



Barnett Wood Infant School

Barnett Wood Lane

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Newsletter – September 2018

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school. We have lots of exciting events planned for you and the children this term. We are really looking forward to working with you and welcoming our new families. It was lovely to see the children returning happily and they all seem to have settled well into their new classes.

Staffing update – We continue with our dedicated and talented team. Miss Roberts has returned after her wedding and is pleased to be called Mrs Davies. Mrs Manders is looking forward to having her baby in a few weeks and will leave us in two weeks time. We wish her well and look forward to meeting the new addition to the family. Mrs Hill and Mrs Proudfoot will be covering in Leopards for the duration of the maternity leave.

After School club – We launch our after-school club this term offering after school care from 3.00pm to 6.00pm every day during term time. If you are interested, please ask the office for further information.

Summer Holiday works – Our Reception playground has a new surface and looks amazing. This project was funded by The Friends. Three classes have been completely re decorated with new carpets as have the Reception toilets and cloakroom. We plan to decorate the rest of the school next summer holidays.

Time Reminder – Early drop off is from 8.30am for 50p per session. **SCHOOL STARTS AT 8.55am** with the doors opening at 8.45am. The teachers prepare activities for children from this time so that they can practise their skills. Morning break is 20 minutes, an hour for lunch and a 10-minute afternoon break. We finish at 3.00pm. We will continue our offer to walk the track on Mondays and Fridays, free of charge, from 8.30am. Research shows that children taking exercise in the morning prepares them well for learning. Come straight through the pencil gates and meet us on the track from 8.30am.



School Development Plan 2018 – 2019

Our School Development Plan focuses on how we can develop children's skills across all curriculum areas including children's social development. In English we will be focusing on developing reading skills introducing a variety of reading materials as well as a focus on phonics and key word learning.

In mathematics we continue to provide children with fun, practical experiences in order to develop their mastery of the subject and their skills. In PE we will continue to offer Professional sessions in Dance and Games as well as looking at ways of improving our swimming resources. Staff receive appropriate training by attending courses or receiving 'in house' training delivered by professional consultants or through training led by our professional team.



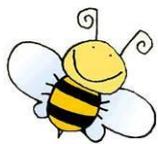
School lunch – If you have chosen the hot school lunch option, we require a weeks notice to change to packed lunch. Our policy is to positively encourage children to try their lunch and we will inform you if your child regularly leaves all or most of their lunch. We are more than happy for parents to come and help us at lunch time. Please let the office know if you can volunteer at any time.

Absences – **Please let us know by 9.30am if your child is going to be absent from school. We need to give our caterers the lunch numbers by this time.**

Meet the teacher Evening – Wednesday 12th September, 7.00pm – 8.00pm

We pride ourselves in working in partnership with our parents so please come and meet your child's teacher, find out about what your child will be learning this year, how you can help and the opportunities available at Barnett Wood. The evening takes the form of a presentation by the class teacher starting at 7.00pm ending by 8.00pm. Teachers are always available if you have any concerns. The best time for this is usually after school. Mrs Penny will also be holding a coffee morning where she will present a session on '**How to support your child's reading skills**'. This is for new Reception parents and any other interested parents. The times have been

chosen to fit in with drop off or pick up times – **26th Sept at 9.00am and repeated at 2.30pm**. There will also be the opportunity to talk about the Friends committee, parent reps and any other questions you may have. **On 6th or 8th November** you will also have the opportunity to meet with the class teacher and discuss your child's progress during individual appointment times.



Swimming - Thank you to the maintenance team, pool checkers and pool supervisors who have kept the pool in excellent condition throughout the summer holidays. Thank you to all the parents who have used the scheme. I am always happy to receive feedback so that we can continue improving.

As last year, we have decided to give the children a couple of extra swimming lessons before the pool closes (weather permitting). We need some help with supervision so please let your teacher know if you can help, thank you. Swim time table available on website. If you would like to swim with your child for any of these final sessions, you are welcome.



Reception parents – if you really feel your child is not happy about swimming at the moment please inform the class teacher.

Snack arrangements - The school provides a piece of fruit or vegetable through the 'fruit for schools' initiative **but if your child would prefer to bring their own then they certainly can. Please also provide a non-spill bottle of WATER every day which children can top up during the day from our cool water fountain. We are also offering a milk drink during morning break and we ask for a contribution for this. If you would like your child to have milk please inform the office.**

Harvest Assembly – Friday 19th October, 9.30am at St Georges Church (40 mins approx)

The whole school will be welcoming you to St. Georges for our Harvest Assembly. Each year group will perform a song and the Year 2 children lead the narration and play musical instruments. This year we will be making some coin collections for 'Jeans for Genes', a charity which supports children affected by a genetic disorder in the UK. We will be asking Barnett Wood children and families to bring a coin contribution to school on **Friday 21st September, 'Jeans for Genes Day'**, when they can wear their **normal school top** with their choice of skirt/trousers. Don't worry if you do not have denim, the children may wear an alternative.



1. Odd sock day – to celebrate our individuality at the end of Anti Bullying week.

We will reveal our total for the two charities at the Harvest Assembly. **At the church, the first 3 rows of chairs are always reserved for Yr 2 parents, thank you. You may take photos and videos for your own home use and not for social media.**



Dropping off and collecting children

After the first few days of term we ask Yr 1 and 2 parents to say goodbye to your child on the playground. There is always an adult in the cloakroom to provide help if needed. Please let the office know if collection arrangements change. The sea of parents at the end of the day can be daunting for the children so please stand by your classes designated pick up area as follows:

Reception parents please take your children in through the pencil gates and through the side door. Please collect from outside the back classroom door, again using the pencil gate entrance. Thank you.

On wet PE days we need to keep the hall dry and we will ask Reception parents to say goodbye in the cloakroom.

Collection arrangements continued:

Yr1 – Giraffes - On the 100 square

Yr 1- Leopards - By the large garden planters

Yr 2- Tigers - By the Yr1/2 entrance door

Yr 2- Lions - Outside the class door.

Communication – Our website is updated EVERY week (usually Friday). This includes an update by the teachers reporting on significant events in the classroom. All documents are published on the site. We aim to keep paper correspondence to a minimum and letters will go in book bags **every other Friday**. Our 'parent mail' contact system is used to send reminders and information using your email address. We also have a school app and the 'Welcome board' at the front of school gives weekly updates and reminders. Please make sure you inform the office if your contact details change in any way.

Term Dates for 2018– 2019 - We ask parents not to request holidays during term time. Authorised absences will only be considered under exceptional circumstances.

The term dates for this academic year are as follows:

Autumn Term 2018 – 4th September – 19th December (half term 22nd – 26th October)

- INSET 4th and 5th September

Spring Term 2019 – 3rd January – 5th April (half term 18th – 22nd February)

- NO INSET

Summer Term 2019 – 23rd April – 24th July (half term 27th – 31st May)

- INSET – 24th May, 3rd June and 24th July. Last day of summer term is Tuesday 23rd July.

School pets – We continue to care for our rabbits, Flopsy and Pepper and chicken our chicken, Popcorn.

Our pets belong to the whole school. If you would like to help look after our pets by feeding or cleaning their cage then please sign our rota in the office area. We have full instructions. We have calculated that if everyone gave a voluntary £1 per term this would keep our rabbits and chickens fed and clean for the year.

Contributions to the office please. The staff will be organising an after-school film next half term to raise funds for the upkeep of our pets.



Reminders

Please label all your child's items. Children become very upset when we cannot find their things.

Book bags, key rings and toys – Children may have one key ring attached to their book bag and can change this when they like. A pocket toy may be brought to school to play with at play time and if your child collects cards they may bring a maximum of 6. Toys and cards **cannot** be swapped.

Gardeners - If you are a keen gardener – **WE NEED YOU** to help keep our planters looking welcoming, please see Mrs Penny.

Please use the office **silver post box** whenever you can for returning messages, letters etc.

Please **close all gates** – it is everyone's responsibility to keep our children safe.

Please use the community centre car park if you need to use your car at drop off and pick up times. For everyone's safety, DO NOT PARK IN THE STREETS OPPOSITE SCHOOL.



Alert

No dogs allowed on Surrey school premises. You may however leave your dog in the staff car park.

NO PHOTOS OR VIDEOS TAKEN ON SITE MAY BE USED ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Finally, we get through a tremendous amount of tissues and kitchen rolls. If you would like to support us and provide a box during the year, it would be very much appreciated.

Thank you to:

All our fantastic parents for their continued support, Our Friends Committee who organise such fun events, The class reps who make things happen, The swimming pool teams without whom we could not run our wonderful pool, Our magic gardeners who make our school look so welcoming, Everyone who parks responsibly, Our Governors who work so hard behind the scenes, Our lunch time staff who do a wonderful job looking after the children so sensitively, AND OF COURSE - The children who are so well behaved, great fun and keen to learn.

I enclose dates for the term.

**Norma Penny,
Headteacher**



DATES AND EVENTS FOR AUTUMN TERM 2018

Date	Time	Event
4 th and 5 th Sept	All day (INSET)	In Service Educational Training for staff
Thursday 6 th Sept	8.45am	Years 1 and 2 return to school
Friday 7 th Sept	3.00pm to 3.30pm	Class swimming during the day Years 1 and 2 – A welcome back to school free ices after school from our caravan.
Monday 10 th Sept and Wednesday 12 th	Morning	Reception staggered start All Reception children start full time from Monday 17 th September. Reception will be offered a fun swim session on Friday 14 th Sept. Parents are welcome to swim with their child and a time slot allocated.
Wednesday 12 th	7.00 to 8.00pm	Meet the teacher evening. The evening takes the form of a presentation by the teacher starting at 7.00pm.
Week 10 th Sept	Various times	Swimming for children, weather permitting. See swim time table on website.
Friday 21 st Sept	All day	Coin collection for our charities - 'Jeans for Genes Day' We will also be asking the children to bring in ONE tin or packet of food for a local charity and food bank.
Thursday 27 th Sept	9.00am and repeated at 2.30pm	Mrs Penny coffee morning presentation on How we teach reading at Barnett Wood. Information about The Friends and Class reps. Times are planned to fit around drop off and pick up times for reception.
Thursday 27 th Sept	8.00pm	Friends AGM. Come along and support our committee, join the team, bring new ideas.
Thursday 4 th Oct	Morning	Individual photos
Thursday 11 th Oct		1.00 to 2.30pm OPEN AFTERNOON for prospective parents
Saturday 13 th Oct	10.00am – 12.30	Bake and taste Coffee OPEN MORNING at school.
Thursday 18 th October	7.00pm – 9.00pm	Governors Meeting. If any parent would like to attend as an observer please see Mrs Penny.
Friday 19 th Oct	9.30am	Harvest Assembly at St Georges Church. Yr 2 children will lead the assembly with each year group singing a song. The first 3 rows are for Yr 2 parents. Photos and videos may be taken for home use only and NOT FOR SOCIAL MEDIA
Monday 22nd Oct to	Friday 26th Oct	HALF TERM
Friday 2 nd Nov	All Day	MUFTI DAY in return for a new toy for the Christmas Fair.
Tuesday 6 th Nov Thursday 8 th Nov	3.30 – 6.30pm 6.00pm – 9.00pm	Parent Consultations for all classes. Time table to book an individual time with the class teacher will be available from 18 th October. Arrive 10 minutes before to view your child's work. To book an appointment please call after 9.30am.
Wednesday 14 th November	All Day	Each class will have a drumming session with a professional drummer.
Friday 16 th Nov	9.30 – 11.30am	OPEN MORNING for prospective parents 16 th is also Odd sock day – celebrating our similarities and differences.
Tuesday 20 th Nov	7.30pm	Maths workshop for Yr2 parents
Friday 23 rd Nov	3.00 to 5.00pm	Film for children - £2 per child.
Wednesday 28 th Nov	All day Book a time – morning or afternoon	Art and Design Technology Day. Parents are invited to work with the children making Christmas decorations, cards, etc. Our classrooms will look festive for December.
Sunday 2 nd Dec	11.00am to 2.00pm	Christmas Fair. We need lots of help and support please.
Monday 17 th Dec	From 1.15pm	Dress rehearsal at St Georges Church. If you cannot make the performance tomorrow you may attend the rehearsal. PLEASE DO NOT COME TO BOTH.
Tuesday 18 th Dec	9.30 – 10.30am (approx)	School Christmas Celebrations at St Georges Church for all the family. Please keep first 3 rows for Yr 2 parents.
Wednesday 19 th Dec	All day	Christmas parties. Children come to school in party clothes and have a day of fun activities. Children will have a normal school lunch today and we ask parents to provide just a few party treats.
Wednesday 19 th Dec	2.30pm	End of Term – Return Thursday 3 rd Jan 2019 Merry Christmas

More information about Christmas celebrations and arrangements to follow after half term.