

Telephone: 01793 299101
Email: admin@badburyparkprimary.co.uk
Website: www.badburyparkprimary.co.uk
Twitter: @BadburyPark
Facebook: @BadburyPark



Headteacher: Mrs L Dance
Badbury Park Primary School
Rainscombe Road
Coate
Swindon
Wiltshire
SN3 6ER

Be Adventurous Be Ambitious Be Curious Be Kind

Date: 15th September 2023

Newsletter

Dear Families,

What a great first full week! It has been exciting to see our new reception children begin their educational journey at Badbury Park Primary School. I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge 'Welcome' to our school community, whether you are returning to our school after the summer break, or at the very beginning of your journey at our school. Either way, I hope you have had a wonderful first week and feel supported, included and informed.



Thank you for arriving promptly and for bringing in PE kits, bottles and bags; please bring in welly boots and waterproofs if you haven't already done so. Thank you for attending the parent information meetings this week, I hope you found the information useful. If you were unable to attend the meetings, the presentations will shortly be available on our website.

A newsletter will be emailed out every other Friday and a brief parent bulletin on the Friday in between—please look out for these and update us if you change your email address. The first newsletter of the year is always fairly lengthy but we do appreciate you reading through the reminders on page 3 together with other important school information on pages 4 and 5. The last page of our newsletter is always the school diary which we keep updated with any new events throughout the year—this is also available on our website.



We were delighted to hear that 166 children signed up for the Summer Reading Challenge at Badbury Park Library, it was the highest sign up ever in a Parish community library in Swindon! They still have certificates and medals to hand out; the challenge ends this weekend so please go along and collect them.

Have a lovely weekend, Mrs Dance

Nursery



What a busy first week in Apple Tree Class! The children have all demonstrated our school value 'Be Adventurous', coming in to a new environment and meeting different people. They have enjoyed joining in with 'Dear Zoo' and we have been learning some new songs and how to get along with others. The children have had some lovely ideas in their play and we have enjoyed getting to know them. We have also been drawing our 'self portraits' to display on their 'wow' board in the classroom – we can't wait for you to see them!

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Reception :

What a fantastic first week of school Ash Tree and Oak Tress have had. The children have loved exploring their new classrooms and outdoor area, making the most of the sunshine! We had two jumping visitors in our garden - frogs! The children were very excited and we carefully put them in a box and set them free down by the stream at school.



This week we have been focusing on friendship and thinking about how we can be a kind friend. The children have been very independent and responsible by collecting their lunch and clearing their own plates, lining up when they hear the bells at lunch time and tidying their classrooms at the end of the day. Ash Tree and Oak Tree, we are very proud of you for a lovely first week at Badbury Park!



Key Stage 1 (Beech, Pine, Yew and Maple)



Yew and Maple Tree classes have had a fantastic start to Year 2! We have been working hard to learn our poem ready for our very first poetry slam! Year 2s in Maple Tree have enjoyed exploring their new upstairs classroom whilst Year 2s in Yew Tree have been exploring their new classroom downstairs. We used the outdoors to inspire our writing this week and have started looking at numbers to 100 in maths. We are excited to start focusing on our topic 'Ancient Egyptians' and have already been learning about this in History.

Pine and Beech tree classes have had a wonderful start and Mrs Cannings, Mrs Stutt and Miss Ahmed have been very impressed by how brilliantly we have settled into Year 1. We've learnt lots of new songs and games, and we have been working hard on our Poetry Slam competition entry - The Figment Tree by Roger McGough. In Maths we've been recapping our knowledge of number and shape and ways to sort objects and numbers which they have enjoyed. What a fantastic start to the year!



Key Stage 2 (Maple, Hazel and Willow) Hazel Tree class and Maple Tree have had a fantastic start to Year 3! We have been working hard to learn our poem ready for our very first poetry slam! We have enjoyed exploring our new upstairs classrooms as well as getting outside to inspire our writing in English and practising writing numbers in words in Maths. We've started to look at our new topic 'Ancient Egyptians' in History and have been learning the names of our bones in Science.



We were very excited to begin Spanish this week and started off with learning different greetings.



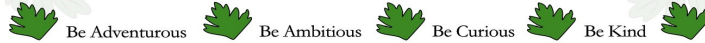
Wow! What a start to the year we have had in Willow Class! As the eldest children in the school, Willow Class have taken part in a special Blue Kite writing project. To celebrate Julia Donaldson's 75th birthday we had 250 characters to write the next part of a Gruffalo story and pass it on to the next school. Miss Horrobin was delighted with our entry and we cannot wait to discover the twists and turns that are added by the subsequent schools when the project is complete. And the excitement did not end there because then we rehearsed the poem 'Scissors' by Allan Ahlberg for our very first Badbury Park Poetry slam judged by a special panel of judges! In maths, we have been busy working with place value in particular partitioning numbers up to 1,000 using the correct place value language and showing off our understanding of number through manipulating concrete base 10 resources too. During computing we started to look at how information is distributed through switches and routers! Here we are passing information through the switch in an internal network and making sure we project our voices for the SLAM.



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Helpful Reminders for the Start of the New Academic Year

Water and snacks: Please can we remind parents again that your child's water bottle should contain **plain tap water**, not juice, squash or flavoured water. School provides a piece of fruit at break time for all Y2, Y1 and YR. Y3 and Y4 may bring in a piece of fruit from home – no other snacks are permitted

Naming your child's property: Please ensure that your child's name is clearly visible on everything including all clothing, water bottles, shoes and even scooters.

Coats: Please can you make sure your child brings a named waterproof coat and jumper to school EVERY DAY as the weather is very changeable and children will spend some time every day outside whatever the weather.



Absence and attendance: Swindon Borough Council review our attendance data very closely, with a particular focus on unauthorised absence, and specific action is taken where attendance is below 95%. Any holiday taken in term time will not be authorised and a fine may be issued, particularly if your child already has any unauthorised absence. The only time a child may be absent from school is under exceptional circumstances - cost, employment, extended family illnesses and extended family gatherings are **not** deemed as exceptional circumstances.

There are only 190 statutory school days in one year and 175 days (weekends and school holidays) available to use for holidays. Therefore EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS!

If your child is going to be absent from school for any reason you should call the school office before 09.00am on the first day of absence. You will need to either provide a return date for your child or contact the office on each morning of your child's absence. Any unexplained absence will be registered as unauthorised. You will be asked to provide proof of appointments.

Collection: Please let the staff member on duty know if your child is going home with someone else. If pick up arrangements change during the day, please advise the office **by midday** We will not let your child go home with anyone we are not expecting to collect or who is not listed as a contact.



Mobile phones: We would ask parents not to use their mobile phones on the school site whilst dropping off or collecting children. As well as being a safeguarding issue, it has a big impact if you greet your child with a smile and take a moment to listen and talk to them at the end of the day.

Packed lunch and allergies: We encourage healthy eating in school and would ask you to refer to the "healthy lunch" policy on the school website. We have some children and staff with allergies in school – to nuts and milk. We are a **nut free school** and no nuts of any kind are to be brought into school. Thank you.

Communication Our main communication method is via email; all newsletters will be emailed out and put on the school website. If you change your email address please let the office know.

Cool Milk Your child has been registered with Cool Milk. Once they are 5 you will need to register and pay for milk online if you would like your child to continue having a carton at snack time.

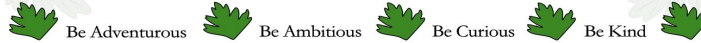


Birthdays/Celebrations As a healthy school and due to allergies, please could we ask that children do not bring sweets or cakes in for their birthdays. We will celebrate the children's birthdays with them in school and sing to them as a class.

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Lines of communication

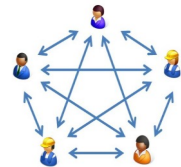
In order to ensure parental queries are addressed promptly, we would like to clarify lines of communication within school.

If you have a query related to your child, in the first instance this should be communicated to your child's class teacher. The class teacher knows your child best and is the one who spends every day with them in class.

If your query is not resolved, or you are concerned about the outcome, your query should then be taken to Mrs Debono and then Mrs Dance. If you have a query or concern around special needs, your query should be addressed to Mrs Christmas.

Please contact the School Office admin@badburypark.bluekitetrust.org to make an appointment with a member of staff, ensuring this line of communication is followed. We understand that there are instances where parents may wish to speak to other members of staff regarding other areas of school. Please contact the School Office who will be able to put parents into contact with the appropriate staff member.

Lines of Communication



Road Safety and Parking

Some of you may have seen members of Swindon Borough Council visiting school yesterday morning. Since the school opened we have had concerns about the safety of children on Rainscombe road and parking outside the school. As part of the Schools Safe Environment Zones (SSEZ) the council are considering introducing new parking restrictions on Rainscombe Road and have opened a Traffic Regulation Order, details of which can be viewed via the link below:

https://www.swindon.gov.uk/info/20135/traffic_management/657/traffic_regulation_orders_tros

Comments and outcomes from the meeting this morning will be fed back to Ward Councillors before a decision is made as to whether to proceed to a formal consultation. We will keep you informed of any changes as soon as we are made aware ourselves.

In the meantime, to ensure everyone's safety and in consideration of our neighbours, could we please ask that you:

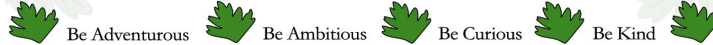
- Consider parking on Homington Avenue and walking the rest of the way to school (walking to school is a great way to become healthier and can positively contribute to a child's development)
- Always **reverse** into spaces at the front of the school
- Do not park in the first 3 spaces unless you are a blue badge holder
- Avoid walking on the path behind parked cars or down the centre of the road
- Do not block driveways or double park even for a few minutes
- Do not park on corners to maintain a clear view for those crossing the road
- Do not park in such a way as to block the road and prevent emergency vehicle access
- Do not sit in the parking area with your engine running
- Do not park on pavements or kerbs in such a way which prevents pedestrians, disabled users or parents with buggies from using the pavement
- Never to stop on Zig Zag lines even for a few minutes



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Free School Meals and Pupil Premium

There are two types of free school meals ->

Universal Free School Meals for all children in reception, Year 1 and Year 2

Benefit Related Free School Meals for Reception to Year 4 children whose parents access any of the benefits listed below

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance or Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on
- Universal Credit, provided you have an annual net earned income not exceeding £7,400 (£616.67 per month)
- Are in the armed forces

Have your circumstances changed? Your child may now be eligible for benefit related free school meals and we would encourage you to apply via the Swindon Borough Council website : <https://education.swindon.gov.uk/Synergy/SynergyWeb/Enquiries/Citizen/FreeSchoolMeals.aspx>

If you are eligible, the school will receive extra funding called 'pupil premium' which can support your child in other ways, such as funding school trips, educational provision/resources, academic interventions, wellbeing and self-esteem building interventions. The extra money we receive could make a real difference to the quality of education we offer and **as a parent, you will receive free supermarket and holiday club vouchers.**

Please note that if you have older children, who are entitled to free school meals, this does not automatically register younger children onto free school meals register, you will need to apply separately for them.

Please remember that you can apply for this benefit even if your child is receiving Universal Free School Meals in YR, Y1 and Y2.

Your view matters!

As a school we are currently reviewing our PSHE (personal, social, health and economic) and RSHE (relationships, health and sex education) curriculum to ensure it is not only in line with the most current government guidelines but is also appropriate and relevant to the needs of our children and the world they are growing up in.

We are keen to hear views from our parents and to work in partnership with you, please complete this survey by Friday 29th September <https://forms.gle/pAPTMju5nRv7BKcB6>

Clubs

Mr Sims started his after school sports clubs this week with resounding success—basket ball and mixed football have been particularly popular. There are still some places available for children in Years 1—4. Please sign up for clubs via your My Child at School account.



Please note that there are no sports clubs with Mr Sims on 27th September -2nd October.



Do you receive any of the following?

- Income support
- Employment Support Allowance (Income Related)
- Income based Job Seekers Allowance
- Guaranteed Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit and your income (as calculated by the Inland Revenue) is less than £16,190
- Universal Credit
- Receiving support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act of 1999
- In the Armed Forces

If you can answer yes to any of the above you may qualify for free school meals/Pupil Premium



The school office will help with your application. If your application is successful not only will your child receive free school meals, but our school will receive £1,300 additional funding (per child). This is called Pupil Premium.

All applications are confidential.

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What do “Friends of Badbury Park” do?

We are an active Parent Teacher Association group who support the school by organising fun, social family events and fundraising for additional resources to enhance the children’s learning—this could be things like new playground equipment, classroom iPads, or additional books for the library. We bring together the local community, parents and children.

We have already planned a long list of events and fundraising ideas, including the Glamorose cake van visit to the school today who donate a percentage of their takings to the school.

Other future events include:



Friday 29th September - MacMillan Cancer charity cake & coffee event, from 3pm. FOBPP PTA are 'hosting' this event, and would love donations of bought or made cakes and treats, please. Any made cakes must have full ingredients & allergens listed. All monies raised go to the MacMillan Cancer charity.



Wednesday 27th September, 6pm - Reception Parents meeting, pre-loved uniform rail will be available to buy for a donation.

We also have provisional plans for a parents’ bingo evening, fireworks night and Christmas Fair—watch this space for more information!

Our **annual general meeting** will be held at the beginning of October (date to be confirmed) and we would very much like to welcome new members.

What involvement would I have?






- Attend meetings held by the Chair to plan events and fundraising activities
- Be forthcoming with ideas and suggestions, exchanging them with other “Friends” members
- Offer help and support at events wherever you can
- Actively advertise events by sharing the PTA’s Twitter and Facebook updates

We would love you to be as involved as you can; however, all offers of help, no matter how small, are greatly appreciated. If you are interested in becoming a member of “Friends of Badbury Park”, please send an email to friendsofbadburyparkprimary@gmail.com

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School Diary

September 2023

4th & 5th: TD days—no school for pupils

6th: Children in Years 1-4 return to school

7th: Children in Reception start school (full time or half days if new to Badbury)

W/C 5th: Poetry week

11th : Curriculum meetings for parents (Y1-Y4) from 5pm in classrooms

15th : Poetry Slam

W/C 18th: School Council elections

27th: Meeting for Reception parents at 6pm

29th: Macmillan Coffee event at 3pm

October 2023

6th: School tours for parents with children starting Reception in 2024 from 4pm-5pm

17th & 18th : Parent/Teacher consultation evenings

20th: last day of term 1

23rd-27th : school holiday

30th : TD day—school closed to children

31st: Children return to school to start term 2

November 2023

1st: Individual school photos

2nd: Parent reading workshop at 2.30pm

13th—17th: anti-bullying week

13th: Odd socks day

16th: Nasal flu clinic in school

17th: Children in Need. Children can wear something spotty for a small donation

Teacher Training Days 2023/2024

📅 Monday 4th & Tuesday 5th September 2023

📅 Monday 30th October 2023

📅 Wednesday 3rd January 2024

📅 Monday 3rd June 2024

📅 Monday 8th July 2024

December 2023

6th at 9.30am: Reception Christmas production to parents

7th at 1.30pm : Reception Christmas production to parents

7th: Christmas Jumper day

10th: Christmas Fair (provisional date)

11th : Christmas singalong in playground (Y1 & Y2—Yew Tree)

11th : Christmas singalong in playground (Y2 -Y4)

13th: Christmas lunch followed by class party

14th : "Open house" parents are welcome to come in to see class and books from 2.30pm or 11.30/3.00 for Nursery)

15th: Last day of term 2.

18th December—4th January—Christmas holidays, no school.