



BEECHWOOD NEWS



Promoting Progress

Newsletter 44
September 2013



Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the start of the new term. I hope you all enjoyed the summer holidays. What a change it made to actually have some sunshine during the break. I am very excited for the coming year ahead. It was lovely to see you all this morning and to greet the children who were coming back and the new children and staff who are joining our Beechwood community. We have 4 new members of staff. Miss Robertson, a Year 3 teacher, Mr. Barnett, a Year 4 teacher and Miss Brenchley and Miss Slater who are joining our fantastic team of ELSAs. Please remember that if you have anything that you would like to discuss, chat about, or any suggestions, that my door is always open and that you can always send me an email through our website. If you haven't had chance to look at the website then please do as it is regularly updated and lets you see some of the exciting things going on in school. Best wishes and I look forward to working together over the coming year. Mrs Rees

Appeals



Did you know? We have set up a sewing room for making production costumes etc and would be really grateful for any donations of material, thread, fasteners, tapes, trimmings

etc that people might have at home that they don't want or no longer use? We also need old Newspapers / Advertisers to cover the desk during art class

Parent Readers

We are looking for parents who can come in to school to help children with their reading. Unfortunately, there are many children who don't get regular opportunities to read at home or just need a little bit of extra support. Our results show that pupils who received extra help at school from parent readers last year leapt ahead with their reading. Ideally, you would be able to come into school for two mornings a week from 8.40-9.25am. You will work one-to-one with several children, spending 10-15 minutes with each child talking about the book they are reading and listening to them read. If you think that you can do this and would like to make an important difference to pupils' learning, we would love to hear from you. Please contact the school office or email Jill Gardner at: jillgardner@beechwoodjuniorschool.co.uk

Behaviour Policy

At this time of year we always review our Behaviour Policy. In our Policy, which is available in full on our website, there is a section regarding our expectations of input from parents. In case you don't have the opportunity to look at the policy I have copied the parents section for you as a reminder.

Parents:

- ✦ Will celebrate their child's achievements with him/her and show an interest in school life.
- ✦ Will ensure that their child is sent to school appropriately dressed in clean school uniform.
- ✦ Will act promptly at the request of the school by letter or by telephone in the instance of a discipline or behaviour problem.
- ✦ Will work with the school to improve their child's behaviour, if necessary.
- ✦ Will ensure that their child arrives at school on time and is picked up on time.
- ✦ Will ensure that if their child needs to be picked up early they give prior notice and collect them from the school office.
- ✦ Will ensure that the work given during any exclusion is completed and returned to school.
- ✦ Will closely supervise their child during any exclusion from school and not allow them to come within the vicinity of the school.
- ✦ Will sign behaviour diaries or home/school diaries and ensure they are returned to school as required
- ✦ Will sign and return detention letters promptly
- ✦ Will provide up to date phone numbers

Behaviour at Beechwood is outstanding and that is because we all work together and I thank you for your support in this.

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Would you want your child's class teacher taking holiday during the school term?

THE LAW:

Parents by law are responsible for ensuring their child regularly attends school. Failure to do this is an offence and will result in a penalty notice or even prosecution. (More details available on DFE website)

The current law gives no entitlement for parents to take children on holiday in term time. If a holiday is taken parents will be fined.

The Department for Education requires schools to log all absences as authorised or unauthorised. Absences form part of a historical record for your child and are shown each year on their Annual Report. Schools are also required to publish annually statistics on authorised and unauthorised absences.

5 days of absence...

Good attendance is linked to higher achievement. Poor attendance can be a cause of underachievement. If your child has five days of authorised absence during the year for leave and takes no other time off for illness or other reasons, their attendance over the school year will be 97.4%.

THE REQUEST FORM HAS CHANGED

As from today, you will need to fill in a new form if you want to ask the Headteacher of your child's school to authorise a leave of absence during term time.

You must ask well in advance and you are strongly advised to request leave of absence before you confirm any leave arrangements.

Under no circumstances will absences for leave in term time be authorised after they have happened.

Only under exceptional circumstances will any leave during term time be considered and parents will be expected to attend a meeting with the School's Attendance Officer prior to this being granted.

Unauthorised absence and persistent lateness may result in the issue of a Penalty Notice to each parent, for each child absent.

This year our school attendance was just satisfactory according to Ofsted. Lets all work together to ensure every child has a good level of attendance. The school target for next year will be 96% or better.

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Reminders

Trip and Dinner Monies

Can you please ensure that all monies sent to school are in a clearly labelled envelope with your child's name, class, what the money is for and amount enclosed. Thank you. Have you tried paying online instead?

Ordering School Uniform

Please order school uniform directly from Skoolkit. You can do this in a number of ways: on-line via the link on our website via telephone or from their shops in Totton or Eastleigh

Breakfast Club

Breakfast club is open again in the new term from the first day the children are back : Wednesday 4th September 2013. 7.30—8.30, £2.50 per child.

Dinner Money Increase

Dinner money has now increased to £1.95 per day. Could you please ensure that this is sent in an envelope clearly marked with your child's name and class. Please do not send in loose money. Thank you!

Adventure Playground

When collecting your child from school do not allow your children to play on the adventure playground as they will not be covered by our insurance.

School Start Time

School starts at 8.40. Please do not allow your children on the playground before 8.30 as no staff members will be there to look after them.

Coffee Morning

Join Lorraine for this year's first coffee morning on Tuesday 10th Sept from 8.40—10 for tea and biscuits. You can win a box of chocolates in the raffle! This will take place in our group room on the lower corridor from now on. Please sign in at reception as normal.



Important Dates

Inset days

25th of November 2013

20th of January 2014

17th March 2014

2nd June 2014

Millbrook's Got Talent

Singing sensation Savannah Amell from 5A won £1000 over the holidays by winning the Millbrook's got talent competition. Congratulations from all here at Beechwood!



New Staff Members:



Mr Barnett Year 4



Miss Slater Year 3



Miss Slater ELSA



Miss Brenchley ELSA

It's back again due to popular demand!



Yes, the second Family Bingo Night fundraiser here at Beechwood is taking place on Friday 9th November 7pm - 9pm "ish"! Tickets will be £6 each (£4 children) which includes a hearty Ploughman's (meat or vegetarian option), there will be fab prizes for the winners (sorry no cash), soft drinks, crisps, sweets and alcohol will be on sale and lots of fun will be free!

Please complete the tear off slip below and return it to the office (your payment will be collected closer to the date) no later than Monday 23rd September.

.....
I wish to come along with:..... adults children.

Meat x Vegetarian x

Name:.....

Contact number:.....