



Bromley Bulletin

 Bromley Heath Junior School

Join the Learning Adventure!

Dates for the Diary...

October

25.10.18 FoS disco

End of term

26.10.18 INSET 2

November

5.11.18 Start Term 2

w/c 12.11.18 Anti-bullying week

12.11.18 Tetras class assembly
2.45PM

15.11.18—16.11.18 Year 5 camp

w/c 19.11.18 NO CLUBS

19.11.18 Parent Consultations 1

22.11.18 Y3 Stonehenge trip

22.11.18 Parent consultations 2

23.11.18 Year 4 Viking workshop

26.11.18 Tigers class assembly
2.45PM

29.11.18 Additional Y3 Parent
consultations

December

3.12.18 FoS Film Night

4.12.18 - 6.12.18 Year 5 Pedestrian
training

7.12.18 Year 4 Learning Lunch

20.12.18 FoS Disco

21.12.18 Enrichment 2

End of term 2

January

7.1.19 INSET 3

8.1.19 Start Term 3



With the end of Term 1 quickly upon us, we will soon be moving on from our core value of 'Responsibility' and beginning to think about the value of 'Respect'. Our learning, reflection and discussions throughout the coming term will encourage children to demonstrate respect for themselves, for their peers and for the wider community. This value overlaps nicely with the British Values of tolerance and so we will be actively discussing and celebrating our differences and uniqueness. Please talk to your children about this to help the children to understand the importance of this value in all aspects of life and society.

HOME LEARNING

A huge thank you to all of the families who returned their parent survey. It has been very thought provoking reading through all your comments and considering your views about this matter. A summary of responses will be made available on the school website should you wish to see the outcomes. We appreciate all of your views and value the honest, reflective and positive comments for the school. It is important to acknowledge that home learning is, and always has been, a topic which elicits varying views.

As a school, we believe strongly that homework is an opportunity to reinforce and rehearse key skills and concepts - building confidence and strengthening learning opportunities for our learners. Following the overwhelming feedback from families, we will, over the next few weeks, be revisiting our approaches to home learning with an aim to retain the very best and most pertinent aspects of home learning while refocusing on specific and purposeful skills development for our children.

While the majority of families have confirmed that the amount of time and expectation for our children is appropriate for their age, we appreciate that this is a difficult balance in both preparing children for the demands of secondary school and ensuring that children are still able to fully engage in their wider interests and activities outside of school. With this in mind, and with school finding that children with secure basic and fundamental skills are better able to access learning and consequently flourish, we are proposing a shift in focus from the weekly, subject specific tasks to an increased focus on the key skills of spellings, mental arithmetic and daily reading. Our year 6 children will also continue to receive additional home learning as the year progresses to ensure that they are prepared for the next step in their journey.

During term 2, we will be fine tuning these new approaches with a mind to rolling it out from Term 3. Until further information can be given to clarify what this looks like for our children and families at home, home learning will remain unchanged.

Information and reminders

Bromley Heath SOUPer Troupers

A huge thank you to our BHJS SOUPer Troupers team who represented BHJS so brilliantly recently at the Junior SOUP event. The evening was a great success, as three local teams of school children presented their ideas to change the world to an audience of over 120 people. Thank you to parents and teachers who came along to support the team too. We were very proud of you all.

If you missed the Junior SOUP email, our BHJS Souper Troupers want to reduce plastic pollution in the ocean, so they are starting plastic bag recycling. To join in, simply fill any clean bread bag with other clean, stretchy plastic bags and bring your filled bread bags to the school gate on Friday mornings. Make sure one of the team writes down which class you are from when you hand in your bag, the team will be counting how many bags we recycle and giving a class treasure credit to the class who recycles the most each week. Helen Buick

www.downendsoup.com / children@christchurchdownend.com



Class Attendance Celebration

Well done Angelfish and Archerfish classes who have the highest overall attendance at 99.5% across Term 1. What a brilliant start to the year!

Protect our Children Online!

Our children are increasingly spending their time online, sharing images and videos and are gaming with unknown 'friends'.

These activities could increase risk for our vulnerable young people. Please spend some time looking through the thinkuknow website and exploring some of the information about 'Young People Online' and advice for parents.

Celebrating our children's successes

Congratulations to the following children for their out of school achievements...



Ben Phillips—Was awarded 'Best overall performance' in a Year 3 Athletics competition

Leo George—Was awarded 'Best overall performance' in a Year 4 Athletics competition

Ella Bossina—awarded a merit in grade one flute

Mai Williams—awarded a merit in grade one flute

Heather Cooper—awarded a pass in grade one flute at Trinity College London.



Harvest

A huge, heartfelt thanks for all donations towards our Harvest collection this year. The food parcels which Christ Church CAP volunteers give out are such a blessing to families who are living on a carefully planned budgets.



Remembrance

On Friday 9th November the children of BHJS will be spending the afternoon learning about the Armistice Centenary. If you, or a member of your family, have any significant stories you would like to share about WWI or WWII, we would welcome visitors to the school in order to help our children to better understand its significance and impact.

Please contact the office to arrange.



General Information and Reminders



Parent Leadership Team (PLT)

We are looking to establish a PLT who represent each of the classes across the school. We aim to meet on a termly basis for an informal tea and chat with a member of SLT. If you are available during the school day and would like to be the representative of your child's class, please contact the school office and a member of the team will get back to you with details of the meeting.

Growth Mindset

We are training our learners to develop a growth mindset. At BHJS, we celebrate mistakes as this means that we are challenging our children's thinking. It is essential therefore that our children see mistakes as an opportunity to become stronger, develop new learning pathways and deepen our understanding.

Enrichment

A huge thank you to all who came into school last week to support during our first enrichment morning—it was a fabulous opportunity for our children to further develop a range of life skills and work with children from across the school.



Sporting Updates

A huge congratulations to our football and rugby teams who have recently been highly successfully while representing BHJS in local community competitions.

Football news: The boys football team got off to a flying start this year, with 3 wins in the league. Our girls football team competed in the South Gloucestershire schools tournament earlier this month and took the tournament by storm, coming out as overall winners!

Rugby news: our rugby team continued our huge success from last year by winning the first league tournament earlier this month.

Overall a truly fantastic start to our sporting calendar - we are proud of you all!



Staffing updates



It is with sadness that we will be saying goodbye to **Caroline Harding** at the end of December as she is leaving the school to start a new adventure outside of teaching. Having been a part of the school for 10 years now, she has helped and supported many children and families within the community. I know you will join me in wishing Caroline every happiness in the future; she

has been an invaluable member of the BHJS team and her departure will be felt by staff, children and families alike.

Natasha Neely has been appointed to take the mantle as class teacher within Tetras class from January. We have also been lucky enough to secure Natasha for term 2 to work alongside Miss Harding. As a school, we feel that this extensive handover will ensure that the transition for the Tetras is smooth and seamless. Natasha is very excited to start her journey at BHJS and there will be ample opportunity to meet with her in Term 2.

We are also pleased to welcome **Mr Ian Taylor** to the team this week who is taking on the role of Caretaker within the school. I know that you will make him feel very welcome if you see him in the mornings.

Mindful Moment

We all have moments where everything seems overwhelming. In these moments, mindfulness can help to calm what may otherwise feel like chaos.

If this sounds familiar, next time try the following mindfulness exercise:

1. Stop.
2. Put one hand on your belly and one hand on your heart.
3. Take a long, slow, deep breath in.
4. Fill the lower belly first, and then gradually fill up to the top of the throat.
5. Slowly let the breath out in reverse.