Spotlight On...

Date: 9th January 2026

Biggin Hill Primary School

Issue:3

Message from Mrs Lawrence

Dear Parents and Carers,

I welcome you all back to Biggin Hill Primary School after what I hope was a restful Christmas and New Year break with your families. Thank you for the lovely gifts and warm wishes shared with our staff members - as always you have been very kind and generous and it is greatly appreciated.

The children have returned to school with a renewed sense of enthusiasm for their learning and I know we are all looking forward to the busy term ahead.

Before the Christmas break, we enlisted the help of our School Council to see how we could improve lunchtimes at BHPS, specifically in the lunch hall. The children shared that they would like to change:

- The hall being busy, noisy and loud
- Behaviour in the lunch hall: shouting, moving seats, saving seats and dropping food/rubbish on the floor
- Children not using cutlery but picking up food with their fingers (spreading germs)
- Year 6 needing to move once they have started eating so that the hall can be cleaned
- Water jugs are put out too early and so the water doesn't taste fresh
- Salad is very limited by the time year 5 and 6 go in
- Different desserts by the time year 5 and 6 go in
- Not enough time to eat (year 5 and 6)
- Too tight space between tables making moving around difficult

We have listened and made lots of changes! So far lunchtimes this week have been a roaring success. We have:

- Changed the layout of the hall to provide more space for the children to feel comfortable when eating
- Paired the older year groups with the younger year groups to provide more space
- Purchased more cups and jugs with lids for every child to have access to water on their tables
- Started to play low level, calming music to provide a nicer atmosphere
- Implemented a one way system to prevent a build up of children walking in many directions
- Reminded packed lunches to take all rubbish home
- Set the children very clear expectations to keep their eating space tidy and clear

Feedback from the children this week has been very positive! They enjoy the new one way system so that it is easier to collect their food and cutlery before sitting down to a fresh drink. They have stated that the hall is calmer, cleaner and tidier. So far so good!

Cont. on next page….

Diary Dates

Keep a note

12th January - Ambassador Assembly (9am in KS2 Hall - invitation only)

14th January - Yr 2 Class Celebrations (8.30-9.30am Classrooms)

16th January - Break The Rules Day

21st January - Science Day

28th January - Yr 4 Class Celebrations

30th January - Yr 5 Trip to Hampton Court

6th February - NSPCC Number Day

6th February - Spring Disco

9th February - Special Recognition Assembly (Invitation only)

10th February - Parent Consultations (3.30pm-7.00pm)
12th February - Parent Consultations (3.30pm-5.00pm)

13th February - Last Day of Term

Weekly Whole School Attendance 94.7%

Weekly Class Attendance

Excellent attendance 'gold' 98-100%

4LT - 99.3%
3C - 98.8%

Good attendance 'green' 96-97.9%

1T - 96.5%
1CE - 96.9%

Well Done!

Packed lunches

….cont. from previous page

We have reminded children who have packed lunch that any leftover food and rubbish needs to be taken home with them. As a school, we produce between 8 and 10 sacks of waste every day, just over the lunchtime period. This is a lot of rubbish and food waste! Unfortunately we do not have the resources or capacity to offer wider recycling other than paper which is collected by the local authority.

By asking children to take home their leftover food and rubbish, we aim to:

- Allow parents and carers to see what their children are eating daily
- Provide an opportunity for waste to be recycled
- Teach the children the importance of looking after the environment and an awareness of food waste.

Well done to the School Council who did a fantastic job in collecting the views and opinions of their peers.

I wish you all a fantastic weekend,

Kate Lawrence

Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead

Zones of Regulation

Over the coming weeks, we will be introducing the Zones of Regulation to the children as a whole school approach. Please look out for further communication regarding parent workshops and key information so to create a shared approach, understanding and use of language within our school community.

For more information, please visit: https://zonesofregulation.com/

Communication Reminders

Please see a list below of the email addresses to contact different members of the team:

Admin: adminbhps@iniciotrust.org

Safeguarding: bhpsdsl@iniciotrust.org

Phase Leaders: bhpsphaseleaders@iniciotrust.org

Inclusion: bhpsinclusion@iniciotrust.org

Preschool: bhpspreschooladmin@iniciotrust.org

Emotional Based School Avoidance

Emotional Based School Avoidance is becoming more prevalent amongst primary school aged children and the national picture shows a dramatic increase. Our next *Same but Different* will focus on strategies used in school to support our children who display EBSA, as well as more in depth information. Below is information provided by our SEND Trust Lead, Amy Rajah, which may be useful for some of our families.

NAS guidance for Parents and carers Claire Barrett — Square Peg
Not Fine in School - School Refusal, School Attendance
Place2Be: Parenting Smart: My child doesn't want to go to school
"My child doesn't want to go to school" - supporting families with school attendance | Place2Be

Weekly Lunch Menus

We will continue sending out weekly menus each Friday afternoon as we feel this is working well for families and keeps this fresh in your inbox!

HAVE A FANTASTIC WEEKEND
https://www.bigginhillprimary.com/