



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

Thursday 28th March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Unbelievably Easter is upon us already and we now start to look forward to the summer term. This term has been a busy one. The children have continued to work hard and progress in their learning. We have undertaken a range of learning experiences involving school trips, visitors and special days. The school has taken part in a variety of sporting competitions and in each event the children have been a huge credit to the school.

On behalf of the Bishopswood team, I wish you all a happy Easter and a relaxing break. We look forward to inviting you into school for the various events that will be taking place in the summer term.

Please find detailed below information about what the children have been learning these last few weeks and some other school organisation updates.

Curriculum

Below is just a flavour of the last few weeks...

Miss Lees and Miss Creed say...



some ducklings for us to see. The children

Year R were very excited to have some visitors last week. A parent kindly brought in

absolutely loved being able to stroke the ducklings and watch them swim. This week we have been looking at bees and what they do. We have been on a local walk to create our very own bee corridor within the local community. We cannot wait to see all of the beautiful flowers grow.

Miss Wright, Miss Lees and Mrs Rolph say...

Year 1 finished our Geography topic by having a trip around Tadley on the minibus! We looked to see what physical and human features we could find and then compared



this to what there is in Basingstoke. In D&T, we worked as a team and designed and made our own towns using junk modelling. In Maths, we have been learning about measure and have been comparing lightest and heaviest and in English we have been writing the Easter story in our own words.

Mrs Hunter and Miss Okey say...



Year 2 have had a busy time full of fun learning. We loved our Titanic Day and trip to Seacity Museum. Thank you for all of our brilliant costumes. It was fun pretending to be in the different classes on the

ship and tasting food, dancing and playing games on deck. We were able to learn even more at the museum where we saw just how many crew came from Southampton. We had a go at shovelling coal and steering a ship's course. Back at school, we have written about our experiences.



Caring



Respecting



Thriving Together

Bishopswood Federation work together to develop kind and considerate children who are resilient, reflective and motivated learners, ready for the challenges that the future holds.



THE BISHOPSWOOD SCHOOLS FEDERATION

Mr Dale and Miss Ralph say...

We have had a fantastic last two weeks of this term in Year 3. In our topic lessons we have been considering the advantages and



disadvantages of living in the Mediterranean and have tried some Mediterranean food to help us design our own meal. In science, we have been finding out about magnets and did an exciting experiment to discover materials that were magnetic and not magnetic. In maths, we have been learning to tell the time to the nearest minute and to use the twenty-four-hour clock. Finally, in writing we have been coming up with a balanced argument using reasons for and against to decide if we should visit the Amalfi coast.

Mrs Buchan, Miss Price and Miss Frost say...



Year 4 have had a jam-packed fortnight! From Legoland to Roman day, they have enjoyed every minute. Year 4 consolidated their topic from last half term with a

trip to Legoland to see Lego city. They loved looking at all the miniature cities and all their moving parts. In history, Year 4 enjoyed their Roman day that involved tasting and evaluating traditional Roman foods as well as creating their own mosaics! They have also been working hard in writing their own disaster story about a tsunami that destroys their own made-up land! To wrap up their African drumming unit, they performed to rest of the school. Wow, what a lot of hard work! Well done year 4.

Miss Feather and Miss Nicholls say...

Year 5 have finished this term by spending a day making pneumatically powered monsters. Children worked in groups, showing great teamwork and creative thinking, to bring their creations to life using their knowledge gathered in DT and science lessons this term. They have also finished their cricket lessons this term, so a big thank you to Vic for teaching us new skills and making sure we had fun while learning!



Mrs Sullivan, Mrs Dreelan & Miss Dadral say...



As we approach the Easter holidays, Yr6 are halfway through their revision period. We have been impressed with their attitude to

homework so far - well done. In school, the children have been working on a "Chocolate Project" in groups. This week they are putting together a pitch to present their final version of a new product, Dragons Den style, to see who can persuade the "Dragons", aka teachers, to invest in their product.

Staffing Update

Mrs Bligdon:

With great reluctance, I need to inform you that Mrs Bligdon will be leaving us at the end of this academic year. Mrs Bligdon has decided that she would like to explore a different role within education and so in September will take up post of Deputy Head Teacher at New Barn independent SEN school. Mrs Bligdon has worked at Bishopswood since 2011, originally starting as a Year 1 teacher and then progressed through to Phase Leader, Infant DHT and then Federation DHT. She has contributed a huge amount to the school

Caring



Respecting



Thriving Together



Bishopswood Federation work together to develop kind and considerate children who are resilient, reflective and motivated learners, ready for the challenges that the future holds.



THE BISHOPSWOOD SCHOOLS FEDERATION

over the years in a variety of roles and will be hugely missed. We do wish her every success in her new role and hope that she keeps in touch as she will always be part of the Bishopswood family.

New Head of School

As Mrs Bligdon is leaving, we will be looking to appoint a new senior leader to take her place. At the other schools in the collaboration the day-to-day operations of the school are overseen by a Head of School and so we will be bringing Bishopswood in line with this leadership model. A Head of school has the same level of responsibility as a Deputy Head, and it is the same role that Mrs Bligdon was doing, just under a different name. I will continue to be the Executive Headteacher of all the schools in the collaboration, with ultimate responsibility for standard's, safety, staffing and the strategic planning of the school both in terms of financial management and school improvement. The advert for this role has now been out for just under 2 weeks and it has already generated significant interest. I am very confident that a new appoint will be made ready for September. Once an appoint has been made I will share it with you all at the earliest convenience.

SENCO Role

This year the SENCO role for Bishopswood has been covered by Mrs Bligdon as Mrs Evans has been on Maternity Leave. Mrs Evans will be returning to this role during the summer term. This will enable Mrs Bligdon to do a thorough handover before leaving.

Miss Russell absence update.

I have met with Miss Russell this week and although she is getting better and progressing well, she is still not in a position to return yet. Currently I predict that she will return after May half term. When Miss Russell does return, we will be ensuring that her phased return is managed properly. What I can share is that she will not be returning as a FS teacher or the EYFS Leader this academic year. Miss Lees will be covering these responsibilities until Miss Russell has fully improved and is ready to take on this role once more.

Workshop for parents of looked after or adopted children – Monday 20th May – 9am – 10:30am at Silchester School

We have asked Dr Sara Freitag (Educational Psychologist) to lead a session for parents of looked after and adopted children. This will take the form of information about the impact of trauma and attachment difficulties as well as strategies for supporting regulation and promoting emotional development. We will offer time to problem solve challenging behaviours and hope that it might provide a networking opportunity for parents as well.

Using the School Grounds and Equipment

Each year at this time, we notice that many parents are allowing their children to be on the schools' grounds and use our equipment before and after school has finished. It is lovely to think that your child would rather stay at school than go home, especially as the weather is slowly improving, but please could we ask that you closely supervise your children before school and that you leave the school grounds promptly after school. As we run after school clubs, we need to know who is on site in order to ensure the children's safety. During the school day, our children only use the equipment or access the woodland areas if fully supervised by school staff and we are worried there will be an accident due to children using it out of school hours.

Please can we also request that your children refrain from riding bikes and scooters on the school playground, paths and outside the school gates at drop off and collection times. The school is very busy with pedestrians at these times and we need to ensure the safety of everyone (adults and children). Thank you for your support with this matter.

Caring



Respecting



Thriving Together



Bishopswood Federation work together to develop kind and considerate children who are resilient, reflective and motivated learners, ready for the challenges that the future holds.



THE BISHOPSWOOD SCHOOLS FEDERATION

Driving Safely

Can we take the time to remind you of how important it is to ensure that you drive safely during drop off and pick up times. The safety of our children, staff and parents is paramount to us and we need you to work in co-operation with us. The yellow zigzag signs are of particular importance as they mark our most dangerous zones. Last week, an incident in this area was reported to us. The visibility in the 'zigzag' areas is reduced, so please drive with caution.

Healthy Packed Lunches

Whether squeezing it in before the school run in the morning or before bed on busy midweek evenings, preparing your child's lunchbox can seem like just another thing on the list!

If children are supported to make healthy choices when they are young, then they are more likely to make those choices throughout their life. The contents of a healthy packed lunch not only help with this but also provide the balanced diet that growing children need.

Lots of our children have a wide variety of healthy packed lunches which is brilliant but we are noticing more unhealthy choices appearing across the schools. Please always remember to include fruit and vegetables each day alongside other healthy choices.



In addition, we would like to remind you of the items that should **not** be in your child's packed lunch:

- Sweets including chewing gum
- Fizzy or sugary drinks
- Chocolate
- Any items containing nuts (this includes Nutella in sandwiches)

If you would like further information about what to include in a healthy lunchbox or advice or help please follow the links below:

<https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes>

<https://www.foodafactoflife.org.uk/whole-school/whole-school-approach/healthy-lunchboxes/>

<https://www.foodstandards.gov.scot/consumers/healthy-eating/life-stages/children>

Easter fun at Bishopswood

This year the PTA are running an Easter 'eggstravaganza' during the Easter holidays for all children and families on **Wednesday 10th April from 11:00am-3:00pm.**

Please see the poster below for more information.



Staff Vacancies -

Lunchtime Supervisory Assistant - Infants or Juniors

We are still looking for enthusiastic, dedicated and flexible people to join our friendly team of lunchtime Supervisory Assistants. The successful candidate would work between 12:00pm and 1:15pm, 5 days a week during term time only, working at either the infant or junior schools. For more information and an application form please ask at the school offices.



Supporting your child with SATs

As we start to move towards the Year 6 SATs in May, Young Minds have some good advice for parents about supporting their children. The website is mainly for older children taking GCSEs and A Levels, however below are some useful general tips you may find helpful. Tips include:

Caring



Respecting



Thriving Together



Bishopswood Federation work together to develop kind and considerate children who are resilient, reflective and motivated learners, ready for the challenges that the future holds.



THE BISHOPSWOOD SCHOOLS FEDERATION

- Encourage your child to take revision breaks and find a balance between studying and doing things they find enjoyable and relaxing.
- Make sure they are eating and drinking at regular intervals.
- Reassure them – reinforce that you are and will be proud of them no matter what happens.
- Remain positive and hopeful!
- Let them know their feelings are valid and normal, but also offer support and solutions where possible.
- Anxiety is often worst at night and this means it is useful to encourage good bedtime routine.

You can find out more here:

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/young-person/coping-with-life/exam-stress/>

As always, the following page shares upcoming dates for your diaries. If you have any questions about anything in the newsletter please contact the school offices.

Many Thanks

From the Senior Leadership Team

Mrs Amy Chapman, Mr Mark Morris and Miss Adele Tashdjian

Caring



Respecting



Thriving Together



Bishopswood Federation work together to develop kind and considerate children who are resilient, reflective and motivated learners, ready for the challenges that the future holds.



THE BISHOPSWOOD SCHOOLS FEDERATION

Dates for your diary:

INSET DAYS for 2023-24 Academic Year:

Monday 22nd July 2024

Tuesday 23rd July 2024

29th March – 12th April- EASTER HOLIDAYS

Wednesday 10th April- PTA Easter event (more information to follow)

15th April – First day of Summer Term

Monday 22nd April- PTA Movie Night

Monday 6TH May – May Bank Holiday

Sunday 12th May- PTA Circus

13th -16th May- Year 6 KS2 SATs Week

Friday 17th May- Year 3 Living Rainforest trip

Tuesday 21st May Year 5 Coelho class residential trip

Thursday 23rd May Year 5 Rundell class residential trip

27th -31st May- Summer Half term break

Monday 10th June- Class photos

Friday 5th July- PTA Colour Run

Caring



Respecting



Thriving Together



Bishopswood Federation work together to develop kind and considerate children who are resilient, reflective and motivated learners, ready for the challenges that the future holds.



THE BISHOPSWOOD SCHOOLS FEDERATION

Bishopswood School Easter Event

Wednesday 10th April
11am-3pm

£3.00 per child or £10 for 4

Easter Egg Hunt
Games, Crafts
Teas and Coffees

Teddy Tombola - run by The Tadley Trust



Caring



Respecting



Thriving Together



Bishopswood Federation work together to develop kind and considerate children who are resilient, reflective and motivated learners, ready for the challenges that the future holds.



THE BISHOPSWOOD SCHOOLS FEDERATION

'I had never climbed before. I was scared of heights. But I climbed and rang the bell all by myself and felt really proud of myself'

Poonam



Brownies

5.45 to 7.15 Tuesdays

Brownies.4thTadley@gmail.com

**Girls have nonstop fun,
learning and adventure**

for ages 7 to 10

At Brownies, we welcome all girls to explore their creative side, get out into the great outdoors and start to learn to look after themselves, others and the world we live in.



Girlguiding

Registered charity number: excepted



Caring

Respecting

Thriving Together

Bishopswood Federation work together to develop kind and considerate children who are resilient, reflective and motivated learners, ready for the challenges that the future holds.



THE BISHOPSWOOD SCHOOLS FEDERATION

Caring



Respecting



Thriving Together



Bishopswood Federation work together to develop kind and considerate children who are resilient, reflective and motivated learners, ready for the challenges that the future holds.