

Friday 24th September, 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Our Reception children continue to do so well with settling into school. This week, each half of Bee and Ladybird Class, met the other half. Therefore, all of the sixty children have been in school together at times. We have been so impressed with the confidence they are demonstrating and their love for learning new things.

Today was our first 'Feel Good Friday' – on the last Friday of each month the whole school focuses on a theme, to support well-being. Today's theme was 'Facing New Challenges with Positivity'.

To see what each class across the school has been up to this week, please remember to see your child's Google Classroom Stream for an outline of completed activities and accompanying photographs.

Also, on the school website at <https://www.newbridge.bathnes.sch.uk/school-life/newbridge-photo-gallery-term-6-2021> you will be able to look back at all of the images from last year's newsletter. They are lovely and represent the spirit and breadth of school life.

Although we are now not sharing photographs in the same way on the weekly newsletter, we will collate all of the images shared on Google Classroom at the end of each term, and share them here too.

Extra-Curricular activities

More than ever, since 16th March 2020, school life feels pretty much normal. Another indicator of this is the recommencement of peripatetic music lessons and extra-curricular activities. Music lessons started last week and a full range of wider opportunities, through extra-curricular provision, will commence from Monday 27th September. We are able to provide twenty four clubs – before school, during lunchtime and after school - which is brilliant and such a positive step forward. Please know, that if your child is entitled to free school meals, then the school will be able to contribute towards the cost of any activities that incur a charge – please get in touch with the school office to know more about this. A document detailing where the activities will be held and the collection arrangements has been sent today. Please can I ask you to look at this, so that next week's arrangements go as smoothly as possible.

'Everyone Active'

Many families will remember that I used to provide 'Everyone Active' before the pandemic. This has been both running on the field and Street Dance in the hall. For now, this will just be the outside running sessions. For those who don't know, this is a time for all family members to come along and exercise on the field together. Everyone runs or walks laps of the field and it is not competitive, at all, just a fun and positive way to promote good health. In the past, pre-schoolers and grandparents have joined in too – the more the merrier. The children should wear PE kit and trainers and bring a filled water bottle. The grass will likely be wet on some mornings, so please be prepared for this. Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 must be accompanied by an adult. For older children, who come unsupervised, they must stay on the field for the duration of the session and until I dismiss them to class at 8.40am. Please can I ask that parents leave the site at 8.40am, just before the children start to arrive for the start of school. We will keep the sessions going for as long as we can into the term, as the field may become impacted by the weather.

Maths and Reading Meeting for parents

You are still able to sign up for the Maths and Reading meetings being held in school on Tuesday 24th September, There will be a meeting at 2pm, with the same meeting repeated at 6pm. These meetings will provide you with tips on how you can support your child at home.

Please sign up at <https://forms.office.com/r/b4NAj61ALz>.

Monday 27/09/21

- Clubs start

Tuesday 28/09/21

- Maths & Reading Meetings for Parents at 2pm and 6pm in school
- Y2 Forest School for **2A**

Wednesday 29/09/21

- Y4 Forest School for **4B**

Friday 01/10/21

- School Photos

Tuesday 05/10/21

- Y2 Forest School for **2T**

Wednesday 06/10/21

- Y4 Forest School for **4KR**
- Parents' Evening via SchoolCloud

Tuesday 12/10/21

- Y2 Forest School for **2A**
- Parents' Evening via SchoolCloud

Wednesday 13/10/21

- Y4 Forest School for **4B**

Monday 18/10/21

- Harvest Festival (Pupils only)

Tuesday 19/10/21

- Y2 Forest School for **2T**

Wednesday 20/10/21

- Y4 Forest School for **4KR**

Friday 22nd October

- End of Term 1

Our NPSA

Please come along to the first NPSA meeting of the year on Monday 27th September at 7.30pm, in the Blue Room - this is the room to the right of the upper school front entrance. Whilst all parents are members of the NPSA, events and activities take time to organise and provide. If you wish to be involved and play an active role, big or small, in the Association's work and supporting your school, then please come.

Before this, on Sunday, the NPSA is teaming up with Oldfield School Association to provide refreshments, at Oldfield School, for the Circuit of Bath Walk in aid of Julian House. If you wish to donate cakes, or help on the day, please email:

npsabath@gmail.com

Excitingly, the NPSA will hold its first cake sale, for a very long time, after school on Friday 8th October! This will be held in the upper school hall and details of how this will operate, will follow.

Doodle – Home Learning

Teachers from Year 2 to Year 6 will today have set the 'extras' for home learning on the Doodle platform. Children are expected to complete these tasks each week.

The children will also be expected to practise spellings, times tables, number bonds and reading, as detailed by their year group. Details of these can be found on the Back to School documents on the Class pages at:

<https://www.newbridge.bathnes.sch.uk/classes>

School Photographs

Individual and sibling photographs will take place on Friday 1st October. If your child would usually wear PE kit on this day, please know they can wear uniform to school instead.

Parent Consultation Meetings

These will be held online, via School Cloud, on Wednesday 6th October and Tuesday 12th October between 3.45pm and 6.45pm. Each appointment, one per pupil, will be scheduled for ten minutes. The booking system opens today at 7pm, with information about this sent to you on Thursday 23rd September. When your appointment is booked, your child's learning books, from Year 1 upwards, will be sent home for the weekend either on Friday 1st or Friday 8th October. These will need to be returned to school on the following Monday.

Entitlement to Free School Meals

If you are in receipt of, or are currently applying for any of the below listed benefits, your child(ren) may be entitled to free school meals. The qualifying benefits are: Income Support; Job Seekers Allowance; Employment Support Allowance; Child Tax Credit; Pension Credit; Working Tax Credit run-on; Asylum Seeker or Universal Credit. I have attached the application form which provides further information. If you are not able to access this form, have any queries or would like to register by telephone, please contact: (01225) 394317 or email freeschoolmeals@bathnes.gov.uk. Please know, that this application also includes those pupils currently in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 – whilst their school meals are funded by the government, as a school we can receive additional funding per child, to support their learning and wider opportunities.

Goodbye to Mrs Thorpe and Mrs Laité

Two highly committed and skilled Teaching Assistants left their roles this week to explore new ventures. Thank you to Mrs Laité and Mrs Thorpe for the many years they have worked within the staff team and for the support they have offered many children. We all wish them luck.

Guidance for your reference

For reference, please see the full government guidance about the return to schools.

[Schools COVID-19 operational guidance](#) (updated 27th August 2021)

[What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges during COVID-19](#) (updated 17th August 2021).

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

With best wishes



Gill Kennaugh



BONKERS ABOUT CONKERS!



We're looking for conker donations for making and play at Forest School. If you've got a collection you're willing to part with, or find some when you're out and about, we'd love to have them. There will be a big red trug just inside the top gate into the Wildwood to drop your donations.



STARS OF THE WEEK



Bee Whole Class

1EO Olivier F & Duru Nia C

2T Alice S & Ronnie H

3OG Rakib K & Alice S

4B Skye T & Barnaby B

5G Niamh H & Joshua B

6B Maisie A & Elijah A

Ladybird Whole Class

1R Aria S & Jos P

2A Harrison H & Izzy S-G

3C Florrie S & Tom C

4KR Millie M & Ruben T

5HT Mason C & Astrid G

6H Zoe L & Jasmine H



CURRICULUM CORNER

Super Spellings

Can you come up with a **mnemonic** for your spellings this week?

Here's an example!

FRIEND - Fluffy rabbits in England nap dozily

RECEPTION CLASSES ALL TOGETHER

