

Billesdon Church of England Primary School



Spring 2 Newsletter – 2024



Message from the Headteacher

Welcome back after the half term break – we have a very short half term until the next holiday period for Easter (a whole 4 weeks!)

Thank you all for welcoming Miss Buzzard-Shaw to the School Office, she has enjoyed getting to know our families; matching children to parents and bringing her extensive experience to our school. Within the office, the school is looking to upgrade the telephone system during the spring term and will soon be implementing electronic registers for attendance as part of upgrading school systems. We are also looking at improvements to support parents with paying for school dinners, clubs and trips electronically which will give us a more modern feel and support lots of our parents who cannot get to the school office regularly.

We have a staffing change to announce for Peace and Faith classes – after a successful recruitment process, we are delighted to announce that Mrs Lorraine Corkan will be joining our staff team permanently to work on Mondays in Faith Class and Fridays in Peace Class. She has provided cover during the autumn term consistently and has integrated practice with Mrs Brooks and Mrs Morris successfully for the benefit of our children. Mrs Corkan is an experienced practitioner who has taught in large and small primary schools across the primary phase and we look forward to drawing on her expertise in the future.

Curriculum Updates – the school continues to work in collaboration with a local Multi-Academy Trust to continue our curriculum development work and all staff access Network Meetings within their subject areas for access to resources or moderation of work across a wide professional base. The staff are developing formative assessment practices which will support consistent monitoring of subject knowledge across all year groups in the foundation subjects which are not “tested”. Our staff team meet weekly to cascade new training and practices and our Governing Body has undertaken monitoring visits to support subject development to support rigorous curriculum development.

We were delighted to support Children’s Mental Health Week prior to half term with activities held in all classes for the theme “My Voice Matters”. We also hosted a visit from the local Mental Health team (thank you, Mrs Clare!) who held sessions with the infant and junior children separately and guided them in making soothing squeezies. Our local sports partnership also provided resources for families to use at home and we hope you joined in with the competition. Safer Internet Day education was also a focus during this week with children focusing on new technology and how to use it positively. These initiatives, alongside our in-school mental health work, are hugely important and have a really positive impact on our children.

During this half term, on 1 March sees the release of the Secondary School Places and the school is prepared to complete transition work with all local schools to support our Year 6’s as they move on; the release of the Primary School Places for our new EYFS intake will take place on 16 April and the school is looking forward to welcoming our new intake to their transition sessions next term.

Some of the events to look forward to will include exciting events such as Science Week (theme of Time and a competition launch – see letter of 9 March), Move it March – aimed to get children moving more and enjoying themselves, the Billesdon Great Egg Race, a visit by the Kibworth Youth Band and our Easter Service in Church on Friday 22 March at 2:00pm. We are also hoping to visit the Rees family farm (huge thanks to the Rees family for their support) as a whole school initiative which supports our curriculum work on 19 March – please look out for letter soon for further information.

- Mrs. Willcocks

Academic Year 2023-2024 – Dates for your diary:

Spring Term 2024

27 February	Y5/6 Dodgeball Competition @ RSA 3:45pm
28 February	5:00pm KS2 Residential Trip Presentation – Faith Class
1 March	Release of secondary school places
14 March	Visit – Kibworth Youth Band
14 March	1:00pm Y3/4 Tag Rugby Festival @ RSA
15 March	Red Nose Day & Spring Term Reports to Parents
19 March	Parents' Evening 1
20 March	Parents' Evening 2
21 March	9:30am Billesdon Great Egg Race
22 March	2:00pm Easter Service at Church
22 March	3:00pm SCHOOL CLOSE – Easter holidays

Summer Term 2024

8 April	School OPEN
9 April	Y3/4 QuikSticks Hockey 3:45pm @ RSA
9 April	7:30pm PAFA AGM
11 April	Y5/6 QuikSticks Hockey 3:45pm @ RSA
16 April	Release Day for Primary School Places
30 April	Y5/6 Netball Competition 3:45pm @ RSA
6 May	May Day Holiday – School Closed
13-16 May	KS2 SATs week
19-22 May	Faith Class Residential Trip
20 May	KS2 Athletics @ Saffron Lane
27-31 May	HALF TERM
3-7 June	Y4 Multiplication Check week
10 June	EYFS New Parent Presentation Evening 6:00pm
17-21 June	New EYFS Home Visit Week
18 June	Sports Day
21 June	Y3/4 Mini Olympics @ RSA
24-26 June	UCC Transition Days
24 June	EYFS Stay & Play Session 1 9:30-11:00am
25 June	Reserve Sports Day
26 June	EYFS Stay & Play Session 2 1:00-2:30pm
27 June	KS1 Multi Skills Tournament @ RSA AM session
28 June	End of Year Reports to Parents
2 July	KS2 Show – Afternoon performance
3 July	KS2 Show – Evening Performance
10 July	School CLOSES – 3:00pm

Academic Year 2024-2025

29 August 2024	School OPENS
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