



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

# NEWSLETTER

Term: Autumn | Issue: 7 | Date: 13th October 2022



## MESSAGE FROM MRS FREEMAN AND MRS LAWRENCE

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to the parents and carers that joined us at our BHPS Community Coffee Morning earlier today - it was lovely to see you all. We hope you enjoyed browsing our various stands and meeting other parents and carers from across the school over tea or coffee. Thank you also to the Friends of BHPS for selling pre-loved school uniforms at the coffee morning this morning.

Thank you to both children and staff for supporting 'Wear Red' day at school today - showing our support for the amazing work this educational charity does around equality, diversity and equal opportunities for all is important. For more information about this important charity, please see their website at: <https://www.theredcard.org/>.

It will be our pleasure to welcome you all to the first Parent Consultations (R-Y6) for this academic year later this afternoon and also tomorrow morning. To make full use of your parent consultation, we suggest that you look at your child's work either before or after your consultation. Please do use your full allocated time with your child's class teacher and ask any questions you may have. If you do have anything you wish to speak with us directly about, we will both be available during parent consultations.

We have seen two fabulous Science Buzz Days in school recently. On Monday, Year 5 had a Space and Astronaut themed Buzz Day where they were finding out what it was like to be an astronaut for the day! Year 3 also enjoyed a 'Push and Pulls' Buzz Day last week and even got to bring their scooters or bikes into school for the day - find out more in their article on page 5.

Thank you to the Friends of BHPS for organising two brilliant fundraisers for us recently - the Christmas cards and the Halloween Pumpkin Trail. The Friends will be selling Halloween Pumpkin Trail packs for a final time after school today from the blue hut. These projects are brilliant fundraisers for the school and we hope that you will support both of these amazing initiatives.

Well done to our Year 6 Netball team for playing such a brilliant match against CMO yesterday. Mrs Horgan informed us that it was a fabulous match - our team showed such resilience, sportsmanship and they also won the match!

On Tuesday, we sent a letter regarding our BHPS 'Stickers for Shower Gel' campaign to support the work of Bromley Brighter Beginnings, an amazing local charity that supports families in need. We will be collecting shower gel on the gate on Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th November - please support us with this campaign if you can. To find out more about Bromley Brighter Beginnings, please visit their website at: <https://www.bromleybrighterbeginnings.org.uk/>.

When we return after the half-term break, we will be preparing for our 2022 Open Days and hope that these attraction events will be popular with parents and carers of children that are due to start school in September 2023. If you know of any local families with children due to start primary school in September 2023, please do let them know about these open events.

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## STARS OF THE WEEK

Big Ben, Pyramid, Taj Mahal, Giants Causeway, Colosseum, Royal Mile, Loch Ness, Sydney Opera House, London Bridge, Parthenon, Mount Everest, Globe Theatre, Mount Fuji, Orinoco and Wembley

### 'Star of the Week'

**Everyone for such a brilliant half-term.  
You have all worked so hard!**

*'Congratulations'*

## Weekly Whole School Attendance 93.6%

### Weekly Class Attendance (Thursday to Thursday)

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

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

Globe Theatre: 97.7%  
Orinoco: 96.8%  
Parthenon: 96%

## HOUSE POINTS

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

*'Congratulations to our winners this week'*

## JUNIOR TRAVEL AMBASSADORS at BHPS



Last week I took two lovely children to Bromley for their Junior Travel Ambassador training day. Junior Travel Ambassadors work with me to encourage

more people (children and grown-ups) at school to travel to school safely and to use more active methods of travelling to school including cycling, walking and even scooting. We met the Deputy Mayor of Bromley who presented the children with their badges and a certificate to congratulate them on becoming JTAs for our school. We travelled the whole way by bus which was very exciting as we managed to sit on the top deck at the front for both the journey there and back!

**Miss Wigfield, PSHE Lead**



*I feel like Dancing!*



Megan H, year 3, recently took part in the UK National Finals at Winter Gardens, Blackpool. Megan did amazingly

making it to the semi finals for both ballroom and Latin. This is a brilliant achievement Megan. Her older sister, a former pupil at BHPS (Ella) also competed and got to the finals!!

***We are very proud of you Megan - such an amazing achievement!***

## ROLL OF HONOUR *A gymnast in the making!*



Chloe B, year 4, took part in the Future Gymnastics Club Competition on Sunday. This was her 2nd time competing for Jamie's

Gymnastics and she came 3rd!

***We are all very proud of this amazing achievement Chloe!***

***Congratulations to Megan, Chloe, Tayte and Kendall***

*I feel like Dancing!*



Tayte S-B, year 3 and Kendall N, year 1 competed at a competition at Disney. In five of their six dances the girls came 1st and 2nd.

Both Tayte and Kendall have been working exceptionally hard to learn their dance routines for the competition

***We are all very proud of this amazing achievement Tayte and Kendall!***

**WOLVES**  
Emily Gravett



## BOOK OF THE WEEK

Last week, Miss Plum shared 'Wolves' by Emily Gravett. Rabbit borrows a book about wolves from the library. He can't put it down! But soon a sinister figure with sharp claws and a bushy tail starts to creep right off the pages. This is a clever book and combines a fantastic story with information about wolves. It even includes an alternative ending for vegetarians!

## HOT OF THE PRESS

*Amazing Netball Win!*

### *Netball Team*

*Well done to our Year 6 Netball team players for their amazing win and team spirit during the netball match at CMO yesterday!*



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# OPEN DAYS

Monday 7th November 2022 at 1.30pm

and

Tuesday 8th November 2022 at 9.30am

*Do you have a child due to start school in September 2023?*

*We look forward to welcoming prospective parents and carers of children due to start school in September 2023.*

Mrs Freeman, Headteacher, will deliver a short presentation and our year 6 children will be conducting guided tours of our beautiful school. Mrs Lawrence, Deputy Headteacher and Inclusion Lead, will also be available to answer any questions about inclusion at our school.

Children are very welcome to attend our open days.

***Come and meet our amazing children and see our school in action. No need to book, just come along - we are looking forward to meeting you!***

For more information, please contact the school

at: [admin@bigginhillps.com](mailto:admin@bigginhillps.com)

or

01959 575846

*'We take pride in everything we do'*



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



# A MESSAGE FROM MR DEVLIN, ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER


## Every School Day Counts

Last week, I wrote to all parents and carers regarding the work we are doing to review our attendance systems in school. Thank you to those who have already started to use Studybugs. I hope that you have found this a useful way to report absence due to illness for your child.


Later today, you should be receiving an email with your child's current attendance to date. This is an automated email which details their current percentage attendance, and where this fits on our traffic light system. We do understand that only a few days absence can soon start to impact a child's attendance - especially during the first half term - but we hope that you find this information useful.

If you are concerned about your child's attendance or feel there is more we could do to support you with this, please do not hesitate to contact myself directly by email: [a.devlin@bigginhillps.com](mailto:a.devlin@bigginhillps.com).

As well as reporting absence due to illness, it is important that we are informed of any planned absences in advance. Leave of absence forms are available from Reception. Please note that holidays should be taken outside of term time. We are only permitted to authorise holidays during term time in very limited and exceptional circumstances.



## Every School Day Counts



0 days off school	100%	Perfection
Equates to 2 days off school each year	99%	Excellent
Equates to 5 days off school each year	97%	Good
Equates to 10 days off school each year	95%	Slight concern
Equates to 20 days off school each year	90%	Concerned
Equates to 30 days off school each year	85%	Very concerned

5 days absence over the whole year.  
**97% - 100%**  
Good chance of success and progress.


20 days absence over the whole year.  
**90%**  
Less chance of success and harder to make progress.

20+ days absence over the whole year.  
**Under 90%**  
Detrimental to success and progress.

### Every Minute Counts

**LATENESS = LOST LEARNING**  
(Figures below are calculated over a school year)

5 minutes late each day	= 3 days lost!
10 minutes late each day	= 6.5 days lost!
15 minutes late each day	= 10 days lost!
20 minutes late each day	= 13 days lost!
30 minutes late each day	= 19 days lost!



Be at the classroom on time and ready to learn!

## STUDYBUGS

Free Studybugs app

We have already had a number of absences reported using the Studybugs app. Thank you for taking this on board!

Please can I ask that you only report on the day of absence - not the night before - so that absences are recorded correctly on our registers.

If you haven't already, please download the free Studybugs app, or register on the Studybugs website, and use it to tell us whenever your child is ill and is unable to attend school.

**Get the app or register now at:**  
<https://studybugs.com/about/parents>

# MESSAGE FROM MRS FREEMAN AND MRS LAWRENCE

... continued

We would like to advise you that the Christmas Fair will now take place on 9th December, please make a note of this revised date in your diaries. More information about our in-school activities for the Christmas period will follow after the half-term break.

A very special 'thank you' to our staff team for their endless effort this half-term. It really has been such a brilliant half-term for the children and we would like to thank all the staff at the school for working so hard and making BHPS the wonderful school that it is. We wish them all a very pleasant and restful break.

Our final note is for the children who have worked incredibly hard this half-term. We are very proud of them all - we wish them all a fun-filled half-term.

Have a lovely break.

Our very best wishes,

*Mrs Freeman*

Headteacher and  
Designated Safeguarding Lead

*Mrs Lawrence*

SENCo, Deputy Headteacher  
and Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead

#### IMPORTANT NOTE: Christmas Cards

If you are wishing to purchase, please ensure that your child's artwork is returned to us by Wednesday 2nd November at the very latest.

## DIARY DATES

*Keep a note!*

#### 13th October:

- Parent Conferences, 3.30pm - 7pm.

#### 14th October:

- Parent Conferences, 9am - 12pm.  
- INSET DAY.

#### 17th October - 28th October:

- Half Term.

#### 2nd November:

- Halloween Disco:  
- R and Y1 4.45-5.45pm  
- Y2 and Y3 6.00-7.00pm  
- Y4, Y5 & Y6 7.15-8.15pm

#### 4th November:

- Year 6 Assembly - Wembley Class,  
9am.

#### 7th November:

- Open Day - Reception Intake 2023,  
1.30-3pm.

#### 8th November:

- Open Day - Reception Intake 2023,  
9.30-11am.

#### 8th November:

- Phonics and Early Reading Workshop  
for Parents (time TBC).

## YEAR 3 Science Buzz Day



Last Friday you may have noticed bikes and scooters by the Year 3 classrooms. They were for our exciting Science Buzz Day. We had lots of fun riding around the playground and investigating the effects of pushes and pulls on our speed. Did you know that the harder you push with your foot

on a scooter the faster you go? To go slowly on a bike you need to push gently on the pedals. After play we investigated the effects of pushes and pulls on toys.

**Mrs Buchanan and Miss Plum**



## LANGUAGE Of the Week

*(for next week)*

Russian

Hello: Привет (Privet)

Good Morning: доброе утро  
dobroye utro

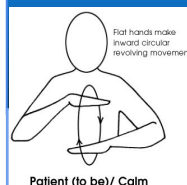
Good Afternoon: добрый день  
dobryy den

**Can you speak another language and help us to make languages more real for the children?**  
Parents/carers, if you can speak another language (you do not need to be fluent) and would be willing to come into school to have your voice recorded, we would love to hear from you. We want to record voices saying 'hello and good morning' or perhaps a couple of sentences in different languages for our children to listen to.

## #HelloYellow Thank You

**BHPS raised £219.90**

**Thank you for your kind contributions.**



Patient (to be)/ Calm

## MAKATON Sign of the Week

**Miss Knott, SENCo  
Assistant**