



## MESSAGE FROM MRS FREEMAN



Dear Parents and Carers,

My sincere apologies to parents and carers of 4B and Mrs Buchanan for having to postpone their class assembly this week. This is never a decision that I take lightly and very much hope to be in a position to announce a new assembly date soon.

Despite the government's announcement to move to Plan A, we are unfortunately not yet able to lift the current restrictions that we have in place in school. The restrictions will remain in place for one more week, at which time I will review the number of COVID cases across the school. We hope to be in a position to return to normality in the week beginning 7th February but more information will follow at the end of next week.

On Monday, parents and carers of children in Reception to Year 6 will have received a letter regarding Careers and Aspirations Day, which is taking place on Friday 25th February 2022. Our aim is to ensure that the children have a fun and informative day that showcases the 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 take part in our KS2 Careers Fair or speak to children in either KS1 or KS2 about their job/career. We are in the throes of organising the programme for the day, therefore, if you would like to come in and are only available for an hour or two between 9am - 10am or 10.30 to 11.30/12noon, please do let us know. Our amazing children always look forward to visitors in school - if you are interested and would like to be involved, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Helps at [s.helps@bigginhillps.com](mailto:s.helps@bigginhillps.com) or contact her via the main office number. We are particularly interested in people who have a job which challenges a particular gender stereotype for example a male nurse or a female builder - it is important that children feel that a wide range of careers are open to them regardless of their gender.

On Wednesday we sent a letter to parents and carers of children in R-Y6 regarding Parent Consultations. This year these will take place on **Thursday 10th February from 3.30-6.50pm and also from 8.30-10.50am on Friday 11th February**, please note that Friday 11th is also an INSET day. Jesse Owens Class (Miss O'Mahony's class) will be holding parent consultations on Tuesday 8th February from 3.30-5.30pm and Wednesday 9th February from 3.30-6.50pm. The booking system for parent consultation slots will open at **8am on Wednesday 2nd February and will close on Wednesday 9th February at 12.00pm**. All slots need to be booked via your Arbor log in.

Earlier in the week we also sent a letter to parents and carers regarding Number Day, which is taking place on 3rd February. We are very much looking forward to supporting the NSPCC and hope that we can raise much needed funds for this important charity. As part of Number Day, we will also be taking

*...continued*

## STARS OF THE WEEK

Ludwig van Beethoven:  
**Jackson-Blake W**

Eileen Collins: **George M**  
Tim Peake: **Jude B**  
Eugenie Clark: **Jacob D**  
Greta Thunberg: **Emilie H**  
Josephine Baker: **Oliver C**  
Jesse Owens: **Charlie W**  
Lek Chailert: **Baxter B**  
Marcus Rashford: **Pixie-Lace B**  
Louis Braille: **Holly T**  
Leonardo Da Vinci: **Rosie C**  
Ida B. Wells: **Imogen K**  
Mo Farah: **George D-C**  
Laura Dekker: **Charlie H**  
Jessica Ennis-Hill: **Lilya P**

*'Congratulations'*

*Weekly Whole School  
Attendance 84.6%*

**Weekly Class Attendance  
(Thursday to Thursday)**

*Excellent attendance 'gold'*  
**98-100%**

-

*Good attendance 'green'*  
**96-97.9%**

-

*At BHPs every school  
day matters.*

## HOUSE POINTS

1st: **HAWKING**      2nd: **HOLMES**  
3rd: **ROWLING**      4th: **ATTENBOROUGH**

*'Congratulations to our winners this week'*

## MESSAGE FROM MRS FREEMAN

... continued

part in *Dress up for Digits* and invite children to wear an item of clothing with a number on it (football shirt, cap, netball shirt or even a onesie). Children can be as creative as they wish by dressing up in a full number themed outfit or by making a maths hat or they can keep it simple and wear their favourite sports number. Don't forget, there is no need to purchase anything expensive, please use what you have from around the house. Although we are suggesting a £2 donation, we really would appreciate any change that you feel you are able to give.

We are delighted to share the news that Miss Burgham, year 2 class teacher, is expecting her second child and anticipates starting her maternity leave at the end of June/start of July. We extend our warm congratulations to Miss Burgham and her partner on this wonderful news. Mrs Sanford will be returning to work after Easter and once Miss Burgham starts her maternity leave, will cover this class on Wednesday to Friday until the end of the academic year. Miss Windover's days will remain unchanged. As Miss Sanford will be back with us after Easter this will allow plenty of time for a seamless transition and handover.

Finally, we are delighted to advise that Amy Kemp, one of our Preschool Practitioners, has had a beautiful, healthy baby girl. We send Amy Kemp and her family our very best wishes.

Have a wonderful weekend.

My very best wishes,

*Mrs Freeman*

Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead

## DIARY DATES

*Keep a note!*

### 1st February:

**\*\* CANCELLED \*\***

Tea and Tots, 1.30-3pm, KS1 Hall.

### 1st February:

Y5 Swimming Lessons.

### 3rd February:

Outreach Session: Wellbeing and Anxiety, 9-10am, Hall.

### 4th February:

NSPCC Number Day (R-Y6) - suggested donation £2.

### 4th February:

Learning Highlights #2. Highlights will be shared with parents and carers another time.

### 7-11th February:

Internet Safety Week.

### 8th February:

Tea and Tots, 1.30-3pm, KS1 Hall.

### 8th February:

Internet Safety Day.

### 8th February:

JESSE OWENS CLASS ONLY - Parent Consultations (3.30-5.30pm) - pre-bookable via Arbor only.

### 8th February:

Y5 Swimming Lessons.

### 9th February:

JESSE OWENS CLASS ONLY - Parent Consultations (3.30-6.50pm) - pre-bookable via Arbor only.

### 10th February:

Internet Safety Workshop.

### 10th February:

Parent Consultations (3.30-6.50pm) - pre-bookable via Arbor only.

### 11th February:

Parent Consultations (8.30-10.50am) - pre-bookable via Arbor only.

### 11th February:

INSET DAY.

### 14-18th February:

HALF-TERM.

### 21st February 2022:

First day back after half-term.

## ADVANCE NOTICE

*World Book Day*

### **\*\* STOP PRESS \*\*** **ADVANCE NOTICE**

This year we will be celebrating the 25th anniversary of World Book Day with a very special message for children 'you are a reader'!

World Book Day will be taking place on Thursday 3rd March, but as a school we will celebrate this on Friday 4th March.

**Friday 4th March will be our dress up day.**

**More information will follow soon...**

**Mrs Lucas, Literacy Lead**

## PUPIL VOICE

*Year 5 and 6*

### ***Tell me what you like most about BHPS?***

*"The teachers because they are really nice."*

*"It's very safe."*

*"All the activities we do."*

*"I like that every class is based on a person."*

### ***What do you use in the classroom to help you with your learning?***

*"In maths we use a multiplication grid."*

*"Sheets with maths and literacy words."*

### ***What are you looking forward to most as we go into the summer months?***

*"Being outside."*

*"More outside learning."*

*"Going on the field."*

### ***What do you think we do well at this school?***

*"Keeping the children safe."*

*"Taking care of all the children."*

*"You make the lessons very fun and we never get bored."*



## YEAR 2

### *Materials*



This half term Year 2 have been learning about Materials in our Science lessons. Did you know the word "material" does not mean the same thing as "fabric"?

Although many people get these two words confused we now know that the word "Material" is a classification, meaning "what things are made from"! Some examples of materials are: fabric, metal, wood and plastic.

We have begun to learn about natural and man made materials as well as sustainability/recycling and which materials are kind to our planet and which should be avoided and why.



Last Friday we spent our Buzz Day in Forest School using a variety of materials such as fabric, paper, plastic, wood and natural materials already in the area such as mud, sticks and leaves to try and build a shelter, which could fit 6 children inside AND was waterproof.

We worked in teams to design and build our shelters and once they were complete we climbed inside while our adults poured (warm) water over the roof!

We learned that paper is not a waterproof material as it is fragile and tears easily and also absorbs water. This led to some of us getting wet! We decided that plastic was the most waterproof material as the water was able to just slide off, meaning we stayed dry.

The worst material to use was fabric. Not only did this absorb water but it held on to it and dripped on us for some time! It also became very heavy and fell from where we had fixed it on the roof. There were other variables which determined whether we would get wet, such as leaving gaps in the ceiling but overall we were able to think critically about each type of material and its suitability as a waterproof shelter-material!

***Miss Burgham, Mrs Windover and Miss O'Mahony***

## YEAR 6

### *A very busy start to the term!*

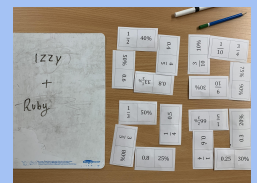


We have had another busy start to the term in year 6 with lots of exciting learning going on...

In maths we have been busy calculating with fractions, decimals and percentages and finding fractions of amounts. Some of this has been quite tricky but Mrs Freeman has shared some helpful tips to help us to remember what to do!

This term in PE we have enjoyed cricket lessons with a former international cricket player, Monte Lynch. Monte has helped us to improve our bowling and batting skills and made the learning really fun.

In Design and Technology we have been planning, making and evaluating our own healthy cold drink. We experimented with lots of different ingredients and utensils before coming up with our final design.



***Mr Devlin and Miss Elliott***







## A MESSAGE FROM THE *Inclusion Team*

### Inclusion Outreach Programme

Hi everyone,

Don't forget that our next outreach session has been rescheduled for Thursday 3rd February at 9.00am in the KS2 hall. For those who cannot attend in person, there is a virtual session taking place at 6pm the same day. This session will be focusing on wellbeing and anxiety, led by the fabulous Mrs Sargeant.

Please remember the importance of wearing masks on site, and if you are coming into school for a meeting or another reason, we politely request that you complete a LFD test beforehand.

We hope to see you there!

Best wishes,  
**Mrs Lawrence**



**Mrs Lawrence**  
Deputy  
Headteacher,  
Inclusion Lead  
and Deputy  
Safeguarding  
Lead  
[k.lawrence@bigginhillps.com](mailto:k.lawrence@bigginhillps.com)



**Mrs Sargeant**  
Family Liaison and  
Mental Health Lead  
[k.sargeant@bigginhillps.com](mailto:k.sargeant@bigginhillps.com)



**Miss Knott**  
SENCo Assistant  
[r.knott@bigginhillps.com](mailto:r.knott@bigginhillps.com)

## LANGUAGE *Of the Week*

*(for next week)*  
Afrikaans

**Hello:** hallo

**Good morning:** goeie more

**Good Afternoon:** goeie middag

## MAKATON *Sign of the Week*



Help



sorry

**Miss Knott, SENCo Assistant**

## PARENT FORUM AND CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

It was a pleasure to host the first Parent Forum/Class Representative meeting on 17th January.

We urge parents and carers to join class Whatsapp groups (these are externally managed) as we hope these will aid and support communication.

The name of your Class Representatives for each class is located on classroom doors. A complete list of Class Representatives can be found on the window in our main reception area.

As a direct result from our first meeting, we have decided to trial our Reception children coming into school on Forest School days in their Forest School kit. We hope this will give them a little more time in Forest School.

**Mrs Freeman**

## ATTENDANCE *and Lateness*

We are seeing a notable increase in the number of children who are arriving late for school, which is a concern. We encourage all parents and carers to use our 'Soft drop' from 8.40-8.50am as this really helps children settle and have a good start to the school day - registers are taken at **9am**. The negative impact that lateness can have on both the children and running of the school day is significant. I know and understand that there are times when lateness is unavoidable, but these occasions should be few and far between. Please ensure that children are here on time - it really is one of the best life lessons that you can teach them!

**Thank you**

## READING

*A note from our Literacy Lead*

### Reading at Home

It is really important that every child reads at home. Ideally, there should be a balance of reading to an adult at least 3 times a week (preferably their school reading book) and sharing a book of their choice with an adult at other times. If you would like support with this then please speak to your child's class teacher. There is a genre, author or book out there for every child!

### Book swap

Our KS2 book swap started on **Wednesday 26th January**. Pupils are invited to bring in a book from home that they have enjoyed reading and swap it for a different book to read. Every Wednesday lunchtime pupils will be able to swap their book for another one. The book swap will be held in the playground outside the PPA room.

### Take a book home

Our 'borrow a book' scheme will be starting soon. Specific children will be given a new book in one of our borrowing bags with a sachet of hot chocolate and invited to read and share it at home with their family.

**Mrs Lucas, Literacy Lead, Biggin Hill Primary School.**



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

## IN-YEAR ADMISSION TOURS!

We are able to run bookable tours for in-year admissions.  
*Come and meet our amazing children and see our school in action.*

To book a tour, please contact Mrs Helps via email  
at [s.helps@bigginhillps.com](mailto:s.helps@bigginhillps.com) or at 01959 575846

Visit our website at: [www.bigginhillprimary.com](http://www.bigginhillprimary.com)

*'We take pride in everything we do'*

*Our school prospectus can be viewed via our website at:*

<https://www.bigginhillprimary.com/docs/BHPS-21-22-ONLINE%20PROSPECTUS.pdf>.



## PARKING OUTSIDE SCHOOL

Please can we ask parents and carers to park and drive respectfully outside our school and think of our local residents when parking. Please also be aware of the following restrictions outside our school. We are aware it is congested at drop off and collection - please help us to keep up our good relationship with our local residents by parking respectfully outside our school.

## SYSTEMS OF CONTROL REMINDER

### COVID SYSTEMS OF CONTROL

Please can I also remind parents and carers to make sure that children do not come to school if they have any of the three key COVID symptoms. If children do exhibit any of these symptoms they should be taken to have a PCR test.

## COVID-19 UPDATES AND USEFUL LINKS

Regular lateral flow testing of people without symptoms is important to help stop the spread of the virus, protect loved ones and is in the interest of public safety. More information can be found at: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing/regular-rapid-coronavirus-tests-if-you-do-not-have-symptoms/>.

Further guidance can be found at:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/news/confirmatory-pcr-tests-to-be-temporarily-suspended-for-positive-lateral-flow-test-results?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm\\_source=29133936-ab09-4ad6-b091-6438d44c9026&utm\\_content=immediately](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/confirmatory-pcr-tests-to-be-temporarily-suspended-for-positive-lateral-flow-test-results?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_source=29133936-ab09-4ad6-b091-6438d44c9026&utm_content=immediately).

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

## IMPORTANT NOTE

We are working hard to keep everyone as safe as possible in school. We must ask that if your child is unwell with any of the key symptoms, please keep your child at home and follow the government guidance. This is very important for us **all** in making sure everyone is as safe as possible.

**Mrs Freeman and Mrs Lawrence**