



NEWSLETTER - SEPT 1

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome Back!

We hope that you have enjoyed the summer holiday and we warmly welcome all of our families back to school for the start of the new school year. The Year One, Year Two and BIB children seem to have come back happily and settled very quickly into their new classes and the new Reception children began their first part-time sessions yesterday. The first Nursery children have also started. I have been greeted by lots of smiles and hugs as I have walked around school!

This first newsletter of the year is always long as we have lots of information for you - thank you for reading it! Class teachers will be sending home details about topics, PE days etc shortly.

School Closed on Monday 19th September

Monday 19th September, the date of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's State Funeral, will be a national bank holiday, so school will be closed to all pupils and staff on this day.

Diary Dates

We know that parents need to have dates for the year as early as possible. We have endeavoured to collate as many of the dates for the new school year as possible and we attach these to this letter - further details of events will be sent home when we have more information.

Baby News

- Congratulations to Mrs Silverton who welcomed her new baby girl Penelope into the world at the beginning of the summer holidays.
- Congratulations to Miss Sandford who welcomed her new baby girl Eva into the world on Sunday.
- Welcome to the Boldmere family Penelope and Eva.

Reception Classes- Milk Letters, PE Bags and SchoolGrid

Reception class milk letters were sent home yesterday with your child. If you would like your child to have milk in school please return the form to school by 9am on Wednesday 14th September and make your payment if needed via Parentpay.

PE Bags are £3.30 and can be purchased via Parentpay.

School Grid is the system we use in school for ordering your child's school lunch. We are still in the process of setting this up for the new reception children, you should receive an email from School Grid once this has been set up. If you have not received an email by Friday lunchtime please contact the school office.

Nursery September 2022

We still have a few Nursery places available. If you know of or have a child whose date of birth is between 01/09/18 and 31/08/19 who may be interested in a place, please contact the school office on 0121 464 2338 for further information.

Diary Dates

Monday 19th September - School closed for national bank holiday

Tuesday 20th September - Reception children start full time.

Tuesday 4th October- Year 1 parent workshop 9.15-10.15am

Wednesday 5th October - Reception parent workshop 9.15-10.15am.

Thursday 6th October - Year 2 parent workshop 9.15-10.15am

Friday 7th October- Whole school sponsored walk.

Tuesday 18th & Wednesday 19th October - Parents Evening 4pm-6.30pm.

Friday 21st October- Break up for half term holidays.

Monday 31st October- School re-opens to all pupils.

Tuesday 1st November - School Open Day for Reception 2023, 9.30am and 5.30pm

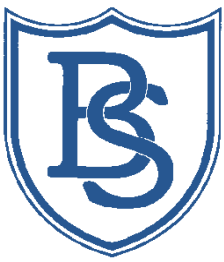
Friday 16th December- Break up for Christmas holidays.

Ordering Lunches Via School Grid

Please can we remind parents that you need to order lunches for your child via School Grid.

Missing Scooter

A scooter has gone missing from the bike/scooter shelter. It is a pink micro scooter with a broken rubber handlebar. Please contact the school office with any information.



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Collecting Children From School

Our school is a large school and our priority is to keep all children safe. At the end of the day children are handed over to parents/ carers at designated places. If you ask someone who does not normally collect your child to collect them, please tell class teachers, as we will obviously not let children leave with strangers. Unless we are given specific written authorisation, we will not let children leave the school in the care of any other child under the age of 16.

We would appreciate any parents who have custody issues relating to the collection of their children, to speak either to class teachers or to the school office. We will do our utmost to make sure that only the nominated people collect children from school, but we do ask parents to let us know when these arrangements change.

Car Parking Outside Of The School

We appreciate the difficulty created by limited parking space for parents who need to drive to school to collect children. As ever, our only concern is for the safety of the children. Could we therefore ask parents not to park in the zig-zag safety area directly outside of the school. We have been supported by our PTA and have purchased "children parking signs" for the bend on Cofield Road. Please adhere to the double yellow line parking restrictions in this area.

These restrictions exist to prevent accidents happening to children - our children are very small and cannot be seen behind parked vehicles.

Disabled badges are permitted to park on the double yellow lines.

Sponsored Walk

Our annual sponsored walk will take place on the 7th October. We are holding this for children across the whole school, in order to raise funds for the outdoor environment. As you can appreciate, our outdoor resources have a great amount of use and we are hoping to buy much needed equipment to re-stock it for this year! More details and sponsor forms will follow next week.

Contact Details

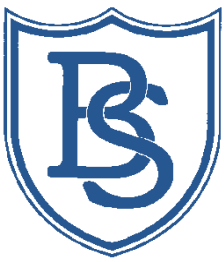
It is essential that parents/carers inform us whenever home addresses, mobile telephone numbers or any other contact details change. We must be able to get in contact with a parent at all times.

Newsletter:

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

Medical Conditions And Allergies

If your child has an on-going medical condition, such as asthma or an allergy, could you please ensure that the school is aware of the condition and has any prescribed medication. All medicines other than asthma inhalers and epi-pens are kept in the office and it is the responsibility of parents to ensure that medication is in-date and replenished when necessary. Inhalers and epi-pens are kept in the classroom. Children with long-term medical conditions will all have a care plan and parents should provide school with a copy as soon as possible. Any other prescribed medications that need taking during the day, should be taken, by parents, to the school office. If the school is required to give medicines, a parental consent form will be needed; these are available from the office. In line with all Birmingham schools, we are not allowed to administer any non-prescribed medication. If children have specific allergies e.g. to nuts, eggs or sticking plasters, please inform class teachers or the school office. We do have a number of children with nut allergies in school, and would ask parents, if at all possible, to avoid the use of nuts or peanut butter in packed lunches as this can trigger the allergy in other children. This also includes Nutella chocolate spread.



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E-Safety

Ensuring that children are safe when using all different kinds of information technology is an essential life skill. We do lots of work in school with the children to help them increase their e-safety awareness. We have also put some very useful resources on the school website

www.boldmere.bham.sch.uk

Go to the 'Safeguarding' tab, then 'E-Safety' tab. You can access this and support your child to keep safe when using technology.

Children's safety when accessing different technological devices is absolutely paramount and is a shared responsibility of both home and school.

Donations Of Plants, Veg Or Herbs Needed

We are developing a new wellbeing garden and were wondering if anyone had any plants, herbs or vegetables that they could donate for us to plant in this area. Thank you in advance.

Boldmere Inclusion Base News From Mrs Preece:

Welcome back everyone! It was so lovely to see everyone last week. I hope you all had a great Summer break and are looking forward to the Autumn Term. We also welcome two new members of the BIB Team. Miss Martin, who will be taking over in class when Miss Driscoll leaves to have her baby and Miss Shakespeare, who is joining Giraffe class.

Notices

'Mr. Ryan' will be taking the BIB children for P.E again. This term, the children will have both an indoor and outdoor P.E session. Please ensure that children have suitably warm 'outdoor' P.E kits.

Children who have transitioned from Year 2 to Year 3 are no longer entitled to free fruit. So please can you make sure that your child has a snack for break time please.

Please continue to read with and share stories with your child, making a note of when this happens in your child's reading diary.

Our sensory room has been fitted out over the summer break. We are absolutely thrilled with it. We will continue to develop it and purchase new equipment over the coming months.

To enable us to support your child's sensory needs effectively, a sensory profile will be sent home to be completed. Please return this to your child's teacher once completed.

We have been lucky enough to receive some free resources for the BIB since the start of the year. Last term, 'The Loft men' generously provided us with a bespoke door to create a storage area in the Early Years Garden, free of charge.

Finally, a big thank you too all of you for your support. It really does make a difference.

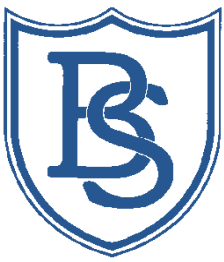
Busy Bodies

Welcome back to all our families, we hope that all our children have settled back into school and Busy Bodies. It has been a pleasure welcoming all of our children to the club and hearing your stories of the summer break.

The past week has flown by so quickly, however we have seen all our children enjoying their new classes and playing together with their friends.

A polite reminder- All new reception children have now been assigned to our ParentPay payment items, therefore all our families are now able to pay for their Registration fees and September fees. Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate in contacting the Busy Bodies Manager who will be happy to help.

October Booking forms- will be available for collection from the Busy Bodies desk/ Junior school office and downloadable from the school website from next week.



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Now for the long list of reminders:

a) The School day: Doors open at 8.50am for 'trickle in' time and all children should be in school by 9.00am. Registers are marked at 9.00am and we are required to mark as 'late' any child who is not in school at the close of registers. The school day ends at 3.20pm when children are handed over to parents or carers by class teachers. Reception children come out a few minutes earlier to enable parents to collect children from different year groups.

b) Parent/teacher contact drop-in sessions: Parents are very welcome to come into the classrooms after school on Mondays from 3.30-4.00 pm. This is an opportunity for you to ask any questions about our school, your child's progress or even to look at displays. No appointments are needed for drop-in sessions but it is useful to inform staff in the morning if you would like to see the teacher. If parents need to speak to class teachers about any aspect of their child's education, please feel free to make an appointment at any time during the school year.

Staff can be contacted with queries either by telephone or email.

Please contact the school office in the first instance and we will direct your enquiry as appropriate. Enquiries are dealt with initially by the class teacher or the year lead.

Please use these emails for correspondence specific to your

child's class/year group. The email addresses are listed at the end of the newsletter.

c) Jewellery: Earrings, necklaces and bangles must not be worn to school as they can easily get caught when young children play. Simple studs for pierced ears are acceptable, but should be removed for PE. With our young children, we request that parents remove earrings on PE days. If your child is unable to remove jewellery for religious reasons please let class teachers know and we will ask them to cover it up during PE to prevent any risk of accident.

d) Book Bags: Please can you ensure that your child has an appropriate book bag in school. Please do not send in huge rucksack style bags as they do not fit into the children's drawers. This results in them being left on the floor in cloakrooms and is a safety hazard. Book bags are available to purchase from the school for £3.80 and are the perfect size for storing in drawers. Please pay via Parentpay.

e) PE Bags: PE bags are available to purchase from the school at a cost of £3.30. Please make the payment via Parentpay. PE kits (indoor and outdoor) will need to remain at school at all times and will be sent home every half term for washing.

f) Parentpay: Parentpay is the platform we use in school for any payments that need to be made. Payment instructions, log in details and passwords are all sent home when your child first starts at school. There are a few methods of payment that can be used by

parents.

To clarify so that parents can make their own informed decisions: If using the bank transfer method of payment - it can take 3-5 working days and sometimes up to 10 days for the funds to be cleared by the bank before the school can access the money to make refunds.

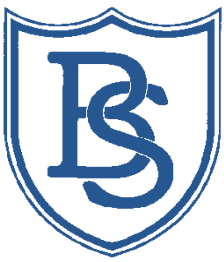
If parents scroll a little further down the payment page to checkout and choose either visa checkout or pay-use another method and then put/save your card details, the money is then cleared immediately so that if necessary school can refund as soon as we are able to. This applies to all payments made via Parentpay.

g) Clothes labelling: Could parents please make sure that ALL clothes and shoes are clearly marked with a label or an indelible pen. School uniform is expensive and if clothes are named, we can return lost items to their owners. Lost property is collected in the corridor by the library, parents are welcome to check there for lost items - the best time is after school.

h) Toys, smart watches, keyrings, birthday sweets & drinks

We request that children do not bring their toys from home into school and please do not put keyrings on book bags. We also ask you to check that children are not wearing smart watches. These have camera devices.

We have many children at school with allergies and so we ask that



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children do not bring sweets to share with their classmates, but save them for parties at home. Please provide a named water bottle from home each day. If your child does not drink water or milk, please speak with the class teacher.

i) Milk: Free milk is provided daily, until your child reaches 5 years of age. Following their 5th birthday a small charge is made but please order milk from school by completing the request form and making payment via Parentpay.

j) Fruit: All children receive a piece of fruit each day as part of the Government's Healthy/Free campaign. There is no cost to parents for this snack.

k) Absence:
The Government legislation relating to Term Time absences states that head teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances, in which case a letter explaining why your child will be absent should be sent to Mrs Kenny. If your child is absent from school due to illness, could you please contact the school office on the first day of their absence and then send a brief note to the class teacher when your child returns to school. If we have not heard from you on the day of your child's absence we will be making a phone call to you as part of our responsibility to safeguard children. It is a legal requirement that we account for every absence and the attendance of each child is monitored by the local authority and levels of absence reported to the Department for Education.

School follows Birmingham's Fast Track to Attendance policy when dealing with attendance concerns and prosecutions.

Please see the important letter attached regarding attendance.

l) Dogs in school

With the exception of Guide Dogs and trainee Guide Dogs, we must insist that parents do not bring dogs on to the school site, including the playground, field and through the gates onto school property. This includes dogs on a lead and those being carried. We have children with allergies and others who are very scared of dogs and we must ensure that school is a safe environment for them.

m) Scooters and bikes on the playground

We continue to be delighted to see so many skilled scooter and bike riders in school and hope that the bike/scooter rack is helping store them safely. Could we ask that children do not ride scooters and bikes on the playground - with 270 children on the main site, this leads to accidents.

n) School Meals: School lunches for your child must be ordered daily via SchoolGrid. Please make sure you update all food allergies and preferences via SchoolGrid if anything changes.

o) WhatsApp:

Please note, WhatsApp groups are for out of school communication. If you require clarification regarding absences, illness or any school policy/procedure please contact the school directly.

Boldmere Family Displays

We consider our school to be a very large family, therefore we would love your child to bring in a family photograph next week. We want to make a whole school "Boldmere Family" display to celebrate how families and schools work together. Please note that photographs are being used for a display so they may fade or be pinned (a copy or spare photograph is ideal).

Commonwealth Games Display

We are planning on making a display in school of photo's that people have taken whilst attending all of the wonderful Commonwealth Games events during the summer. If you have any photos that you would like to share with us to be displayed then please send them into school. Please note that they will be used on a display so they may fade or be pinned (a copy or spare photograph is ideal).



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PTA News

Welcome back and Hello to the new parents and carers joining the Boldmere family this year. The PTA are excited for the year ahead and we're looking forward to raising money to fund projects, activities and improvements that will benefit all our children.

The PTA is an independent charity run by volunteers who are parents, carers or teachers of children at Boldmere Infant & Junior School. Last year we raised and donated over £23,000 to the school.

We're really proud of our school community and their ability to come together and raise funds that improve our children's school experience. Each year we lose volunteers as their children move on to secondary school - to ensure the continuing success of our PTA we need to replace these volunteers.

On Tuesday 4th October at 8pm we'll be hosting a welcome meeting in the Training Room between the two schools, where parents and carers are invited to come along and learn about who the PTA are, what we do, how we do it and about our plans for the year ahead. There will be drinks and nibbles available.

We will also hold our AGM at the meeting, which as a registered charity we must do each year. The meeting will provide an opportunity for you to learn how you can become involved in the PTA. This year we're looking for a secretary, members of our PR team and event volunteers. Please get in touch to find out more.

Diary Dates

· **Wk/C 12th September** - Pre-Loved Uniform Donations

PTA volunteers will be collecting clean, good condition pre-loved items of school uniform. These will be sorted and placed onto our online shop.

· **Wk/C 19th September** - Online Pre-Loved Uniform Sales re-open

Keep an eye on our social media accounts for more information.

· **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 soon.

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

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

Thank you for reading this rather long letter.

Mrs S Kenny
Head of
School
13/09/2022