



Berry Hill Bulletin

Nine Wells Road, Berry Hill, Coleford GL16 7AT - Tel: 01594 832262 Friday 13.09.2019

We are now two weeks into our new term, and the children are hard at work in their new classes. Many thanks to everyone that attended our Meet the Teacher sessions, which are an opportunity for parents to visit the children's classes and meet the adults that will be working with them all year. It helps parents understand routines and expectations, and know more about the learning that will take place. We very much welcome your involvement in your child's learning and would encourage you to get in touch at the earliest opportunity if you have any concerns. The Link Books are checked daily (junior children are expected to bring notes to their teacher's attention), and responses provided. We find that this is the most effective way of ensuring clear communication between home and school. You can also speak with teachers, but the morning when the children arrive (unless urgent) is not the best time as learning starts immediately. Please be reassured that staff will get back to you promptly, and any concerns will be swiftly and thoroughly dealt with.

Friends PTA Group AGM - Thursday 26th September, 7.30 for 8pm. ALL WELCOME. Please come along and join us for this meeting, which is both a celebration of the work of the Friends over the past year, as well as a look ahead to the year to come.

We are hugely grateful for the work of the Friends in organising such a wide range of activities for our school community, and for providing us with resources to support our children's learning.

The children are fully involved in deciding what the funds they raise are spent on, and are absolutely thrilled with their new Trim Trail that was fitted over the summer holidays.

Events arranged have included Film Nights, Discos, the Year 6 Leavers day out, our wonderful visiting Circus, inflatable days, Christmas Fayre and others. Refreshments have been provided for many events including drama performances, Sports Day, New Starters Garden Party to name a few. Resources purchased have included...

5 x Anatomy Models to support learning in Science
2 x Interactive Anatomy t shirts to support learning in Computing and Drama
Easter Egg and Christmas present for every child

Water bottle for every child including the new reception class

Book bags for new Beech Class starters

Library books

Photo competition prizes (look out for winners to be announced soon)

Supplied refreshments at various sporting and other events

Freeze pops to all Sport day participants

Year 6 leavers day including food

Pantomime for the whole school

Christmas and Halloween decorations

£8000 towards the Infant Trim Trail and an extra addition to revamp the Junior Trim Trail

Garden equipment for Forest Schools and school grounds

MASSIVE, MASSIVE THANKS FOR EVERYTHING YOU DO FOR US!

DATE	EVENT
19 & 20.09.2019	5 Acres School Open Mornings – visits encouraged
23.09.2019	Harvest Service at Christchurch Church 9.30am, parents and families welcome to join us at church (service will last approx. 40 minutes).
24.09.2019	Class Elm visit to Pizza Express
27.09.2019	MacMillan fundraising coffee morning – please join us for coffee, cake and chat!
02.10.2019	Y6 residential - parent meeting
07.10.2019	Tempest Photography-whole school individual photos
08.10.2019	OPEN MORNING for preschool children thinking of joining our school. 10-11.30am
11.10.2019	YR-Y6 Nasal Spray Flu Vaccine
14.10.2019	Learning Journey session for Reception parents 2.30-3pm
15.09.2019	Parents evening 3.30-5pm
16.09.2019	Parents evening 3.30-7pm More information to follow
18.09.2019	Rugby World Cup celebration – Rugby Festival
25.10.2019	Last day term 1. Share my learning session for families 1.30pm – children can go home straight afterwards.
04.11.2019	Inset Day 1-no children in
05.11.2019	Inset Day 2-no children in
06.11.2019	Inset Day 3-no children in
11.11.2019	Remembrance Day Service for Junior children -10.45am at The Hut, Berry Hill. Families welcome to join us.
07.11.2019	First Day Term 2
29.11.2019	Berry Hill Lights Switch on
05.12.2019	Infant Xmas Performance 2.00pm and 6.00pm
20.12.2019	Break up for Christmas
06.01.2020	Tuesday. Return to school

Support our Friends by joining the School Lottery - www.yourschoollottery.co.uk and find them on Facebook - Berryhill Primary School Association where meeting dates, news and updates are posted. New members are always welcome. Hope to see you at the AGM!

Pupil voice is hugely important in our school. This is ensuring that our children get an input into what is good, what needs to improve and what activities and events we get involved in (including fundraising).

Team Captains have been elected for this year, and are

Dragonflies	Falcons	Frogs	Squirrels
Darcie and Cerys	Ella and Gemma	Alana and Alex	Haiden and Poppy

School Council, Eco Group and Sports Leaders have been democratically elected by their classes and are:

Ryan, Toby, Maddie, Zack, Jenna, Zac, Annaleigh, Josh, Jacob Albert, Evie and Livvi-Rae for School Council. Sophie, Willow, Sam, Sophie, Tilly, Jenson, Charlie, Orla, Mia and Max for Eco Group. Miles, Izzy, Jacob, Oliver, Xanthe, Aj, Dewi, Dominic, Daisy, Archie, Freddie and Ella for Sports Leaders. Congratulations to you all!

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE 02.09.2019-12.09.2019

First Place: Class Pine: 99.02%, Second Place: Class Larch: 98.81%, Third Place: Class Beech: 98.74%

Congratulations to children in classes Pine, Larch and Beech - a fantastic start to the new year! Our Local Authority target for school attendance is 96.6%. Can we beat it ...?

Class Elm: 98.15%, Class Maple 96.44%, Class Chestnut 96.24%, Class Oak 98.52%, Whole School Average 97.90%

Our **ATTENDANCE** target for every child is to be in school every day. We understand that at times children are ill, or cannot attend school for other reasons, but it is a legal requirement that we are informed no later than 9.30am on each day of absence why your child is not in school.

When attendance drops below 96% it raises concern because of the amount of learning a being missed. Below 90% is extremely concerning, and in both cases you will receive a letter home raising your awareness of our concern. If attendance concerns are not addressed you will be invited into school to discuss the concern with a member of staff. Equally, good attendance is celebrated with children termly, and noted on Annual reports. It is a legal requirement that a parent/carer has their child in school every day unless a reason is provided, so please support us with ensuring your child is getting the best from their education.

Parent Questionnaires Feedback:

Many thanks to all our parents who took the time to complete a Parent Questionnaire at the end of last term. The responses are overwhelmingly positive, and we also have some very helpful suggestions for improvements. Detailed feedback will be uploaded to the website next week.

To further support parent communication (one of the suggestions made in some of the returned questionnaires) we would like to implement a Parent Forum which will be run by our School Council supported by Mrs Boiling. The improvement suggestions received can be further discussed and addressed, and we very much hope that you will come along and share your views.

Dates to follow... watch this space!

**FOREST OF DEAN DISTRICT
DEMENTIA ACTION ALLIANCE**

Celebration event, Friday 27.09.2019, Berry Hill Rugby Club, 12.00 noon until 5.00pm. Dementia friendly activities, dementia friendly awareness, fun and stalls – vintage tractors, Police dogs (2.00pm), hot food, Skittles match (5.30pm). For further information, please contact lena.maller@publicagroup.uk 01594 812 609.

All welcome to come along and join the fun!

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

Parents and carers are warmly invited to come along to our annual Macmillan Coffee Morning in aid of cancer support.

Our coffee morning will be held in the school hall, from 9.30am to 11.00am on Friday 27 September 2019.

Donations of cakes gratefully received!

All proceeds to Macmillan Cancer Support charity. Why not come along for a cuppa and a cake? We'd love to see you there!



- Many thanks to everyone that entered our photographic competition, we had some fabulous entries. Winners will be announced next week!
- Does anyone have any spare/old children's DVDs at home that they would be willing to donate to school for wet playtimes in classrooms. Please donate to the Office. Thanks

FOREST FOODBANK

Due to high demand over the summer holidays, our local Forest Foodbank is, once again, running low on supplies. If you are able to donate any of the following food items, they would be very grateful:

Pasta and Curry sauces, Tea, Biscuits, Sponge puddings/long life cake, Instant Mash, Tinned potatoes, Fruit Juice, Jam, Sugar, Noodle/pasta/rice meals, Chocolate and snacks, Tinned tomatoes, Tinned fish and fruit, long grain rice. Thank you. Yvonne. info@theforest.foodbank.org.uk

SCHOOL UNIFORM To order supplies of Berry Hill School Sweatshirts, Sweat cardis, Polo Shirts, PE T Shirts, PE Hoodies, PE shorts etc, please visit the website of our School Uniform Supplier, School Trends. **Also, don't forget our newly introduced lightweight summer shorts.** www.schooltrends.co.uk Orders can be placed 24/7, 365 days of the year with delivery to your home or selected address. (Please allow around 21-28 days at busy times of the year.) Orders can be paid by either credit or debit card.

