



Newsletter 20th October 2023

Learning, growing and achieving excellence together

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have had a good week, it has certainly been a busy one in school. It was really good to meet many more of you at parents consultations this week. It felt really positive having parents around the school.

Apologies for the disruption due to corridor floods.... unavoidable I'm afraid but your understanding and staff flexibility is really appreciated.

As I am sure many children have reported to you, we have made some changes to lunchtimes which we feel are an improvement for pupils and staff and will help with the smooth running of that particular part of the day. We are very proud of your children for their co-operation and we are already noticing the positive impact these changes are having.

As you will be aware decorators will be in school over half-term and there will be some small changes to office locations in school which we will keep you informed of.

Looking ahead to next half term, I will be booking in some more "Coffee + Choir" meetings one morning and one afternoon.

Our ground force day is now set for the 11th of November (Saturday) Please come along and help if you can.... even just an hour or 2 would help us smarten up our school grounds and provide a nicer working environment.

Finally, I hope you all have a great half term break, I look forward to seeing you all next term and of course the lead up to Christmas!!

Brian Ball – Interim Headteacher

Half term reading challenge!

We are setting the children the challenge **to read and record at least 5 entries** in their reading journal over the half term. If you are finding it tricky to find the next book for your child, your class teacher will be happy to suggest some recommendations. We will be awarding raffle tickets for fantastic reading journal entries and will have a double prize draw in the first **Reading Raffle** after half term!



KS2 Choir – Billingshurst Community Event

This week, the KS2 Choir were invited to sing at Billingshurst Community Centre as guest performers at a special event organised by The Royal College of Nursing to celebrate Black History Month. The children sang a medley of songs related to BHM and sounded incredible! They represented our school brilliantly and the audience were delighted. Well done to all the children!



Year 1 Picnic: This week in Year One we have had a great time developing our cutting, grating and spreading skills in DT. The children really enjoyed making their own sandwiches in preparation of the Year One picnic. We hope you enjoyed sharing your child's sandwich despite some of the interesting filling combinations!



Early Years have been enjoying learning about Floella Benjamin as part of our Black History month learning. We read her book 'Coming to England', and we decided to listen to traditional music from Trinidad and Tobago. This led to us creating our own festival headdresses and masks. The children have loved being able to use their new cutting, sticking and painting skills to make their headdresses as colourful as possible. Ask your children about the carnival we held in Early Years. We listened to music, danced and even played our own musical instruments. It was a fantastic way to celebrate our first half term at Billingshurst Primary school!



Year Group emails:

EYFS@billingshurstprimary.org.uk
year1@billingshurstprimary.org.uk
year2@billingshurstprimary.org.uk
year3@billingshurstprimary.org.uk

year4@billingshurstprimary.org.uk
year5@billingshurstprimary.org.uk
year6@billingshurstprimary.org.uk

Message from the governors:

In September, we held our second Communications and Engagement Working Party meeting which sees parents and carers work alongside governors and senior leadership to support the school. In that time, we have had some productive and insightful ideas and discussions and there have been substantial changes made, most notably the reworked parent newsletter, the use of the school notice board, the effective diary timeline for parents and the introduction of Microsoft forms to streamline processes. We will continue to hold these meetings on a monthly basis and appreciate the expertise and enthusiasm of our members.

Abi Smith & Melissa Galea Holmes, Communication working party

Note from BPSCA: Please look out for your child's Christmas card proof and order form in bookbags just after half term. We hope you all have a great holiday. Our first meeting back after half term is **Friday 3rd November at 2pm** in the staff room, please come along and see what we do.

Goodwood winning house !

Cowdray
442

Goodwood
638

Parham
502

Petworth
499



Upcoming dates:

Monday 23rd – Friday 27th October Half Term

30th October School INSET day

31st October Back to school

6th November Year 5 Planetarian visit (in school)

8th November Year 5 parents meeting about Lodge Hill residential

22nd November Year 6 parents meeting about Tile Barn residential

22nd November 7-8pm Parent E-Safety webinar

Tuesday 31st October 2023
Closing date for applications
for secondary transfer for
September 2024. Please see letter home this week.

Letters home this week:

EYFS to Yr6 End of term letter for parents from each year group

Year 6 letter reminder for secondary school registration



Year groups regularly post photos of children and learning so please follow your child's Year Group on X



@BPSEYFS
@BPSYearOne
@BPSYearTwo

@BPSYearThree
@BPSYearFour
@BPSYearFive
@BPSYearSix

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