



## Bishop Wood C of E Junior School

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Mr G Stanley, Headteacher

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2024

### **Great to be Back!**

Thank you to all those members of the school community who have sent supportive messages during my absence from school due to a respiratory complaint. I am incredibly pleased to have returned to work this week! The children here are all amazing and it was a very touching experience being out on the playground at break yesterday morning where they made me feel very welcome. Children being children, they also asked some very blunt questions about why I was off which I was more than happy to answer. I am incredibly grateful to Mr Patten and the rest of the staff team for the amazing work they have done in my absence. This has been a very clear reminder to me that we are incredibly blessed to have such a fantastic staff team here at Bishop Wood. I will be in and out of school over the next few weeks as I make my return with the aim to be back full time after half term.

### **Harvest Festival**

Today the whole school attended St Peter and St Paul for our annual Harvest Festival. The Harvest Festival is always a highlight of the first half of the Autumn term. It gives us all a chance to think about the needs of our wider community and an opportunity to live our core values of Dignity, Wisdom, Hope and Community. As ever, the collection for DENS was incredible and will make a huge difference to those in our locality who are in need. We also supported the Bishop of St Alban's Appeal. Thank you to all those family members who came along to support the Harvest Service.

### **Pond Area Working Party**

Thank you so much to the group of parents who helped Mrs Reeve and Mrs Spriggs clear the pond area. The progress was amazing, revealing a full pond with some very healthy looking frogs! Look out for the next working party when we will be clearing away the rotten decking!

### **Pollinator Assembly**

Nick from Tring's Justice and Peace Group did an assembly this week to the whole school about the importance of pollinators. This supports all the work that we are doing in and around school on biodiversity. We are grateful the links we have made with Tring's many eco groups.

### **Eco/Sustainability Update**

The Eco Warriors are beginning a campaign to make our site free of litter. We would be grateful for your support with this by following our school snack rules: only fruit, vegetables and bread based snacks are allowed. No snacks must be brought in single use plastic!

### **Morning Drop Off**

A reminder that the school site should not be accessed by any pupils (except those having specific interventions or attending Breakfast Club) before 8.35 in the morning. We are noticing an increase in the number of pupils on site before this time – particularly at the front of the school – and they are unsupervised. This clearly presents a risk to those individuals. We do have a Breakfast and Supper Club if parents need to drop children off early. Parents will be contacted individually should the problem persist. Thank you for your support in this matter.

### **Music Performance for next week**

Our music performer for the celebration assembly next week will be Finley C (5H)!

### **Celebration**

This week we celebrated the following pupils in school:

3I – Oliver B and Valentina S  
3S – Holly C and JJ  
4A – Alice A and Freya S  
4PS – Ellie H and Aalaa F  
5DR – Christopher C and Ines A  
5H – Holly T and Bethy D  
6C – Edie M and Alex K  
6M – Lucy C and Ralph F



Well done – keep up the excellent work!

#### **Other Honours**

Pom-Poms – 5DR

#### **Lunchtime Leader Awards**

Well done to the following children, who were identified by our lunchtime leaders for demonstrating our school values: Seb N-V (4PS), Leo C (4PS) and Finn M (3I).

#### **Outside Honours**

Well done to the following children for their amazing extra-curricular achievements:

Lily Mae O'KB – Gymnastics

Paisley P - Ice Skating

Esme – Gymnastics

Bunny BB – Horse Riding

Mariia T – Karate

Esther H and Maddie J – Ballet

Lily – football

Lucy, Ralph, Eve, Luca and Jack – St Francis Bake Sale

#### **Around School**

##### ***This week***

Year 3 have had a fun week in Maths spotting patterns with addition. Year 4 have enjoyed creating engaging stories about the explorer Howard Carter. Year 5 have enjoyed planning their own myths. Year 6 have also been busy in English and have really loved writing their storm poems.

##### ***Next week***

Year 3 will be writing Kenning poems linked to their work on Saint-Saens. Year 4 will be investigating problem solving using 4 digit numbers. Year 5 are looking forward to learning about time zones in science and Year 6 are excited about starting a new unit in Science called 'Healthy Me'.

#### **Monday Gate Task**

On Monday, you must walk through the gate to Mrs Adams and Mr Patten and let them know what you had for breakfast using only sign language. Good luck!

#### **Diary Dates**

Please find below a list of key dates for the Autumn Term. We will add to this as we progress through the school year. New dates will be highlighted.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	SATs Practice Week
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> October	Buddies AGM – 7pm
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> – Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October	Fun, Fit & Fruity Week (details to follow)
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> October – Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> November	Half Term
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 5 – Anglo Saxon Day
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> November	4PS – Trip to BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir Temple (Details to follow)
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	4A – Trip to BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir Temple (Details to follow)
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	Occasional Day – School Closed
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 3 & 4 Christmas Event – Afternoon in School (Details to follow)
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 5 & 6 Nativity – Evening Performance in St Peter & St Paul Church (Details to follow)
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Lunch for Pupils (Details to Follow)
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	1.30pm – School closes for Christmas

Thank you and best wishes

Mr Stanley