friday 20th October we will be joining the Juniors at St Michael's Church for a Harvest Celebration for children only; we are not able to invite parents due to lack of space. As part of our Harvest festival we are supporting the church in their collection for the Aston and Nechells' Foodbank which provides emergency food for local people in crisis. In order to collect a variety of food items, each year group has been allocated a type of food from the foodbank's donation list. We would ask that children bring in one item of food that is non-perishable and in-date as follows:

- Nursery - Tinned Fruit
 - Reception - Tinned Vegetables
 - Year One - Coffee
 - Year Two - Fruit Juice/Squash
 - Year Three - Pasta Sauce
 - Year Four - Tinned Tomatoes
 - Year Five - Toothpaste/Brushes
 - Year Six - Chocolate/Snacks
- All donations will be gratefully received. If you could send your items into school on Wednesday 18th or Thursday 19th October it would be much appreciated.



PTA News

Please join us at our PTA meeting tonight (Tuesday 17th October) at Boldmere Harvester from 8pm.

Bonfire Night Tickets are now live!

Please get your tickets for our Bonfire Night on Friday 3rd November from www.pta-events.co.uk/boldmere.

Over half the allocated tickets have gone already so please book early to avoid disappointment. Pre-school children are FREE (no ticket required)! **If you can spare any time on 3rd November, we are setting up in the morning and afternoon and are always looking for help during the event. Please get in touch.** Please remember to keep your pumpkins after Halloween. As you may know we have a display on Bonfire Night.. **WE WANT YOUR PUMPKINS!** Please drop them off at school on the morning of the bonfire.

Lunchtime Clubs

Lunchtime clubs taking place after half term are as follows:

Reception

Multiskills - Wednesdays

Year One

Streetdance - Mondays

Year Two

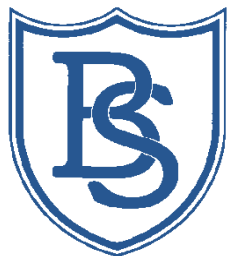
Streetdance - Fridays

Letters were sent home last week and the deadline for the return of slips **AND PAYMENT** is Thursday 19th October. Spare letters can be obtained from the office. A number of parents/carers are ticking to say they have paid but no payment has been received. Please do not hesitate to contact the office if you are experiencing difficulties paying via ParentPay.

Flu Vaccinations

A reminder that the immunisation team will be in school on Wednesday 18th October to administer the nasal vaccination to Reception, Year One and Year Two children; parents are not required to attend. Please ensure you have returned the signed consent form to the school office. Thank you.





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Reception Admissions - September 2018

Information will be posted out by the Local Authority during October and they advise that the following steps are taken:

- Visit schools to find out what they offer;
- Check the chances of being offered a place at your preferred school using the "cut off" distance information at www.192.com and www.Myed.com;
- Use all three preferences to maximise the chance of being offered a place at a local school;
- Bear in mind that the grounds for a successful appeal at Key Stage 1 are very limited;
- Ensure you apply and receive acknowledge of receipt by the closing date of 15th January 2018;
- Be aware that late applications will only be processed after those received by the closing date have been offered.

Parents can visit their Local Authority website at: www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmission for further information. The site is now open for online applications. Our open day for prospective parents will be held on Wednesday 1st November at 10:30am, 2:00pm and 6:00pm. Please note that this is an information sharing meeting for parents only and is not intended for children.

DIARY DATES

18th October - Flu Vaccinations
20th October - Harvest Festival at St Michael's Church-children only
20th October - Break up for half term holidays
30th October - School re-opens to all pupils
1st November - 2018 Reception Entry Open Day
3rd November - PTA Bonfire Night
7th & 8th November - 9-10:15 Y1 Maths Workshop
9th & 10th November - 9-10:15 Y2 Maths Workshop
7th & 8th November - 9-10:15 Y1 Maths Workshop
11th November - Ground Force Day
20th & 21st November - 9-10:15 Reception Maths Workshop
11th December - 9:30 Reception Dress Rehearsal
12th & 13th December - 1:45 Reception Performance
13th December - Y2 Singing at New Oscott Village
14th December - 9:30 Y1 Dress Rehearsal
14th & 15th December - 1:45 Y1 Performance
18th December - 9:30 Y2 Dress Rehearsal
18th & 19th December - 1:45 Y2 Performance
20th December - 10:30/2:30 Nursery Christmas Songs
21st December - Christmas Parties
22nd December - 9:45 Christmas Service at St Michael's Church
22nd December - Break up for Christmas holidays

Busy Bodies Parents & Carers - Important Financial Reminder

All fees MUST NOW be paid through the Parentpay system with the exception of families using the childcare voucher schemes. It is vitally important to ensure that your booking forms and fees are received by Busy Bodies as usual THE LAST FRIDAY in each month and by the date specified on your booking form. Unfortunately, we will no longer be accepting bank transfers, cheques or cash from 1st November 2017. We are sorry for any difficulties this may cause, however all parents should now have a personalised Parentpay login for their children. If you experience any complications, please inform the Busy Bodies manager and we will try to resolve any concerns. Furthermore, please ensure that you complete your booking form thoroughly stating clearly the time and total of your sessions so that we can input it onto the system accurately. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Shanika Kenny

Mrs S Kenny
Head of School
17th October 2017

