



THE BISHOPSWOOD SCHOOLS FEDERATION

Bishopswood Infant & Junior School
Barlows Road
Tadley
Hampshire
RG26 3NA

Infant 0118 9812836
Junior 0118 9812738

Executive Headteacher: Mr G Golding
Head of School: Mrs J Armes

Friday 13th September 2024

Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome back to school! I hope that you all had a pleasant and relaxing summer holiday! Sadly, we did not get wonderful weather all summer, but we hope that you enjoyed having a happy summer break together!

I hope you enjoy reading our first newsletter of the school year, which is jam-packed this week!

The children are all looking very smart and have settled incredibly well into their classes. It has been a pleasure to walk around the school. Every time I have walked around, it has been wonderful to see so many smiles from both pupils and staff. It has also been lovely chatting to the children and hearing about some of the memories, they have made during the holidays.

We look forward to an action packed Autumn Term and I know staff have been working hard behind the scenes to ensure the children have a term full of fun and engaging learning activities.

A Big Welcome

Last week, we welcomed the latest additions to the Bishopswood School family, as our new Year R children joined us for their first sessions. The home visits have gone very well and both the children and the parents have been brave in taking their first steps into primary school life. We very much look

forward to watching them grow and develop as they journey through the school. We have also welcomed a number of pupils from Year 1 to Year 6 to our school who either have moved into the area or have relocated from other schools, as well as some new adults who have joined the team. They have all started the year remarkably well and settled very quickly into life at Bishopswood.

Curriculum

We will continue to be regularly sharing what the children have been doing in school. From maths and spellings, to school trips and visitors, the children are always very busy! Here are some examples of what has already been happening at Bishopwood since we came back after the summer....

Miss Russell, Mrs Hunter and Miss Lees say...



Year R have had a wonderful start to big school. They have settled in beautifully and are enjoying exploring the

environment and beginning their school journey. Well done everyone for such a positive start!

Miss Wright & Miss Creed say...

Year 1 have made a really great start to the year! We have already been working hard and practising our counting skills in maths. In Science we have been learning about materials and their uses. We also received a strange delivery in Oak class...



Kipper's Toy box! We read the story, sequenced the story in pictures and wrote sentences about Kipper. In History we brought in pictures of our favourite toys and spent time with our teachers discussing why they were our favourites.

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Mrs Cushing, Mrs Boyce & Miss Okey say...

Year 2 have had a great start to the term and have been doing some fantastic writing based on books by Roald Dahl, in particular 'The BFG'. We have been working hard on place value in Maths, using dienes to partition two digit numbers and ordering numbers on a number line. In our Learning Challenge in History, we have started to learn about using clues to find out what happened in the Great Fire of London. Science has been fun, finding different materials, discussing what they are made of, as well as sorting and thinking about properties.



learning how sounds are made through vibrations. In maths, they have been focussing on the three times table, securing their knowledge of multiplication and division facts using physical resources. In writing, the children have blown us away with their fantastic vocabulary to describe the characters in the short film Broken.

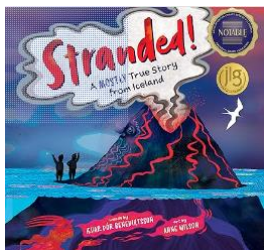


Miss Price, Mrs Dreelan & Mr Sargeant say...

Year 5 have had an exciting and busy start to the New Year! We are extremely proud of the way they have embraced the new expectations and our lessons. We have been looking at place value in maths, and the book Gorilla by Anthony Brown in our writing. During our topic session we looked at fossils, where we matched photographic skeletons from the natural history museum to images of dinosaurs. We certainly have some budding palaeontologists in our year group! It was amazing to see great enthusiasm and collaboration in both classes and we are looking forward to our fossil excavation activities next week!



Mr Dale & Miss Ralph say...



We have had a wonderful start to Year 3. Our topic is called 'what makes the earth angry?' We have enjoyed finding about the different layers of the earth and the different parts of a volcano.

In science, we have learnt about the different types of rocks and have been sorting them into ones that are naturally made and ones created by humans. In writing we are using a book called Stranded to write a newspaper article about a volcanic eruption. We have loved pretending to be journalists and had fun doing some drama where we acted out doing an interview.

Mrs Sullivan, Mr Morris & Miss Nicholls say....

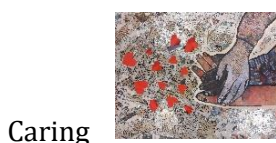


What an amazing start to the year Year 6 have had! We opened our Viking topic by watching the Saga of Biorn and are starting to design our own dragon eyes which

we will be making out of clay. It has been a pleasure teaching them the past 2 weeks and we are looking forward to more.

Miss Feather and Miss Frost say...

Year 4 have settled into the new year fantastically well, demonstrating our Bishopswood school values at every opportunity. They have dived straight into our new topic all about sound, including thinking about the sounds we can hear around us and



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Uniform Reminder

As start a new year, we would like remind you of our expectations and request your support. Our expectations on school uniform are explained in the extract below, taken directly from our prospectus:

“We believe wearing school uniform is practical and smart and contributes to a sense of belonging and school pride. Much of our uniform can be bought in the high street shops, but school specific items are available from our school offices and Skoolkit (in Basingstoke).

Our uniform for boys comprises grey or black trousers or shorts, white polo shirt and red sweatshirt. Girls may wear grey or black trousers, pinafore dress or skirt, white polo shirt, red sweatshirt or cardigan or a red and white striped or checked dress for the summer.”

Additionally, on non-PE days, children should **not wear trainers**, unless they are completely black.

On PE days, children should be wearing their school PE kit.

Please note: chains and bracelets should not be worn in school, and the only permitted earrings are small studs.

Bookbags, NOT rucksacks, in the Infant School please!

A reminder than in the infant school, children should have a **bookbag, not a rucksack**. If children come in with rucksacks we may ask you to take them home again, as they are tricky to store in school due to their size. A flat bookbag is more than adequate to carry what is needed for the infant school.

Thank you for your help and understanding in this matter.

Parking Reminder

On the school site, we have two disabled parking bays. These are solely for use by individuals who have and are displaying a disabled parking badge. Please ensure these spaces are kept available for those who require them. In addition to this, whilst parking at the schools can be difficult, please park within marked bays at all times. Please also be respectful of local residents' property when parking in the local area. Thank you.



School Facebook page

We are hoping to raise the profile of our school Facebook page and will be using it much more to post useful information and reminders for parents, as well as sharing all of the wonderful things going on in school.

Please follow our page and keep up to date:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61565102531523>

Message from the PTA

Our friendly PTA are already working hard, organising fun events to raise much-needed extra funds for the schools, including Infant and Junior Movie Nights and the upcoming Fireworks Show (details below). Information regarding these events will follow soon.



We are always looking for help so if any parents, relatives or grown-up can offer any time or assistance in anyway, or would like to join the PTA, please get in touch via Facebook or email

Bishopswoodschoolspta@gmail.com

Come and make a difference for our schools!

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Applying for a Place for Year R, 3 and 7 for September 2024

If you are applying for a school place for your child or have a child transferring to junior or secondary school, please see application form availability and deadline dates for applications listed below for September 2024 start dates:-

- Starting school Year R (Reception) or transferring to Year 3 (Junior School): Applications are open from 1st November 2024 to 15th January 2025.
- **Transfer to Year 7 (secondary school): Applications are open until midnight 31st October 2024.**

If you have any queries on your child's transfer to Year 7, please call into the Junior school office.

Year 3 transfer: although we are a Federated School, **you do still need to apply for a place at Bishopswood Junior School.** If you have any queries on your child's transfer to Year 3, please call into the Junior school office.

How to apply:-

- Online at www.hants.gov.uk/admissions or
- A paper application form will be available from the infant or junior school office.

Call the Hampshire Admission Helpdesk on: - 0300 555 1377 (opening hours daily 9:00am to 2:00pm)

2024 Starters - Year R Open Days

This year we are once again able to give prospective parents the opportunity to come and experience life at Bishopswood. We will be having four sessions where parents can see the school in action, meet the staff and ask any questions they may have. These dates are:

Monday 7th October 2024 - 1:30-2:30pm

Friday 11th October 2024 - 9:15-10:15am

Tuesday 22nd October 2024 - 1:30 - 2:30pm

Wednesday 13th November 2024 - 9:15-10:15am

The Hurst School Open Evenings and Mornings

Hurst Open Evening

The Hurst Open Evening takes place on Thursday, 3rd October 2024 from 6:00pm - 8:00pm. You do not need to book a place at the Open Evening, please just go along.

Hurst Open Mornings

The Hurst Open Mornings for September 2025 starters will take place on Tuesday 8th, Wednesday 9th and Thursday 10th October 2024. This is the opportunity to visit the school on a working day. There will be three sessions each day: 09:15-10:00, 10:15-11:00 and 11:15-12:00. Parents are welcome to bring their children with them.

You will need to book a place to attend an Open Morning. Please contact the school Reception on 0118 981 7474 indicating which time slot and date you would prefer.

Contacting Us

We do offer an open door policy at Bishopswood. However, should you have concerns regarding your child and would like to contact the school, unless you have been given a staff email address, please only use our **admin email addresses:**
adminoffice@bishopswood-inf.hants.sch.uk
adminoffice@bishopswood-jun.hants.sch.uk

Alternatively feel free to telephone the school office or pop in in person.

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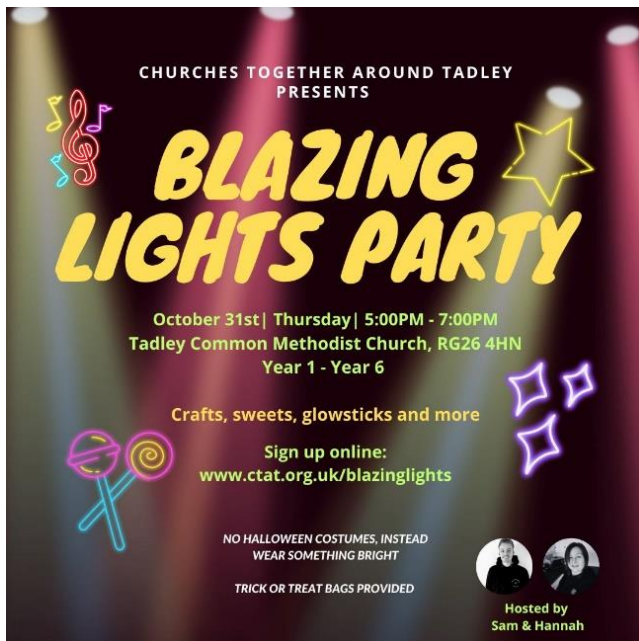
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Blazing Lights Party

Sam Dunn, Children & Youth Community Pastor, is hosting a blazing lights party again this year. An alternative for kids that don't like Halloween or get a bit scared! More information can be found here: www.ctat.org.uk/blazinglights. Limited spaces are available.



Free courses for parents

Fully Funded (FREE) school support courses are available in levels 1, 2 & 3 to parents in our area. These are aimed to support parents and carers who are looking to get back into work, by offering them an opportunity for them to gain the necessary skills for free, for a school support job that fits in with their family. For more details visit

www.studysmarkuk.online

Many thanks for your continued support,

Mrs Jo Armes
Head of School

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Dates for your diary:

19th September - Year 6 Viking Day

2nd October – Year 6 Residential Parent Meeting – 6pm

3rd October – Year 1 Wheeled Toys Day

7th October – 1:30-2:30pm - Year R 25/26 Open Morning

10th October – Year 2 Great Fire of London Day

11th October – 9:15–10:15am - Year R 25/26 Open Morning

14th October – PTA Infants' Movie Night

18th October – Individual Photos Fraser Photos for Federation

21st October – PTA Juniors' Movie Night

22nd October – 1:30 – 2:30pm - Year R 25/26 Open Afternoon

22nd October & 23rd October - Parents' Evenings

25th October – INSET DAY

28th October – 1st November – HALF TERM

3rd November – PTA Fireworks Show

4th November – Year 3 Stone Age Day

4th – 8th November – Year 6 Residential

13th November – 9:15-10:15am - Year R 25/26 Open Morning

22nd November – Year 6 Flu Immunisations

19th December – The Anvil Pantomime

20th December – Last Day of Term

23rd December – 3rd January – CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

6th January 2025 – First Day of Spring Term

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