

Executive Head: Mrs J Fraser

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Head of School: Mrs L Dance

Badbury Park Primary School

Rainscombe Road

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Swindon

Wiltshire

SN3 6ER



Be Adventurous



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Be Kind



Date: 13th May 2022

Newsletter

Dear Families,

I have had a lovely week observing the teaching and learning in all classes. It is great to see how settled and mature our children are becoming. It has been so nice to have this uninterrupted time in school finally.

Please be aware that a number of children have contracted chicken pox this week. Children may return to school once their spots have dried out and crusted over.

Our Year 1 and 2 children will be taking part in the Phonics screener and SATs tasks in the coming weeks. Please speak positively about these tasks. We will do them in a very supportive way in small groups.

Please take time to read through the information on page 4 regarding attendance and if you have any questions as a result, please do not hesitate to contact me.



I have received more enquiries from parents about classes for September. We will not be making any decisions until July when we know our final staffing and pupil numbers.

Children will meet their new teachers and support staff on **Friday 15th July**. Transition from Nursery into Reception classes will begin from **7th July**.

It is not helpful to speculate what class structures will look like in front of the children as it can be unsettling. Please work in partnership with the school and make the next step exciting and positive. It is a very long way off for the children and not something they need to think about yet. Please be reassured that all decisions will be made carefully and with the children at the heart.

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Dance

Nursery

Apple Tree have had a busy, creative week this week. We have been making lots of music and practising fast and slow, loud and quiet. Our story this week has been 'Aliens Love Underpants' which always makes us laugh! We made our own aliens using loose parts and talked about different habitats. Where do animals live? Is it cold and snowy or hot like the desert? We visited different habitats through the immersive room, finding the dinosaurs and travelling under the sea.



Finally, some tadpoles have arrived in the class – we are watching them to see what happens!

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Reception / Year 1:

This week we have been curious about tadpoles - asking lots of questions and watching for any changes. We have produced some lovely writing all about the tadpoles.

In year 1 we have been focusing on non-fiction texts. We explored different types of texts including newspapers, magazines, books and tourist leaflets and we had to identify different features within the texts.



We have been learning all about measurement thinking about length and weight and enjoyed exploring this in the environment.



As part of our learning about the local area reception and year 1 have been on a trip to Coate water to launch the "Great Outdoors" topic where they had a wonderful time exploring their local area .

Year 2

Pine Tree class have been busy observing their various seeds beginning to grow. We have some magic beans growing with hydroponics and cress seeds in cotton wool. Each day we are eager to observe the changes. In forest school we have been building shelters for a small world animal that lost their home! The children worked tirelessly to create somewhere for them to sleep for the night and the team work between the children was outstanding.



This week we had some special visitors to Pine class (Mrs Dance and Mrs Christmas) and they were very impressed with our letter writing.

Well done Pine Tree class - what a week!

Governor Profile—Sarah Horsell



I moved to Badbury Park in February 2016 with my husband and son (who is one of the first Reception pupils to join the school in September 2019). I wanted to become involved with the school so I joined and co-founded the PTA (Friends of Badbury Park Primary) and I also volunteered during Forest School lessons which were taking place at the Richard Jefferies Museum. I have a background of Hospitality, Event Management and Human Resources. Now I am a Midday Supervisory Assistant and Administration Assistant at the school and I have built up a strong rapport with both pupils and parents. I was invited to join the Board of Governors in October 2019 and it is a privilege to support the staff, families and local community of the school. I look forward to seeing the bright future of our pupils and school unfold.

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Jubilee Extravaganza—26th May 2022

Children need to come to school dressed in red, white and blue on this day

You are invited to join our celebration at 1:30pm.

We will take you through time, starting from the 50s, with a parade, music and performances from the children.

You are also invited to take part in our 'Great British 'Badbury' bake off'. This will be judged by our very own Mrs Dance. Please bake a Great British classic. We would ask that whatever you bake is accompanied by a clear ingredients list and, after judging, the bakes will be sold off as part of the PTA cake sale, which will take place from the end of the celebration and will raise funds for our school.

We intend for our celebration to take place outside on the playground so please bring blankets etc to sit on. We are all very excited to welcome you!



Family Support Advisor—Jaqui Cook

What is a FSA?

A FSA can offer support, guidance and a listening ear to parents. We can also work with other professionals such as health visitors, school nurse, school staff, social care team and others to support your child and family's needs. I have a variety of Family Support experience, working at all levels from child protection through to early interventions, with both children and parents/carers. I started off as a childminder then worked at a Children's Centre as a play worker and moved on to a family support worker role. My last job before moving to Lighthouse was at Eldene Nursery and Primary School, where I was a Family Support Advisor and Deputy Safeguarding Lead.



How can a FSA support me?

- Behaviour at home
- Attachment, trauma & anxiety
- Morning, evening & bedtime routines
- Parenting Groups
- Bereavement
- Domestic Abuse (current & historic)
- Substance abuse
- Signposting for financial support
- Low mood and Mental Health

- Support with and/or contribution to Early Help Records/Education Health Care Plan, Team around the Family/Child meetings
- Attendance alongside schools at other multi-agency meetings
- Completing onwards referrals to specialist agencies
- Support parents to attend appointments & complete paperwork

My next drop-in session at Badbury Park Primary school is on 24th May, 09.00-11.00. If you would like to book a slot to meet with me, please contact the school office

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School Attendance

Why is attendance at school important?

Missing a day of school here and there may seem insignificant, but missing even 2 or 3 days can have a significant impact on children's learning. Children who miss school fall behind their peers, and struggle to catch up. **Most of the work they miss is never made up, which can lead to big gaps in their learning.** Friendships can also be affected by persistent absence; it can be hard for a child who misses lots of school to form relationships with their classmates.

? They are only primary school children does it really matter?

YES! Children who attend school for less than 95% of the time underperform significantly and have reduced lifetime opportunities. Poor attendance often starts at primary school, and children who fall into this pattern are likely to underachieve at secondary school.

? But my child has been ill and I have told you this?

Absence through illness impacts on a child's learning and wellbeing the same as any other absence. If a parent is subjected to a fine, this can be appealed against on medical grounds, but it may not be seen as 'good reason' in court without specific, long term, medical support and evidence.

? So, are you saying you want me to bring my child into school when they are ill?

No. But parents are asked to consider carefully if absence is really necessary. This website may help you in deciding if he/she is well enough to attend school <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>. We can administer pain relief if it is prescribed by a GP.

? My child always attends school, yet there are 'unauthorised absences', why is this?

If your child arrives late, beyond the close of register, the late mark is converted to an unauthorised absence. Again, this is a national requirement, not the school's. Arrive late and children may be considered absent; arrive persistently late, and it is easy to fall below the expectation.

? Can I book a holiday during term time?

We do not authorise holiday during term-time. If you go on a holiday without the authorisation of the head teacher, you may be liable to pay a fine and/or be prosecuted for non-attendance. **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!**

? Can I take my child out of school for a family wedding, emergency or bereavement?

We do not authorise absence to attend extended family celebrations or family emergencies. Absence to attend **the day** of a wedding or funeral and one day either side for travel if it is outside UK can be authorised if the school is notified in advance. Any extended absence will be unauthorised.

? Why does it matter if my child has an unauthorised absence?

We are required to submit the school's attendance figures to the Local Authority on a weekly basis. If a child is persistently absent, you will be contacted by the council's Education Welfare Officer who will discuss your child's attendance with you, and help you come up with a plan to make sure they get to school. Ultimately, if your child continues to miss school, legal action can be taken.

? What sanctions can be put in place for non-attendance?

Parents can be issued a **Fixed Penalty Notice** by the Local Authority for their child's non-attendance. The penalty is £60 per parent per child and this rises to £120 if paid after 21 days but within 28 days.. If this is not paid, the Local Authority can proceed to prosecution or withdraw the notice. The Local Authority can also prosecute parents for non-attendance without issuing a Fixed Penalty Notice. If a registered pupil of compulsory school age fails to attend school regularly, the parent could be guilty of an offence under [section 444 Education Act 1996](#).

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School Diary

April 2022

5th & 6th : Parent consultation evenings for Year 2

6th & 7th: Parent consultation evenings for Y1 and Reception

8th: last day of term 4

11th—22nd : Easter Holidays

25th: Return to school for term 5

May 2022

2nd: Bank Holiday (no school)

5th: School closure day

13th : YR & Y1 trip to Coate Water

17th: Walk to school week starts

20th: YR & Y1 visit to Chiseldon Church

26th: "Jubilee Extravaganza"

27th : Open house at 2.30pm and end of term 5

June 2022

6th: Term 6 starts

20th : Class photos

23rd: Meeting for new YR parents

28th : Sports Day

July 2022

1st: TD day—no school for pupils

7th & 8th: New YR and nursery "Stay and Play" 4pm-5pm

14th & 15th : New YR and nursery "Stay and Play" 4pm-5pm

18th: Reports to parents

22nd: Last day of academic year (children return on 5th September 2022)

Teacher Training Days 2021/2022

📅 Friday 1st July 2022

📅 Monday 25th July 2022