



Bottisham Primary School Newsletter

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Autumn Term
6th September 2019

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 a personal note, I would like to say how lovely it is to be back and to see everyone again. I know that staff, pupils and parents really enjoyed working with Mrs Perry whilst I was on maternity leave and we wish her well as she starts the new year at her school. 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 and we will update our Facebook page and Twitter feed regularly. We would like to wish everyone a happy and successful start to the Autumn term.

Rachael Johnston
Headteacher

Staff update

We would like to take this opportunity to extend a very warm welcome to our new members of staff, Anna Caroe, Lucy Woloszyn and Anna Paul. Mrs Caroe will be teaching in the KS1 team and Mrs Woloszyn and Mrs Paul will be joining our Teaching Assistant team. We would also like to congratulate Mrs Swift who will be taking on the role of FS/KS1 Team Leader.

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 16th 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 2019-20 role. The PTA cannot run without a committee so please do come along and support them.

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 Mrs Johnston to arrange a meeting. Mrs Swift is the team leader for FS/KS1 and Mrs McGrath for KS2. Mrs Johnston is regularly on the playground before and after school or you can make an appointment via the school office. If she is not available, please speak to one of our Deputy Heads, Mrs Heijne or Mrs Sheppard. If your query relates to Special Educational Needs, then please arrange to speak to Mrs Sheppard who is also our Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo).

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. If your child has an allergy it is very important that you make use aware of it. Please speak the school office if you would like any further information. Thank you for your support with this.

Assembly themes

The theme of our whole school assemblies this term is 'Respecting Others'. We will be talking about how we would like to be treated by others and celebrating the things that make each of us unique. We will also be talking about how we can be a good friend and respect our differences.

Diary Dates 2019-20

Autumn Term 2019

September

16th—PTA AGM

October

3rd—Y7 Open Evening @ BVC

8th / 10th—Parent Consultations

18th—Maple Class Assembly

21st-25th— Half term

28th—Y6 Hilltop week

November

11th—Anti-Bullying Week

15th—Children in Need

December

2nd/3rd/4th—FS&KS1

Christmas play

18th-Save the Children

Christmas Jumper day

18th—Last day of term

Spring Term 2019

January

6th—School opens to children

February

17th-1st Half term

April

2nd —last day of term

Summer Term 2019

April

20th—School opens to children

May

22nd—INSET day (School closed)

15th—29th Half term

July

21st— Last day of term

Parent Consultations

We have arranged two parent consultation evenings on Tuesday 8th and Thursday 10th 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 continuing to use our online booking system and a letter about how to use this will be sent home. Please speak to the school office if you need any assistance in booking an appointment.

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 and clearly labelled with your child's name. It is the responsibility of parents 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 and so it does not need to be brought in.

Harvest

We will be having our school Harvest assembly on Tuesday 24th 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 27th 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 £2.30 per day

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. We ask that you 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 **Thursday 12 September** and **Thursday 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 office@bottishamprimary.org address. We are unable to respond to any emails that are sent to the school as replies to In Touch messages. Thank you.

Parking

The committee at the Bottisham Sports and Social Club have asked me to remind everyone that their car park is private and not to be used for dropping off and collecting children from school. Thank you in advance for your co-operation with this request.