

Spring 1

January 2024



Welcome back everyone! Happy New Year, I hope that everyone has had a good break and are raring to get back into school! One of the highlights of my day each morning is to open the school gate and be greeted by smiling faces of all the enthusiastic children, who are ready to come into school and it has been great to see you all this week, however can I remind you all that the gates are only open until **8.50am**, it is important that your children arrive in school on time each day, we are having far too many children arriving late into school, **71 children arrived after 8.50am today**, they are missing valuable parts of their learning. One of our school targets is to improve school attendance and punctuality, please can I ask that you support us with this by ensuring that your children arrive in school on time every day.

Can I also ask that parents exit the playground through the top gate rather than pushing past children and their families as they try to enter the school grounds, after the initial rush, when the gate is quieter you will be able to use it to leave the school grounds however when it is busy you will be asked to wait or use the other gate, thank you, this enables us to keep everyone safe.

This week in assemblies, I have shared my resolutions for the year with the children and I have also set the following challenges for the children too:

Challenge 1: **Wear school uniform and shoes each day and correct PE kit for PE lessons**

Challenge 2: **To follow the school's rules and Behaviour Policy, everyone to achieve at least their Gold Shining Stars Award**

Challenge 3: **Read at home every day.**

Challenge 4: **To continue to come to school, on time, every day, with a smile and a positive attitude.**

Challenge 5: **To keep the school and the surrounding area tidier.**

Please can you help us to achieve our challenges this year, especially to encourage your children to read at home and spend less time looking at a screen, make sure that they show respect for the school and the local area and not drop litter, the number of children and parents on some occasions who drop sweet wrappers at the end of the day is so disappointing, we can do better!

We have a number of parent's meetings and events planned for this term, including opportunities for parents of Year 2 children to come and work with your children and Reception parents to come and enjoy a story with your children. Please see the list of dates below for when they are taking place as well as some exciting visits and visitors coming up too!

Thank you.

Mr K Holmes

Kingfisher Collaboration

This month we relaunched the Kingfisher Collaboration in school, as a group of schools we are looking at ways of developing links and opportunities to work together. Later this term a group of our children will be visiting St Benedicts Primary School for the day to complete art activities with a group of their children and then later in the summer term, children from Blakesley Hall Primary School will be coming here to work with some of our children. Mr Bate, our PE leader in school will also be working with the PE and Sports Leaders from St Benedicts, Stechford, Somerville, Blakesley Hall and Red Hill to organise and run sporting events. Each newsletter I will share more information with you about the collaboration events.

Silly Science Day

We are so excited as a school to have an outside company coming in to provide an amazing opportunity for children based around our science curriculum. Silly Science Assemblies will be happening in school on January 19th and will be including children from Y1 ,2, 3, 4, and 6. The assemblies are fun interactive sessions where children will learn a range of science facts through practical fun experiments. Children will be asked to participate and get involved with the experiments while learning new age appropriate science information. This is a great way to get our children excited about the science curriculum in a fun and interactive way we hope this experience encourages children to get silly with science and enjoy the practical side of learning. We hope you are ready for them to come home with the fantastic facts they have learnt and amazing ideas for silly science experiments at home!

Miss J.Dunn

Parents Evenings

Due to the length of this half term, Parents Evening will take place after the half term break. Parents Evening for Year 6 will take place on Tuesday 20th February, appointments will be available from 2.00pm where both you and your child will attend the appointment with the Year 6 teacher. Parents Evening for Nursery to Year 5 will take place on Wednesday 21st February. Letters will come out later this half term where you will be able to request appointments.

School Uniform

The expectation is that all children wear school uniform and black school shoes each day to school, children should not be wearing brightly coloured trainers to school. School uniform can be purchased through the school website or local supermarkets such as Asda, Morrisons, Tesco or Morrisons. Further information regarding uniform can be found on the school website. If you have any questions regarding this please speak to your child's class teacher or one of the leaders at the end of the day.

Please can I request that **you label your child's belongings with their full name and class** so that when any items are mislaid they can be easily returned.

If you have any school uniform at home that is now too small for your children or unwanted and is still in good condition, we are very happy to receive this uniform which we will then keep in our Community Hub. This will then be donated to families who need our support. Thank you.

Reminder – Reception 2024

The closing date to apply for a reception place for September 2023 is 15 January 2024. The application needs to be made online by visiting www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions

If your child currently has a place in our nursery **you still need to** apply for a reception place.

Nursery September 2024

If you have a child born between 01/09/2020 and 31/08/2021 they would be due to start nursery in September 2024. If you wish to apply for a place would you please come to the school office to complete an application form. We would need to see your child's birth certificate and proof of address (council tax bill or child benefit letter).

Dates for your diary

Monday 15th January	1.45pm	Year 2 Parent workshop
Tuesday 16th January		Year 5 visit to the Space Centre
Wednesday 17th January	2.45pm	Year 4 Parents Meeting-Multiplication Tables Check
Thursday 18th January		Year 1 visit to the Coventry Transport Museum
Friday 19th January	2.45pm	Silly Science Day Yellow Class Storytime-parents please join us.
Friday 26th January	9.00am 2.45pm	4B class assembly Red Class Storytime-parents please join us.
Friday 2nd February	2.45pm	Severn Trent Water assemblies and workshops Blue Class Storytime-parents please join us.
Monday 5th February	8.50am	Year 6 Parents Meeting Statutory Assessments
Wednesday 7th February		School photographer in school
Friday 9th February	9.00am and 2.40pm	Shining Star Assemblies School breaks up for the half term holiday

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact any member of the Leadership team, Mrs Rogers (AHT for EYFS and Year 1, Miss Dovey (SENDCO and AHT for Years 2 and 3), Mr Miller (AHT for Years 4,5 and 6), Miss Clayton (AHT for the Wider Curriculum), Ms Burgess (Deputy Headteacher) or I.