

Begbrook News

Half way through the year...

As we approach the mid-way point of the school year, it is important to look back and reflect on all that has been achieved so far this year...

One of the things the children talk most passionately about are the Gem Powers. They are able to explain the skills required to be a good learner and we are thrilled to see them growing their powers on a daily basis. To celebrate the Gem Powers at Begbrook, we have recently re-vamped our Friday Celebration Assemblies. Children have a Gem Power of the week to focus on and teachers choose one child per class to win a newly designed Gem Certificate. Children are also spotting their own Gem Heroes throughout the week and writing cards, which we share in assembly too.

Something else we have received positive feedback about is our new, improved lunchtime provision. Some of the craze of the week activities we have done so far include: speed stacking cups, disco dancing, plate spinning, paper hat making, giant chalk, parachute games, juggling and fashion design. Children are also really enjoying being able to use the MUGA every lunchtime to play a variety of sports.

At the start of term 3, the way we deliver reading sessions in class was changed from small groups to whole class. Every child in class now has access to a copy of the book to use during these lessons. We have spoken to the children about their views on this and have been overwhelmed with their enthusiasm. The staff have created what we are calling 'The Begbrook Reading Spine', which consists of three books that every child will read as part of the class each year. We have deliberately chosen a range of well-known, popular authors so that we can guarantee your children are exposed to high quality texts during their time at school. Some of the book choices are: The Gruffalo, The Owl who was Afraid of the Dark, Charlotte's web, The BFG, Varjek Paw, and The Hobbit. We hope the children continue to show inspiration and motivation for reading.

And finally, we are still awaiting confirmation about our recent Ofsted inspection. We hope to be able to share news of the result early next term so watch this space...

We hope you all have a wonderful half term break and look forward to seeing you back in school for another exciting term!

Mr Munro, Mrs Hine and Mrs Shaw

End of day collection

Earlier in the year, you completed a form explaining the arrangements for how your children are collected at the end of the school day. On the form, you also indicated up to three responsible adults who have permission to collect your child.

This enables class teachers to ensure they are releasing children to the right people. There are, of course, occasions when plans do not work and alternative arrangements need to be put in place. If you need an adult who is not on the list to collect your child, the office staff and teachers will now be asking you to set a password that can be used at handover. This is so we can improve our safeguarding procedures.

We will be giving you the opportunity to revise these plans at Parents Evening next term.

PTFA Corner

We have many events coming up next term, including a Mother's Day shop and our extremely popular International Food Fayre – make sure you check out the diary dates for more information.

On Friday 23rd February, we are having a hot dog sale after school. On that day, we are also inviting the children to come to school dressed in their own clothes and would like to ask that either they bring a suggested donation of £1 or something to be part of a cake sale, which will happen after school alongside the hot dog sale.

Thank you in advance for your support.

The PTFA

ABC Charity

Aid Box Charity supports refugees and asylum seekers living in Bristol. They also regularly visit Paris and give out sleeping bags, blankets, warm clothes and tents. Currently, the charity is looking for the following items:

- Hair clippers
- Juicers/food processors
- Big saucepans
- Coffee grinders
- Fridges/freezers
- Kettles
- Microwaves

If you would like to make a donation, we will be standing under the blue canopy on the main playground at 3:30pm on Tuesday 20th February.

School Dinners

In term 5, we have a total of 5 weeks, which means 25 school meals. This will cost £56.25 altogether, with individual meals costing £2.25. Please check your Tucasi account to find whether you are in credit or have payments outstanding.

Parent Forum

Our next Parent Forum is on Thursday 22nd February from 6-7pm. The topic we would like to discuss is 'Reporting on Pupil Progress'. If you are unable to attend, but would like to provide feedback, please contact your Parent Forum Class Representative. Details of who they are can be found on classrooms windows. Alternatively, please send suggestions via the school email.

Staff News

At the end of term 3, we will be saying goodbye to one of our teaching assistants, Kerry Hargreaves. We would like to thank Kerry for all she has done for us and wish her the best of luck in her new job. We have also made a recent appointment to the staff team at Begbrook. We are delighted to be able to welcome Ella French, who will be working closely alongside Mr England as part of our inclusion team.



Diary
Dates



ALL DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

DATE	EVENT	DATE	EVENT
Mon 12 th – Fri 16 th (Half Term)	Atlas Holiday Camp	Thurs 1 st March	Hall on the Hill Performance – St George's Hall 7pm
Tues 20 th Feb	ABC charity collection 3:30pm in the main playground	Fri 2 nd Mar	Y6 Life skills trip
Thurs 22 nd Feb	Parent Forum 6pm-7pm Topic: Reporting on Pupil Progress	Mon 5 th Mar	Science Week
Fri 23 rd Feb	Non-school uniform day – donation to the cake sale or suggestion of £1 PTFA hot dog and cake sale – 3:30pm	Fri 9 th Mar	PTFA Mothers' Day shop – for children in Studio all day
Wed 28 th Feb	Hall on the Hill performance	Wed 14 th Mar	Whole school class photo day
Wed 28 th Feb	Parents Evening 3:30pm-7pm	Fri 23 rd Mar	Easter themed cake sale – 3:30pm
Thurs 1 st Mar	World Book Day – theme is ANIMALS	Mon 26 th Mar – Fri 6 th Apr	Atlas Holiday Camp
Thurs 1 st Mar	Parents Evening 3:30pm-6pm	Fri 13 th Apr	PTFA International Food Fayre 3:30pm

Term Dates 2017/2018

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

Inset Days 2017/2018

Monday 9th April
 Friday 6th July

Term Dates 2018/19

Term 1: Monday 3rd Sept – Friday 26th Oct 2018
 Term 2: Monday 5th Nov – Friday 21st Dec 2018
 Term 3: Monday 7th Jan – Friday 15th Feb 2019
 Term 4: Monday 25th Feb – Friday 5th Apr 2019
 Term 5: Tuesday 23rd Apr – Friday 24th May 2019
 Term 6: Monday 3rd June – Tuesday 23rd July 2019

(Inset days will be available as soon as we have confirmation.)