



**BIGGIN HILL**  
PRIMARY SCHOOL  
Part of the Charles Darwin  
Academy Trust

# NEWSLETTER

Term: Spring | Issue: 16 | Date: 13th January 2023



## MESSAGE FROM MRS FREEMAN

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to Mount Fuji class for a wonderful assembly this morning - it was brilliant for us all to find out about the amazing work they have been doing in class and the yoga and dancing was fabulous!. Well done to 5F and Miss Farrell and 'thank you' to parents and carers for coming.

I would like to pass on my thanks to Mrs Smith, Mr Crosbie, Mr Swain and Mr Pitcher who very kindly helped move a huge amount of tyres with Mr Walpole last Friday afternoon. This was a very mucky job and your help was hugely appreciated by us all at BHPS.

Thank you to parents and carers for responding to both our consultations for school uniform and the timings of the school day - your feedback is very important to us. I am due to meet with governors on 19th January regarding both of these agenda items. I will communicate with you on both our final timings and also our confirmed school uniform policy in the coming weeks.

Our sincere apologies for having to move Careers and Aspirations day. We are now aiming to deliver this in March and are in the throes of planning an exciting day that will encompass both careers and aspirations as well as equality and diversity. The day will focus on breaking down stereotypes to ensure that children are aware that a world of opportunities is open to them all. Both Miss O'Mahony and Mrs Helps will be taking the lead on this and will be writing to parents/carers and local businesses soon.

It was great to hold our first Parent Forum and Class Representative meeting on Wednesday morning. Thank you to parents and carers for providing feedback to their class representatives - this really does help us to gain perspectives from across the entire school. We would encourage all parents and carers to sign up to the class WhatsApp group if you have not already done so. We are still looking for a parent representative for Colosseum and Sydney Opera House class. If you would like to find out more about this voluntary role, please contact Mrs Helps at [s.helps@bigginhillps.com](mailto:s.helps@bigginhillps.com) for an informal chat.

The Friends of BHPS also held their first meeting of the year on Thursday afternoon and I am delighted to advise they are planning some fantastic events for the school. An email was sent to you on Monday advising of their first event 'Bingo and Bubbles' for this year. This event promises to be a fun night of bingo, bubbles and dancing through the decades! More information on how to purchase tickets will be sent early next week.

On Tuesday, we forwarded our year 6 parents and carers a letter from Charles Darwin School regarding masterclasses. In the past, these masterclasses have been very well attended and thoroughly enjoyed by our year 6 children. For year 6 children who will be transitioning to Charles Darwin School in September 23, these are an excellent opportunity to visit the school, meet some of the teaching staff and find out more about life at secondary school. We are aware that places are on a first come first served basis and must be booked by 16th January. If you would like a place at any of these masterclasses, please email Miss Corris, Year 7 Transition Manager, Charles Darwin School at [ecs@cdarwin.com](mailto:ecs@cdarwin.com) to book your place as soon as possible. Please note, this is for Year 6 only.

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## STARS OF THE WEEK

Big Ben: **Harrison R**  
Pyramid: **Athena D**  
Taj Mahal: **Freddie S**  
Giants Causeway: **Molly D**  
Colosseum: **Ivy G**  
Royal Mile: **Esme S**  
Loch Ness: **Isaiah S**  
Sydney Opera House: **Molly L**  
London Bridge: **Leonie C**  
Parthenon: **Frankie S**  
Mount Everest: **Frankie W**  
Globe Theatre: **Nathaniel B**  
Mount Fuji: **Abigail Y**  
Orinoco: **Freddie H**  
Wembley: **Suzannah G**

*'Congratulations'*

*Weekly Whole School  
Attendance 97%*

### Weekly Class Attendance

*Excellent attendance 'gold' 98-100%*

Colosseum: 99.3%

Mount Everest: 98.9%

Parthenon: 98.9%

Orinoco: 98.3%

*Attendance 'green' 96-97.9%*

Mount Fuji: 97.7%

Taj Mahal: 97.6%

Royal Mile: 97.2%

Sydney Opera House: 97.2%

Globe Theatre: 97.2%

Loch Ness: 96.7%

London Bridge: 96.3%

## HOUSE POINTS

**1st: HOLMES**

**2nd: ATTENBOROUGH**

**3rd: ROWLING**

**4th: HAWKING**

*'Congratulations to our winners this week'*

## MESSAGE FROM MRS FREEMAN

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I would also like to issue a final reminder that the **national closing date for applications for children due to start school in September 2023 is 15 January 2023.**

We are very excited to be taking our KS2 Choir to Young Voices on Tuesday next week. The choir have been rehearsing exceptionally hard and attending the Young Voices concert at the O2 is very exciting and a very special event for the children. If there are any final queries or questions, please speak to us on Monday morning.

I am also delighted to formally announce that we have recently been awarded our STARS (Sustainable Travel: Active, Responsible, Safe) Gold level accreditation from Transport for London. This level of accreditation is an important award for the school and shows our commitment as a community to sustainable travel. I would like to thank Miss Wigfield and Mrs Helps for their hard work in gaining this award for the school.

Finally, can we just remind parents and carers that children who come to school on scooters must dismount at the main entrance to the pathway into school please - this is the white line at the main entrance.

Have a wonderful weekend.

My very best wishes,

*Mrs Freeman*

Headteacher and Designated  
Safeguarding Lead



## DIARY DATES

*Keep a note!*

### 17th January:

- Outreach Session One - EHCPs, 9:00 – 11:00am, KS2 Hall.
- Young Voices Concert.

### 18th January:

- Outreach Session One (as above), 6pm VIA ZOOM.

### 19th January:

- Full Governing Body Meeting, 6-8pm.

### 20th January:

- Yr4 Portals to the Past.
- Y5 Assembly - Globe Theatre, 9am.

## WE ARE RECRUITING...

We are currently recruiting for a cleaner, 10 hours per week (2 hours per day) either before or after school (preferably after). For parents/carers applying, we do have our After School Club until 6pm available. For more information, please contact Mrs Lawrence at [k.lawrence@bigginhillps.com](mailto:k.lawrence@bigginhillps.com) or myself directly.

## COMPUTING

### *What is Computing at Biggin Hill Primary School?*

Our children are taught Computing through the Kapow scheme of work.

Last term, (October - December) **Year 2** were asked to consider what came to their minds when we talk about computers? Children mentioned a screen, mouse and keyboard. With the use of iPads we explored exactly what a computer is by identifying and learning how inputs and outputs work, how computers are used in our school as well as the wider world. Following this they designed their own computerised invention. **Year 3** with the use of iPads looked at how we communicate across the school, local area and the world, all at a touch of a button! We studied submarine cables (Did you know they were first laid back in the 1850s to send morse code?), why they were first invented and how they now allow major world wide web companies to send information so quickly. We ended the unit learning how important computers are in supermarkets - without them would your local shop have your favourite pizza available when you wanted it! **Year 6** started the unit by being World War II codebreakers, just like the men and women based at Bletchley Park 1939-1945. This was a principal place in breaking codes so allowing us to win the war. We then used computers to learn about the history of computers and how they have evolved over time. The children were amazed that I only used my first computer when I was 19 years old! Do you know why we should have secure passwords? We tested passwords on others to see how quickly we could guess them (most were very easy to guess). Following this, we realised why a secure password was so crucial to keeping our private information safe. Finally, we went on to research some of the historical figures that had contributed to technological advances in computing and produce a presentation on these historical figures.

**Mrs Snelling, HLTA**

*Mrs Snelling, HLTA, does an outstanding job of delivering Computing across Y1-6! As you can see above, Mrs Snelling has provided an engaging programme of exciting computing for the children to learn and enjoy!*

**Miss Farrell, Computing Lead**