

Friday 13th October 2017



One week to go until our Scarecrow Hunt

 Wow! The circus was an absolute ROARING success on Friday night. It was great to see so many of you there having such a great time with family and friends. The circus really brought the community of Berkeley together and was well worth all the hard work of Nicola Clark-Smith and her amazing PTA team! Nicola has reported a profit in excess of £2800 for our school, which is absolutely phenomenal! Well done and a HUGE thank you to everyone involved in helping make this event so spectacular and also for everyone who supported this event by buying tickets and joining in with the eclectic atmosphere on the night! It appears we now have some budding gymnasts amongst our pupils after being inspired by the acts they saw. Think we may not be able to get health and safety clearance for the bike-balancing trick though for our PE lessons!

 Another incredible act of kindness I must mention is again, from our amazing PTA! Some of you may have noticed we have some very fetching new curtains in our school hall? They are very 'Orla Kiely-esque' and have brightened up our communal hall. The PTA bought these for us with funds raised by you all and we love them. Thank you so very much! Our old curtains were very much in need of being brought into the 21st Century!

 Scarecrows are currently in production in classes. If you have any old clothes, tights, straw or anything else you think could be good, please send these in with your children for their class teachers. Thank you.

 As part of the development of our sensory garden, which is gradually being filled with vibrant colour from the children, we would like all children to please bring in a pebble to paint. This follows on from our story we opened the new year with, 'Only one you' where the children are encouraged to celebrate their individuality and make their own mark in the world. Please could you kindly provide a pebble (named) for them to paint by Friday 20th October. I failed to collect and carry 210 pebbles from Lyme beach this summer!

 Explorers is in ever increasing demand, and we are lucky to be able to provide this facility. We only have 30 spaces per day, so kindly ask that you complete booking forms in advance to ensure your child has a place.

We understand that there are times you may need to use explorers on a last minute basis, and we will endeavour to give your child a space, but kindly ask that you call/visit the main office before 9:30am on the day you require a place in order for us to ensure we have the correct staff/children ratios for that day.

 Individual school Photos have been booked for 6th November, so please make sure your children are looking fabulous as usual, with the correct school uniform. Also, sounds silly, but practising that winning smile with them will ensure you get a photo you can treasure in years to come

 You will have noticed that we are not opening our main gates until 3:15pm. This is to ensure the safeguarding of all our children throughout the school day. The side gate is still open to save you waiting on the roadside if you are early. Thank you



Well done to all our runners who took part in the Cross Country at KLB on Saturday. Mr Clarke and Mrs Rymer were extremely proud of you all. Cross Country Dates: November 11th, December 2nd, January 27th. All at KLB 9:30am for 10am start.



Sadly, Holiday club will not be available at BPS for the foreseeable future. We have explored all avenues without success and therefore have no choice but to stop this provision.



We are currently looking to recruit additional staff for our Explorers Breakfast and After School Club. If you are interested, or perhaps know someone who may be, pop in for a chat and we can fill you in on the details.



We've gone all high tech this term! First we set up an email system to improve communications and now the ladies in the office have been beavering away to get our online Parents Evening system up and running. You will soon (maybe even before you have finished reading this newsletter), receive a text/email invitation allowing you to book your appointments online. It's pretty easy, just click on the link and follow the instructions. If you have any problems, give us a shout and we will endeavour to help.

Could we please ask all parents to check their child's hair, as we have reports of head lice in school.



If head lice are present, you need to treat your child immediately, and check everyone in the family in order to get rid of them. Head lice are tough. They can't be killed by washing with normal shampoo or normal combing because they reproduce so quickly. To treat head lice you need to wet-comb the hair using a specially designed head lice comb, or using medicated lotions or sprays available over the counter at pharmacies, who will be happy to advise you.



Please can we remind you and your children that bikes and scooters must not be ridden on the school premises. This includes the area from the front gate round to the bike shelter. Thank you.



And finally, Mrs Wolstenholme, who has been a well-known figure at Berkeley Primary School for over 20 years, is moving on to pastures new. Many families and colleagues, past and present, will know her for her high level of commitment, helpfulness and humour during her time at the school. I am sure that you will all join us in wishing her good luck in any new ventures she chooses to embark on in the future. We would also add a resounding 'Thank you' for all her contributions that have helped make Berkeley Primary School the successful school that it is today.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Robbins and all staff at Berkeley



Once again we are supporting our local food bank who would like donations of -



- Tinned Spaghetti
- Tinned Tomatoes
- Children's Toothbrushes
- Sponge Puddings
- Tinned Vegetables
- Tinned Fruit
- Tinned Ham
- UHT Milk
- Coffee
- Biscuits
- Shampoo