



Bottisham Primary School Newsletter

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Autumn Term
7th September 2018

Welcome back!

I would like to welcome everyone back to a new school year and a special welcome to those children and families who are new to Bottisham Primary. We are delighted you have joined us and look forward to working together with you. On behalf of the staff, I'd like to thank everyone for the lovely cards and gifts that we received at the end of the summer term. September is such an exciting time with the anticipation of the school year to come. Each class will be sending home a termly newsletter and topic web to help you stay up to date with what is happening in your child's class. We would like to wish everyone a happy and successful start to the Autumn term.

Rachael Johnston
Headteacher

Staff update

I would like to take this opportunity to extend a very warm welcome to our new members of staff, Clare Jarvis, Joanna Hall and Rebecca Grange. Mrs Hall will be sharing the role of Acorns Class teacher with Mrs Claydon with Mrs Jarvis also joining the Nursery team as a teaching assistant. Miss Grange will be teaching Y2 in Pine Class.

Golden Rules

The start of a new school year is always a good time for us to remind ourselves of our school's Golden Rules. The children have been talking about these in class this week.

They are:

- Be polite and kind
- Listen to other people
- Be helpful
- Look after the environment
- Try your best

.....and smile!

Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The AGM of the PTA will be on Monday

24th September at 6pm in the school hall. All parents are invited along to this meeting to find out about the events of the past year, plans for the coming months and to elect the committee for 2018-19. In particular, we are keen to find one (or two!) people who would be interested in taking on the Chair role. This is an exciting post and will be fully supported by our current Chair, Natalie Potter, who will be remaining on the PTA for the coming year.

Queries

If you have any queries, your first port of call is your child's class teacher who will be happy to arrange a time to meet with you to discuss your concerns. For more complex issues, please contact either the team leaders or myself to arrange a meeting. Mrs Childs is the team leader for FS/KS1 and Mrs McGrath for KS2. I am regularly on the playground before and after school or you can make an appointment via the school office

Nut Allergies

As it is the start of the school year, we'd like to take this opportunity to remind everyone that nuts and food containing nuts are not allowed in school at all. This includes snacks for break times as well as packed lunches. Please be aware that coconut is included in this. Thank you for your support with this. If your child has an allergy it is very important that you make use aware of it. Please speak to Mrs Clowes in the school office if you would like any further information about it.

Roald Dahl Day

We are looking forward to celebrating Roald Dahl day on Thurs 13th September. On this day, the children can come to school dressed as one of their favourite Roald Dahl characters or in yellow which was his favourite colour. We will be collecting donations of £1.00 for Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity. Throughout the day, the children will be taking part in lots of fun activities linked to Roald Dahl stories and we will be holding our very own writing competition too!

Diary Dates 2018-19

Autumn Term 2018

September

- 12th—Y1/2 Castles Day
- 13th—Roald Dahl Day
- 17th—Theatre group
- 18th—Hilltop parents meeting
- 24th—PTA AGM
- 25th—Harvest Assembly
- 26th/27th—Y5/6 Stibbington trip

October

- 1st / 3rd—Parent Consultations
- 4th—Y7 Open Evening @ BVC
- 22nd-26th—Half term
- 29th—Y6 Hilltop week

November

- 13th—Ant-Bullying Week
- 17th—Children in Need

December

- 11th—Birch Class Assembly
- 12th—Carol concert @Holy Trinity Church
- 14th—Save the Children Christmas Jumper day
- 19th—Last day of term

Spring Term 2019

January

- 7th—School opens to children

February

- 18th-22nd Half term

April

- 5th—last day of term

Summer Term 2019

April

- 24th—School opens to children

May

- 23rd—INSET day (School closed)

- 27th—31st Half term

July

- 24th—Last day of term

Parent Consultations

We have arranged two parent consultation evenings on Monday 1st October and Wednesday 3rd October. This will be a pastoral meeting with a chance for you to meet your child's teacher early in the term and discuss how he/she has settled in. We are using a new online booking system this year and a letter about how to use this will be sent home. Please speak to the school office if you need another copy.

Website

Our school website is great place to find out about key dates, events, letters, policies and much more. There is also a section for each class where you can see some the learning they have been doing. If you have any suggestions of ways in which we can improve our website please do not hesitate to let us know.

Medication

We can only allow children to have medication in school if parents have given written permission, clearly stating the dosage to be given. 'Medication' can mean anything from throat sweets to an epipen and must be provided in the original packaging. All medication will be kept in the first aid room, except for asthma inhalers, which are kept in the classrooms. These must be clearly labelled. It is the responsibility of the parent to ensure that the medication is in date. Medicine will only be administered if it has been prescribed for four times a day. If it is prescribed for three times a day, then children can have it before school, after school and bed time.

Harvest

We will be having our school Harvest assembly on Tuesday 25th September which will be led by Rev. Sue Giles from the Holy Trinity Church in Bottisham. During this week we will be collecting food to donate to The Cambridge City Foodbank. If

you would like to contribute to this collection, there will be tables in the hall throughout the week where you can leave your donation. Please see the attached sheet for suggested items to donate. The collection will close on Friday 28th Sept.

School Dinners

We would be very grateful if you can pay for your child's school dinner at the start of the week. Of course, you are able to pay for the half term in one payment if you prefer. Payments can be made using the school's online payment system Agora. If you do not yet have an Agora password or need help in using it, please speak to the school office. Alternately, payments can also be made using cash or cheque. Please make cheques payable to Botttisham Primary School. School dinners are free for children in YR-Y2. Prices for children in KS2 are as follows:

- £2.30 per day
- £11.50 per week
- £75.90 for 1st half term (Autumn)
- £87.40 for 2nd half term (Autumn)
- Whole term £163.30

Some families may be eligible to claim free school meals if in receipt of the following:

- Income Support
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income-related employment and support allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration & Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit but who are not entitled to working tax credit and whose annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) does not exceed £16,190
- Guarantee element of state pension credit
- Universal Credit

Please see the school office for more information. A letter with more details about Free School Meals will be sent out soon.

After School Club

Just a quick reminder that if you are collecting your child from after school club and find that they have left something in the classroom, please go to the school office who will be able to help you retrieve it is before the office closes at 5pm. Please do not go to the classrooms after school hours without a member of school staff.

Achievements

We really enjoy celebrating the children's successes outside of school time as well as when they are here with us. If your child has achieved something outside of school, we would love to hear about it! Examples could include an award for a particular sport, dance class or musical instrument but there are sure to be other areas too. We will be having a regular achievement section in the newsletter where we can share your child's success with everyone.

Secondary School Applications

The window for current Year 6 pupils to apply for their secondary school places is between **Wednesday 12 September** and **Wednesday 31 October**. It is important to read all the information carefully and ensure that you allow plenty of time for the application to be submitted. Bottisham Village College will be holding a Year 7 Information Evening for Y6 pupils and their parents and carers on Thursday 4th October.

In Touch

Just to remind everyone that if you need to email the office then please use the of-
fice@bottisham.cambs.sch.uk address. We are unable to respond to any emails that are sent to the school as replies to In Touch messages. Thank you.