

Begbrook News

Welcome back! We hope you had a wonderful break and that you feel ready for another busy and exciting term.

We've had a transformational week so far... Our Year 1 children started the week looking very different as they had transformed into SUPERHEROES! They all looked fantastic in their superhero costumes – thank you for all the effort that was put into organising this. The temperature dropped in Year 2 as classrooms were transformed into an Antarctic setting as part of their Polar WOW day – they are looking forward to finding out more about Polar Explorers this term. As if that wasn't enough excitement, the circus has come to Begbrook! Y4 will be learning all about Entertainers and will be taking part in a Circus Skills workshop early next week.

You may also have heard about two very special powers that the children are growing – Diamond and Sapphire Power. Diamond Power is the ability to solve our own problems; Sapphire Power is the ability to focus and control monster distractions. We will be sharing more with you about our new Gem Powers over the following weeks but we are pleased that the children are already so enthusiastic about it.

Mr Munro

Judo success - Sisters win gold!

Over the half term holidays, Ashlie (4MA) won GOLD at the Bradley Stoke Festival Day, winning all her contests against a mix group of boys and girls and grades.

Charlie (6CF) represented Begbrook Academy at the Regional Schools Championships and once again won the GOLD for the third time running. However, having won Gold this time round now means that Charlie is eligible to compete and represent Begbrook Academy again at the British Schools Championships held in Sheffield 2018.

Many congratulations to both of you!

Parent Forum

A huge thank you to everyone who turned up to our first Parent Forum. It was great to see so many of you there. We had some very positive discussions around communication and are looking into how we can improve this. More details will follow shortly.

Our next Parent Forum is scheduled to take place on Friday 5th January 9:30am – 10:30am. The theme will be 'Behaviour for Learning'.

We are keen to have a parent representative for each class so that ideas can be brought to meetings. If you are interested, please let the class teacher know.

Attendance

We haven't had any attendance parties for the last couple of weeks. Our highest attendance was 98.3% and was achieved by: 1HR, 1ES, 5NL, 6MT and 6CF.

Parking safely

Please see the below letter from the Schools Crossing Patrol manager, Bristol City Council:

Would you like to help your School Crossing Patrol (Phil) and the children walking to and from school that use him?

We currently have a problem at the beginning and end of the school day with parents and carers parking on the zig zags or stopping in the middle of the road to drop off or pick up their children.

The keep clear zig zags are there to provide a space where people wishing to cross the road can see approaching traffic clearly and drivers coming up to the crossing point can see anyone waiting to cross and take appropriate action.

By parking on the zigzags you are forcing the School Crossing Patrol and those wanting to cross with him to walk out into the road when they may not be clearly visible to other road users. When you are a child this is even more dangerous because vehicles can block any view that you might have or any view that drivers may have of you. Add to that the fact that children can act unexpectedly and can rush out into the road without warning, it becomes even more obvious that blocking this keep clear space is both dangerous and selfish.

The mandatory keep clear zig zag markings are approved to protect pedestrian entrances and School Crossing Patrols. They apply to everyone including Blue Badge holders. If you park on them and the Parking Attendants visit, you could find yourself liable to a £70 fine. This is reduced to £35.00 if you pay within 14 days of its issue. Only emergency vehicles are allowed to park on the enforceable zig zags.

If you have to drive please park away from the zigzags. It is always difficult when you are driving as parking fills up quickly at all schools. If you are running late it is even harder to find somewhere safe to park. Give yourself a few extra minutes so that you are not tempted to park in a dangerous place.

The other problem we have is that children are being let out of cars into the middle of the road with traffic that may, at that moment, be stationary when Phil is crossing people, but can move off very quickly once he leaves the road. Your child may still be in the road in moving traffic. One incident we saw was chilling enough to watch but must have been awful for the child. A child got out of the car into traffic and realised they had forgotten something in the car – they panicked. Their parent was moving off and they were left in moving traffic until someone took pity on them and stopped to let them cross. Please don't let that happen to your child. Find a space and let them get out onto the pavement side of the road and walk on to school.

Please support your school and the wider school community by keeping the markings clear and maintaining good visibility and crossing routes for everyone wishing to access the school.



Diary Dates



ALL DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

DATE	EVENT	DATE	EVENT
Fri 3 rd Nov	PTFA International Food Fayre 3:30pm	Thurs 7 th Dec	KS1 Christmas Performance 9:30am
Wed 8 th Nov	Parents Evening 3:40pm – 7pm	Thurs 7 th Dec	EYFS Christmas Nativity 9:30pm
Thurs 9 th Nov	Parents Evening 3:40pm – 6pm	Fri 8 th Dec	PTFA Christmas Shop
Fri 10 th Nov	PTFA Salsa Night (adults only)	Mon 11 th Dec	Upper KS2 Christmas Concert 2pm
Wed 15 th Nov	Individual and Siblings Photos	Tues 12 th Dec	Upper KS2 Christmas Concert 9:15am
Sat 25 th Nov	PTFA Winter Fayre	Wed 13 th Dec	Lower KS2 Christmas Concert 9:15am
Tues 5 th Dec	EYFS Christmas Nativity 9:30am	Wed 13 th Dec	Y3-Y6 Christmas Dinner
Wed 6 th Dec	YR, Y1 and Y2 Christmas Dinner	Thurs 14 th Dec	Lower KS2 Christmas Concert 2:45pm
Wed 6 th Dec	KS1 Christmas Performance 2:30pm	Fri 15 th Dec	Hobgoblin Theatre Company

Inset Days 2017/2018

Term Dates 2017/2018

Term 2: Tuesday 31 Oct - Friday 15 Dec 2017
 Term 3: Wednesday 3 Jan - Friday 9 Feb 2018
 Term 4: Monday 19 Feb - Friday 23 March 2018
 Term 5: Tuesday 10 April - Friday 25 May 2018
 Term 6: Monday 4 June - Tuesday 24 July 2018

Tuesday 2nd January 2018
 Monday 9th April 2018
 Friday 6th July 2018