



BIGGIN HILL
PRIMARY SCHOOL
Part of the Charles Darwin
Academy Trust

NEWSLETTER

Term: Spring | Issue: 18 | Date: 27th January 2023



MESSAGE FROM MRS FREEMAN

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have had a chance to read the letter sent yesterday afternoon regarding the impact industrial action will have on the school - the letter confirms that school will be closed to children on both **1st February** and **16th March**. Please note, this does not affect preschool - our preschool will be open as normal on both days.

I am sorry that you will have needed to make alternative arrangements for your child at short notice, and that they will experience disruption to their education.

We will be sending home links to some good-quality online resources and lessons for 1st February and 16th March for each year group at the start of next week. Please note, these are there if you wish to use them as a resource at home and are optional. We also appreciate and understand that many of our parents and carers may not be in a position to facilitate this.

After a few weeks of steadily improved attendance, this afternoon children enjoyed an hour of 'golden time' as a reward for filling the whole school attendance jar with stars. These are earned every day when our whole school attendance is above 96%.

On Thursday, parents and carers of children in years 1-6 would have received a letter regarding Careers and Aspirations Day 2023 (Y1-6) which is taking place on Monday, 6th March. Our aim for the day is to ensure that the children have a fun and informative day that challenges stereotypes and showcases the wide range of career opportunities that are available to them in the future. We are very keen to hear from any parents and carers who would like to come in and speak to a class or year group in either KS1 (Y1/2) or KS2 about their job or career. We are in the process of organising the programme for the day. If you are interested in supporting us with our Careers and Aspirations Day and are available on 6th March, please email s.helps@bigginhillps.com or complete the Google form on the original letter.

For Year 6 parents and carers, please note for any children who are booked on the Art Masterclass taking place at Charles Darwin School on 1st February, this has now been rescheduled to take place on Monday, 20th February, 3.15-4pm. For parents and carers who have booked a place for their child and have any queries, please contact Miss Corris, Year 7 Transition Manager, Charles Darwin School via email at: ecs@cdarwin.com.

On Friday 3rd February, Y2 parents and carers are invited to attend a SATs Meeting from 8.30-8.50am. Year 2 Children can be taken to 2R's classroom whilst the meeting is taking place. Any siblings of year 2 children can come into school at 8.30am, KS2 children to go to class and KS1 children to be dropped off in 2R. This is an important meeting where we will share important information with you regarding KS1 SATs.

It is also Number Day on Friday (3rd February). As well as supporting the NSPCC, we will be taking part in Dress up for Digits. Although we are

... continued on page 2

STARS OF THE WEEK

Big Ben: **Dougie H**
Pyramid: **Teddy C**
Taj Mahal: **Ronnie E**
Giants Causeway: **Kaden G**
Colosseum: **Mollie B**
Royal Mile: **Millie A**
Loch Ness: **Frankie L**
Sydney Opera House: **Emmy R**
London Bridge: **Keeley G**
Parthenon: **Liam N**
Mount Everest: **Grace O**
Globe Theatre: **Tammy C**
Mount Fuji: **Ava C**
Orinoco: **Enrico M**
Wembley: **Matthew B**

'Congratulations'

*Weekly Whole School
Attendance 94.7%*

Weekly Class Attendance

Excellent attendance 'gold'
98-100%

Globe Theatre: 98.5%

Attendance 'green'
96-97.9%

Mount Everest: 97.8%

Loch Ness: 97.8%

Royal Mile: 97.2%

HOUSE POINTS

1st: ATTENBOROUGH

2nd: HOLMES

3rd: HAWKING

4th: ROWLING

'Congratulations to our winners this week'

MESSAGE FROM MRS FREEMAN

... continued from page 1

suggesting a £2 donation on the day, we really would appreciate any change that you feel you are able to give.

Mrs Buchanan, Maths Lead, will also be running a times tables workshop from 8.50 - 9.40am on Number Day for parents and carers of children in Years 3 - 6. This will take the form of a presentation in the KS2 hall followed by the opportunity to watch a times table session in your child's class. Please use the Google form within our original letter to indicate whether or not you will be attending.

Have a wonderful weekend.

My very best wishes,

Mrs Freeman

Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A CLASS REPRESENTATIVE?

We are 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 for an informal chat

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 or myself directly.

DIARY DATES

Keep a note!

30th January:

Ambassador Assembly - 9.10-9.45am. By invitation only.

1st February:

- Industrial Action - school closed to children.

- Discovery Homework due date - **please bring this in on 2nd February.**

- Charles Darwin Masterclass - Art, 3.15-4pm (for pre-booked Y6 children only). *Note this is not a school event - this has now been rearranged for 20th February.*

2nd February:

- Discovery Homework due in.

- Charles Darwin Masterclass - Science, 3.15-4pm (for pre-booked Y6 children only). *Note this is not a school event.*

3rd February:

- Maths/NSPCC Number Day (R-6).

- Y2 Parent SATs Meeting, 8.30-8.50am. Year 2 children to be taken to 2R's classroom whilst the meeting is taking place. Siblings of year 2 children can come into school at 8.30 - KS2 children to go to class and KS1 children to be dropped off in 2R.

- Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 - Parent/Carer Times Tables Workshop, 8:50 to 9:40am, KS2 hall.

- Charles Darwin Masterclass - Computer Science, 2.15-3pm (for pre-booked Y6 children only). *Note this is not a school event.*

- Bingo and Bubbles (Friends event) 7.30pm (tickets must be booked in advance).

The Online Safety Workshop that was due to take place on 2nd February will be rearranged to a new date and time.

6-9th February: Internet Safety Week.



YEAR 5 Ancient Egyptian Workshop

At the end of the Autumn term, Year 5 had a visit from Portals to the Past for an Ancient Egyptian Workshop. The children looked splendid in their Egyptian themed clothing and were ready to start their enrichment day! We studied Ancient Egyptian artefacts (some were originals!), played a game called Hounds and Jackals, completed a quiz on all things Egypt and we learnt the gruelish steps to mummify a Pharaoh. Did you know the brains are pulled out from the skull via the nostril? The children and staff alike had a wonderful time.

Miss Farrell and Miss Gray



LANGUAGE

Of the Week

for next week)

Urdu

Hello: ہیلو

Good Morning: صبح بخیر

Good Afternoon: گڈ آفٹرنون



MAKATON

Sign of the Week

Miss Knott, SENCo Assistant