

GREAT BRADFORDS JUNIOR SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

January 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

Happy New Year!

Welcome back to a new year and a new term. It is a very short term but one in which I always think that the children and teachers work extremely hard and achieve so much. Hopefully, we will be able to include some student snippets in one of the newsletters later this term to share with you what the children have been learning. Of course, the best advocates are your children themselves and they should be talking to you about their learning throughout the term. In addition, we will be having our usual parent consultation meetings just before half term as a mid-year review of their progress to date and next steps.

We enjoyed a variety of festive activities before the end of last term and the children were supported by yourselves several times. I must thank the teachers and other staff who helped to organise the Year 3 performances, which were full houses despite the dreadful weather; the Year 6 Greek afternoons; the Christmas lunch and the school choir performances to name but a few.

The PTFA held a successful coffee morning and raffled the Rainbow Hampers as well as walking the streets with the Braintree Lions on two evenings. Our grateful thanks go to Mrs Phillips and her band of helpers who have raised a phenomenal amount of money and gave the school a cheque for £1000 at the Coffee Morning, which will be used to purchase those extras that we do not get funded for through our budget.

Please check the 'Dates for your Diary' section below for forthcoming important dates and our school website for other relevant information.

Best wishes,

Fiona Dorey

Headteacher



Congratulations go to:

- Simmonds House who gained the most house points last term and have earned themselves a non-uniform day on Friday 5th January;
- 3W, 4B, 5S and 6D who have scored the most points in reading last term and have earned a book-related film and popcorn session;
- 3J, 4R, 5C and 6S who walked the most golden miles last term and have earned an extra play session this week;

Well done to you all and keep it up. Who will be the winners this term?

Reminder:

Please could I remind you all about the following niggles of school life?



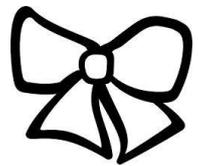
There are currently half a dozen unnamed coats (which are not cheap) in the lost property from last term, so we have not been able to return them to their owners. In addition, there is a significant amount of other clothing in the reception area. This will be disposed of at the end of this week.

Children should have warm outdoor P.E. kit in school with appropriate footwear as they will have outdoor P.E. lessons as well as indoor lessons, as long as it is not raining.



If the children want a drink of water in the daytime they will need to bring in a water bottle. The cups are not available at the moment as the dishwasher is broken and Mrs Shead does not have time to wash all the cups.

And finally ... now we are back to normal, any hair accessories or bows should be in the school colour of royal blue (not turquoise) or black or white. The large bows also have to be removed for P.E. lessons as do earrings and watches.



Thank you!

Fundraising:

We are very proud of the children's fundraising efforts last term when they were also supported by yourselves. In addition to the contributions towards the Rainbow Hampers, we collected 103 kg of food for the foodbank at Harvest time; £273 was collected for the annual Poppy Appeal and £300 towards Children in Need.

Later this term we will be holding one of our popular Bake Sales to raise funds towards our next nominated charity which has been suggested by one of our families.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed in any way and helped the children think about those who are less fortunate than ourselves.



End of day arrangements:

We understand that sometimes parents are late collecting their children for one reason or another, but we have an increasing amount of people in reception at the end of the day so it is difficult to ensure that those children waiting to be collected are still in the school. In light of this we are going to allow the children to wait inside school, therefore you will need to come to reception to collect your children.

We would also like to point out that it can often be very difficult for office staff to deliver routine messages about end of day arrangements after 3:00p.m. as there is a constant flow of visitors at reception. Therefore, please only call us between 3:00p.m. and 3:15p.m. in an emergency.

As a reminder we always suggest that you arrange with your child that if they are expecting to be met and you are not in their regular meeting place that they return to the office and we will look after them until you arrive.

PTFA Quiz Night - Friday 2nd February



Your Child should have brought home a flier for this event.

An evening of fun and laughter with quizmaster Vince Salter! Teams of up to 8 people £5 per person (Adults only). Bring your own drinks and nibbles.

Please send forms and cash in a sealed envelope to the school office.

Dates for Your Diary

Spring Term 2018: Tuesday 2nd January - Thursday 29th March

Half Term: Monday 12th - Friday 16th February

(Non-pupil days 2nd January and 9th February)

31st January	Choir visit to O2 for Young Voices concert
5th February	Yr 5 visit from Star Dome
6th February	Yr 3 visit to Braintree Museum
7th & 8th February	Parents Evenings
13th March	Class photos
15th/16th March	Yr 6 visit to Warner Bros Harry Potter Studios
20th & 21st March	Yr 4 Production

Drop In” sessions with Sharon McCormick (Family Liaison Worker)

Junior School – 26th January, 23rd February, 23rd March, 27th April, 18th May and 29th June

Infant School – 15th January, 5th February, 12th March, 16th April, 14th May, 11th June and 16th July

Parents may attend Drop In sessions at either school.

Sharon is able to offer advice and support on many aspects of family life, including behaviour management strategies, home/school communication and support, or contact with other services. Alternatively, Sharon can be contacted via 01376 552393 or sharon@lyonshall.essex.sch.uk