

# Brize Norton

## Primary School

www.brizeprimary.org · [office.2250@brize-norton.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.2250@brize-norton.oxon.sch.uk)



Newsletter 162

6th September 2019

Dear Parents,

### **WELCOME BACK**

It is really lovely to see everyone back again, and all our new children seem to be settling in well. Your smiles are what makes our school the special place it is.

### **THANK YOU**

Thank you for accommodating our new morning routines. With parents not coming into the school, children settle to learn more quickly and in a calmer way. However, we do want you to feel welcome to speak to us. Teachers are available for a quick chat at the end of most days, or please contact the school office to make an appointment to see me or your child's teacher. If you need to see the office staff, please come through the corridor door and upstairs in the morning. Letters for the office can be put in either of our letterboxes – the one at the school end of the corridor or the one in the playground – but please in sealed, labelled envelopes.

### **HOME SCHOOL AGREEMENT**

This will have been sent home with your child. The teacher will have signed her commitment and we would be grateful if you would go through it with your child, sign your section and ask your child to sign theirs before returning it to school. The purpose of it is to remind children at the start of the year how important it is that we all do our bit to make sure they make progress; the signed forms can be referred to during the year as a useful reminder.

### **FOREST SCHOOL**

Forest School takes place two afternoons a week at Brize Norton. This term, it will be Mondays for children in the Foundation Stage and half of Year 1, and Tuesdays for the other Year 1 children and children in Year 2. It will start next week for the Year 1 and 2 children and the following week for Foundation.

On Forest School days, children should come to school in clothes you do not mind getting muddy, with long sleeves and long trousers; they should wear their school jumper on top. In a bag they need an alternative jumper to change into, full waterproofs (coat and trousers) and wellies. When the weather becomes cold they will also need hats and gloves. We do Forest School in all weathers because part of the purpose of it is for children to enjoy being outside whatever it is like. Wellies can be left in school but please make sure you name them: if you recognise any of the wellies currently in the playground please take them!

Children in Year 1 with surnames ending in A to K will be doing Forest School on a Monday; children with surnames ending in M to Z will be in the Tuesday group.

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### ATTENDANCE

As you know, holidays in term time are not permitted by central government. I am allowed to authorise absence for “exceptional circumstances” such as a family wedding or funeral, but not holiday. Oxfordshire County Council are tightening their systems this year and have asked me to send all parents the letter you will receive today. The letter stresses the importance of coming to school every day when a child is well enough and gives a warning that if parents take a holiday in term time they may well be fined by the Local Authority without further warning. Please do take note of this, and come and see me in good time if there are exceptional circumstances for your child’s absence.

### RACE FOR LIFE

We raised an impressive £1303.52 for Cancer Research in our Race for Life at the end of last term. Thank you once again to the School Council and Mrs Mills for organising it and to all children and parents for taking part with such good spirit and fund raising so successfully.

### SCHOOL GAMES MARK

I am proud to be able to announce that we have won the Gold School Games Mark once again.

### SCHOOL DINNERS

If your child is in Year 3, please remember that you now need to pay for school dinners. This can be done through School Money (now Eduspot); speak to the office staff if you need help. It is important that school dinner accounts are kept in credit and do not accrue debts; thank you for your support with this.

### GUITAR LESSONS

The school provides classical guitar lessons for children from Year 2 upwards. Lessons are given by Mrs Julia Rowe, a professional performer and academically trained classical guitarist with many years’ experience of teaching young children. If you are interested in your child receiving guitar tuition please contact her direct at [Guitar.oxford@googlemail.com](mailto:Guitar.oxford@googlemail.com) or collect an information sheet from the school office.

### TEACHING ASSISTANT VACANCY AT BURFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Burford Primary School are looking for a new TA to work mainly in Key Stage 2. They are looking for someone with NVQ2 or equivalent and experience of supporting children including those with Special Educational Needs. The post is 9.00 – 3.00 including lunchtime duty. If you or anyone you know is interested they can look at the school website [www.burford-pri.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.burford-pri.oxon.sch.uk) or phone Mrs Dyer on 01993 822159.

### AND FINALLY ... AN ANNOUNCEMENT FROM MRS CONNER

Mrs Conner is happy to share that she is nearly four months pregnant! We are all very pleased for her and her husband Jon and I know they will be wonderful parents. While I cannot tell you yet what arrangements we will put in place for her maternity leave, I will keep you as informed as I can; I am starting to discuss options with the governors now. Please do not worry – we have plenty of time to ensure that the children will continue to receive excellent teaching.

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Best wishes

Anna Fairhurst

### Dates for the Autumn Term

Mon 9 Sept – Foundation children stay until 1.00

Wed 11 Sept – First swimming for children in Y3 and invited children in Years 4 - 6

Thurs 12 Sept – Foundation children stay all day

Wed 25 Sept – Y3/4 football tournament (invited team only); 6.00 Y6 SATS information evening; 7.30 full governing body

Thurs 26 Sept – KS2 Oxenwood Saxon Day  
2.30 Foundation Stage phonics parent meeting in Y6 classroom

Wed 9 Oct – Roots to Food day

Thurs 10 Oct – 11.00 Harvest Festival in church

Mon 21 Oct – nasal flu vaccine for all children

Tues 22 Oct – long parents' evening

Wed 23 Oct – short parents' evening

Thurs 24 Oct – Art/DT day; cross country tournament (invited team only)

Fri 25 Oct – Art/DT day; 2.30pm parent celebration assembly

W/b 28 Oct – half term

Tues 5 Nov – Y1 Dance festival (all children)

Thurs 7 Nov – 2.30 Foundation Stage parent meeting: Reading (Year 6 classroom)

Fri 8 Nov – 9.00 Y5/6 sharing assembly and parent workshop

Mon 11 Nov – Remembrance commemoration (10.30 Key Stage 2 in church; 10.50 for 11.00 all children at war memorial)

Tues 12 Nov – Y5/6 to Blenheim Palace for tour and public speaking workshop

Wed 13 Nov – Y5/6 hockey tournament (invited team only)

Fri 15 Nov – 9.00 Y2 sharing assembly and parent workshop; 2.30pm Y2 assessment information session for parents, Hurricanes classroom

Mon 18 Nov – whole-school assessment week begins

Wed 20 Nov – final swimming session

Fri 22 Nov – Y3/4 sharing assembly and parent workshop; Foundation and Key Stage 1 pantomime trip to Puss in Boots at Chipping Norton Theatre

Wed 27 Nov – school play rehearsals begin; Y5/6 football tournament (invited team only); 7.30 full governing body

Fri 29 Nov – Y1 Sharing Assembly and parent workshop

Tues 10 Dec – Y4 Haka Dance festival (all children)

Wed 11 Dec – KS2 production pm and 6.00pm

Thurs 12 Dec – KS2 production 6.00pm

Fri 13 Dec – 2.00 KS2 theatre trip Snow Queen

Mon 16 Dec – Art/ DT day; KS1 production pm and 6.00pm

Tues 17 Dec – Art/DT day; parent celebration assembly 2.30pm

Wed 18 Dec – Christmas dinner

Thurs 19 Dec – 9.45 carol service in church; school ends 1.15