



BORINGDON NEWS

01/AUT1/2018
7th September 2018

Dear Parents,

I hope that you and your children had an enjoyable summer break and would like to welcome you all back to a new school year. I hope that your children have settled into their new classes and are adapting well to the new environment, routines and expectations.



THE NEWSLETTER *(For those who don't know)*

In order to keep you as well informed as possible, newsletters are produced every Friday. Newsletters are dated and numbered so it should be clear if one is missed, and each one is available on our website www.boringdon.plymouth.sch.uk- we hope the majority of you will be able to access it there together with other news about our school.

SCHOOL LETTERS

We understand that at times letters home can be mislaid or lost in transition. Therefore, to ensure you are kept informed, we have decided to place letters on to the website. You can find these under the school tab and named Trips and Event letters.

ATTENDANCE REGULATIONS

Here at Boringdon, we have always been very fortunate and all parents have recognised the importance of good attendance and the obvious link with your child's progress. As a result we do not receive a great number of requests to take leave of absence during term time. Last year we had 96% attendance. Attached is a letter from Plymouth City Council's Education Welfare department outlining Government policy re attendance regulations.



Obviously, like every other school we cannot deviate from these regulations and we will be unable to authorise any leave of absence unless it falls under the exceptional circumstances specified.

EVENTS IN SCHOOL THIS WEEK

Premier Sports worked with Year 2 on multi-skills and Year 6 developed their hockey skills.

EVENTS IN SCHOOL NEXT WEEK

Year 3 will have tennis coaching from Tom Wyman (LTA coach).

Year 5 will have multi-skills coaching with Plymouth Argyle.

Premier Sports will be working with Year 2 and Year 6.

FUTURE EVENTS IN SCHOOL

HARVEST

We will be celebrating and discussing Harvest in the week beginning 24th September, during which time we try to encourage the



children to think of others less well off than themselves. This year we have decided once again to support the Plymouth Foodbank, a local community project run by Plymouth Methodist Mission Circuit, which gives free emergency food to single people and families in crisis. The project would appreciate any gifts of the following:

- tinned soup, fruit, tomatoes, meat/fish, vegetables, rice and baked beans,
- cartons of long life fruit juice, cereal, bags of pasta or rice,
- tea bags, sugar, packet mashed potato, biscuits or snack bars (no jars/glass please)

A representative from the Foodbank will be attending our assembly on Friday 28th September to accept the donations brought in by the children (**please only send gifts for the Foodbank to school on the Friday**) thank you.

**PARENTS' AFTERNOONS /
EVENINGS**

**Wednesday 17th October, Thursday 18th October
3.30 – 6.30 p.m.**~ letter to follow.

**BORINGDON PRIMARY SCHOOL TERM
DATES 2018/ 19**

For your information please find below the term dates for the school year:

AUTUMN TERM 2018

TERM 1 Tuesday 4th September – Friday
19th October

AUTUMN BREAK W/C 22nd October

TERM 2 Tuesday 30th October – Friday
21st December

SPRING TERM 2019

TERM 3 Tuesday 8th January – Friday 15th February

SPRING BREAK W/C 18th February

TERM 4 Monday 25th February – Friday 5th April

SUMMER TERM 2019

TERM 5 Tuesday 23rd April – Friday 24th May

SUMMER BREAK W/C 27th May

TERM 6 Monday 3rd June – Friday 19th July

Professional Development Days (Non Pupil Days)
are Mon 3rd September, Mon 29th October, Mon
7th January, Mon 22nd and Tues 23rd July. May Bank
Holiday Mon 6th May.

Please also note that we have been informed by
Plymouth City Council that the school will be
required for polling purposes for the General Election
and Local Elections when called.

Plymouth Education Department provides schools
with term dates that include 200 days and the Plym
Academy Trust has to decide how these are allocated
for their school – 190 days for the children and
teachers, 5 days for teachers only, 5 days for
'occasional' holidays.

FRONT GATES

Please note that although the front gates are closed at
8:35am, staff and delivery vehicles still have access
until 8:45am, but they will be responsible for opening
and then closing the gates. No vehicles are allowed
access to the site between 8:45-9:05am. The side
gates will be opened at 8:45am to allow children and
parents access. We will be looking at ways to
improve the front entrance, but this will depend on
funding.



Welcome back to the new term!

We are planning our New Parents' Coffee Morning
and would love to see both familiar and new faces -
keep a look out for the date on the Facebook page.

We are also launching the 2019 Boringdon Ball very
soon, so watch this space!

Looking forward catching up with everybody.

Yours sincerely,

Mr J Scales
Headteacher

AMENDMENTS TO THE EDUCATION (PUPIL REGISTRATION) (ENGLAND) REGULATIONS

The Government has changed their policy regarding school attendance and existing legal regulations, which came into force in September 2013. This means that term time holiday is removed from the regulations. **Headteachers are no longer allowed to authorise absence from school unless it is due to exceptional circumstances.** The Absence Request form (S2) should be completed by parents/carers when requesting term time absence from school for their child, regardless of whether the absence is for a holiday or any other reason. Also, all requests for absence should be evidenced based, eg medical appointment cards, letters from employers etc. **It is extremely important all schools are consistent when authorising/refusing absence during term time.** The following is a guide as to what could/could not be considered exceptional circumstances for approving a child's absence from school:

Exceptional circumstances:

- When a family needs to spend time together because of an immediate family member's bereavement, crisis or serious illness
- Funeral of immediate family member
- Religious observance
- Transport was not provided by the Local Authority when it should have been
- Children of service personnel about to go on deployment (permission would be considered as long as the request is accompanied by a letter from the Commanding Officer)
- **One day** of absence could be authorised for a wedding of an immediate family member and the invitation has been provided as evidence
- One off sporting events/performing arts competitions, if the child is participating and is at county standard or above and a letter has been provided from the performing arts/sports regional governing body as evidence
- **One day** of absence could be authorised for an immediate family member's graduation ceremony/passing out parade
- Medical appointments (parents/carers should be encouraged to arrange non-urgent medical appointments outside of school hours when possible). If the medical appointment is during the school day, **evidence must be provided.** Schools should not authorise a whole day's absence for a medical appointment that occurs in the morning – the child would be expected to return to school in the afternoon, and vice versa.

Absence should not be authorised for reasons such as the following:

- To care for other family members
- Birthdays
- To interpret for other family members
- No school uniform/shoes
- Bullying
- Friendship problems
- Head lice
- Learning difficulties
- Family holiday
- Weddings abroad – regardless of whether it is for immediate family members
- Family anniversaries
- Death of a pet
- Travel problems
- School refusal
- Parent/carer not able to take leave outside of term time.

*(The **immediate family** is a defined group of relations, used in rules or laws to determine which members of a person's family are affected by those rules. It normally includes a person's parents, spouses, siblings and children. It can contain others connected by birth, adoption, marriage, civil partnership or cohabitation, such as grandparents, grandchildren, siblings-in-law, half-siblings, adopted children and step-parents/step-children, and cohabiting partners)*