



News and Information

Date: 15th July 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is our last whole school newsletter for this year. I can not believe how quickly this year has gone. What has been lovely about this year is that we have steadily been able to bring back events and experiences for the children following the gradual release of the Covid regulations.

As I wrote in my letter with the reports, I am so incredibly proud of the children here at Bierton. They have all shown real resilience and have continued to smile throughout. It is the children that make us all want to come to work each day.

Parents, you have been so supportive to the children and to our team. We are thankful for all your support and for working with us through all the difficult times.

I would also like to thank every single member of staff. It truly is a dedicated team here at Bierton who all want the best for the children. They go above and beyond to ensure that every child has the opportunity to shine their light brightly. I am incredibly grateful for all their hard work, enthusiasm and passion for the children.

This newsletter contains lots of information about events that have happened over the last couple of weeks, tips for the summer and also some support over the summer as we know this can be a tough time for some families.

We hope you are all able to enjoy some time with family and friends and we look forward to seeing all the children in September!

Ms Martin

Headteacher

Key Dates coming up:

July

Wednesday 20th—9:15am Year 6 Leavers Assembly to parents.

Wednesday 20th—**School closes at 1pm** for the summer holidays.

September

Friday 2nd—Inset Day

Monday 5th—Inset Day

Tuesday 6th—School Reopens

Tuesday 13th—Secondary School Transfer Practice Test

Tuesday 13th—3:15pm Years 3+4 Residential Parents Information Meeting

Thursday 15th—Secondary School Transfer Test

Online Safety

In this guide, you'll find tips on a number of potential issues such as 'pack mentality', haters and discrimination.

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

12 Ways to Champion EQUALITY ONLINE

In terms of the esteem it's held in, women's football has made impressive progress in a short space of time. That's a bit like the online world: it's come a long way, but that doesn't mean we should stop trying to make it even better. The Women's European Football Championships are underway, and that's a timely reminder of how important it is to give everyone the respect they deserve online – regardless of gender, race, sexual orientation, religion or anything else. In partnership with the Global Equality Commission, we've produced a special guide to help young fans kick online discrimination into touch!

- 1 KNOW IT WHEN YOU SEE IT**
Expressing views based on prejudice about a part of someone's identity – their race, gender or a disability, say – counts as online hate.
- 2 WHEN "BANTER" ISN'T FUNNY**
Discrimination is sometimes disguised as humour: some memes, clips or gifs that certain people try to pass off as "funny" might actually be offensive.
- 3 BE YOUR OWN PERSON**
Set a good example through your own online communication. Think whether you'd say a thing in real life before posting or sharing it online for the world to see.
- 4 SEEING SHOULDN'T EQUAL BELIEVING**
Sneakier, less obvious types of online abuse can stay on the internet for longer, so don't assume that something's OK just because it's not been taken down yet.
- 5 SEXISM CAN BE ILLEGAL**
As well as being extremely hurtful to a person or a group, online sexism and prejudice against women (known as misogyny) can be recorded as a hate crime in some cases.
- 6 ONLINE HATE, USED AS BAIT**
Sadly, it's not just that being exposed to prejudice online is upsetting – some extreme organisations even try to recruit young people to their cause.
- 7 GET SOME DISTANCE**
If you see messages online that upset you, it's probably time to give yourself some space from that site or app. Talk to a trusted adult about how you're feeling.
- 8 TURN OFF THE HATERS**
If someone you follow on social media is posting sexist content, you could always mute them or block them – or unfollow them altogether.
- 9 PLAY IT BY THE BOOK**
If you see someone discriminating online, you don't have to challenge them yourself. Screenshot their post and report them to the app or site you saw it on.
- 10 EXPLOITING 'PACK MENTALITY'**
Sexist messages aren't always sent to a target directly; sometimes, they're posts designed to provoke misogyny among other people.
- 11 POSITIVITY ALWAYS WINS**
Go the extra mile and spread some positive vibes! Instead of just reacting to a post and scrolling past, you could add a message of support and encouragement, too.
- 12 CREATE THE WORLD YOU WANT**
Remember, you're the boss of your online world. Engage with posts or accounts that celebrate equality and understanding; block or unfollow the ones that don't.



**GLOBAL
EQUALITY
COLLECTIVE**

NOS National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

FURTHER SUPPORT
If you've been affected by any of the issues mentioned in this guide, there are some excellent resources that can offer further help and support:
NOS Mental Health Guides: nationalonlinesafety.com/guides
Minds: www.youngminds.org.uk
Stop Hate UK: stophateuk.org
Ditch the Label: www.ditchthelabel.org
Childline: www.childline.org.uk

Playtime at Bierton - OPAL



Opal This Term

This term has seen our playground grow from strength to strength as the summer sun has been shining brightly and we have had to adapt our play time. .

We have been creating play opportunities in the shaded areas of our school and making dens to relax in.

We have continued to have weekly discussion in class about play where we have talked how to keep cool and be stay in the sun.

The Beirton beach continues to be a highlight of our play and we like to imagine we are at the real beach.

We would like to thank everyone who has send us a gift from the Amazon Wishlist Receiving packages is exciting and all the items are able to go straight on the playground to be used.

If you would purchase from our Wishlist the link is below. Please pass on the link to anyone who would like to donated.

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/23XBPX7UXM58W?ref=wl_share

What is our favourite part of playtime?

During the hot weather we have enjoyed playing in the shade of the trees. The mud kitchen and the tyre swing are cool areas to play away from the direct sun light.

During this season of sports we have also enjoyed playing lots of tennis on the MUGA.

What is next?

We have spent some time reviewing the first year of our OPAL journey.

We have set up many areas of our playground and had some building work done.

We are looking forward to September when we will be appointing new year 6 play leaders to help us shape our play times. We will continue to celebrate the great play within our school.

We will be looking for new areas to add to our playground. We have plans to develop a performing arts area and a gardening area.

In the autumn term we will be giving all parents an opportunity to join us at lunch time to experience the play at Bierton.

Donations

It is great to continue to get donations as families have a clear out at home. We are always grateful for new things. We have received so many items which we will be able to use on the playground.

We still need:

- **Old sheets and curtains for den building.**
 - Dolls
 - Bikes and scooters
- **Clothes pegs (old or new)**
- **Old pots and pans for the mud kitchen**

If you have any of these items to donate please drop them to the school office anytime during the school day.

If you have anything else which you think we might be able to use on the playground please email Play@biertoncombined.bucks.sch.uk

Literacy at Bierton

Big shout out to our word Millionaires

Leila B.	Noah M	Ethan L.	Karenza	
Micah	Toby	Lucinda	Dylan J	Joe
Riley	Pahal	Amelia B.	George E	Sarah
Dexter S.	Kruthi	Chloe Smith		

and our multi millionaires

Musa Joseph S-O Harrison W. Sumaiyah Grace N Prisha

Well done to all the children for completing their quizzes this year. We have read an amazing 60,413,012 words in total.

CAN YOU COMPLETE THE 16 CHALLENGES IN THE HOLIDAYS?

Who?	Read a book to someone younger than you	Read a book by an author you've not read before	Read an author's first book	Read a book by an author from a different country
What?	Start a brand new series of books	Read a comic / graphic novel	Read a poetry collection	Read a book that a film/TV show is based on
When?	Read a book set in the past	Read a book set in the future	Read a book before bedtime	Read a book when you first wake up
Where?	Read a book set in another country	Read a book that is set in a school	Read a book in a reading den	Read a book on a beach

Summer shouldn't mean taking a break from learning, especially reading. Studies show that most students experience a loss of reading skills over the summer months, but children who continue to read will gain skills.

Top tips:

1. Read aloud together with your child every day.
2. Have a range of reading materials around for your child to access. These could be books, magazines, newspapers or even audio books.
3. Read the same book your child is reading and discuss it.
4. Take your children to the library regularly.

Those children in KS2 can still use Accelerated Reader to complete quizzes that will start their word count total off or next year.

<https://ukhosted93.renlearn.co.uk/6703196>

Summer reading challenge

Can you complete all 16 challenges over the summer? If you do come and find me in September for a prize.



Spectacular Summer Maths

Here are some suggestions on how to help your child learn and practise different maths skills over the summer break.

Games

Play a boardgame as a family. Your child can use the dice to practise subitising; you could lay dominoes or play a card



Money

Let your child practise paying for items if you visit the shop. You could also look at the cost of items and see which is most expensive. Older children could look at discounts and compare prices.



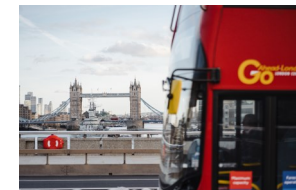
Measurements

You child could practise measuring the length of objects or recording the height of different people in the family. They could also read recipes and practise measuring the ingredients using different equipment.



Reading timetables

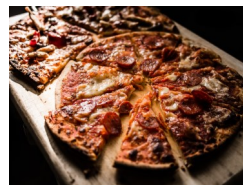
If you're going on a journey, look at a bus or train timetable. Look at the departure times, arrival times and durations. You could also look at the different days of the week on a calendar.



Fractions

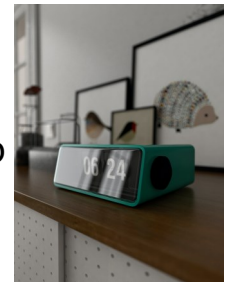
When preparing food or sharing equipment, you could reinforce different fractions. If you visit the beach, you could try filling half of a bucket with sand or filling half a glass with liquid.

Older children could look at items that may be discounted by a certain percentage.



Time

Practise telling the time. This could be reading an analogue or digital clock, or you could practise calculating time differences by seeing how long different foods take to cook.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AT BIERTON

Year 6 visit to Dorchester Abbey

On Thursday 7th July year 6 travelled to a church known as Dorchester Abbey. After we arrived, we joined leavers from other schools and enjoyed a short practice of hymns. These included: 'Gloria', 'The Lord's Prayer', 'My children listen to my call' and 'You are my hiding place'. Following on from these practices, we busied ourselves in writing prayers with a focus on thinking about the world and how to look after it and the people within it. These prayers were made from the roots of Kum-ba-yah. Once lunch was finished, we took part in our leavers service. We sang hymns and some children shared their prayers. We ended the day with sore throats and smiles on our faces!

*Pahal and Caoimhe - Community and Spirituality
Ambassadors*



The children loved getting a chance to explore the church and some got very competitive about completing their quiz the quickest. They had lots of interesting questions to ask.

They also enjoyed a short sing along

Year 3/4 at the Church

Some of the children even gave a bit of a lesson from the pulpit on our Christian values and our school verse from the bible verse in Mathew 5:16

'Let your light shine'



Finding out about St James:

They learnt a little bit about who St James was. We know he was a disciple of Jesus' and that he shared his name with several other people close to Jesus.

He was a fisherman and his symbol is a scallop shell.

Our Badge:

Did you know we get the three scallop shells on our school badge from St James?

Did you know that the organ has 23 pipes on the outside?

Or that there are 71 lightbulbs in the candelabras?

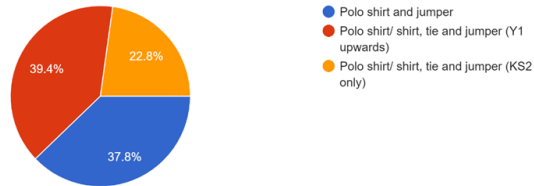
Or even that the first recorded priest worked at that church 728 years ago

These were just some of the facts the children enjoyed exploring and finding out about

School Uniform Survey

Earlier this term we sent out a survey to ask Parents about our current School Uniform. We also discussed school uniform through our School Council.

The top half of the school uniform should be... (select one)
193 responses



- Polo shirt and jumper
- Polo shirt/ shirt, tie and jumper (Y1 upwards)
- Polo shirt/ shirt, tie and jumper (KS2 only)

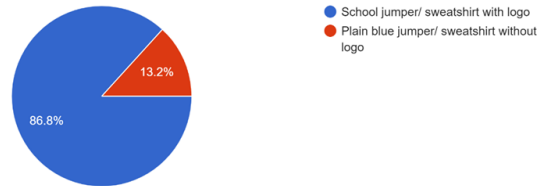
In terms of school ties being part of the uniform—62.2% of parents voted to keep the school ties. With 39.4% of parents voting for this to be from Year 1 upwards.

71% of the children also voted to keep the school tie.

Therefore, we will continue to wear school ties from Year 1 upwards.

We also asked the children about hair accessories and 75% of the children agreed that these should be blue.

The jumper/ sweatshirt should be... (select one)
189 responses



- School jumper/ sweatshirt with logo
- Plain blue jumper/ sweatshirt without logo

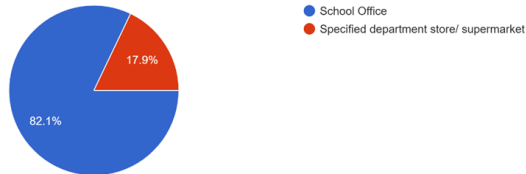
We also asked you about wearing school jumpers/cardigans with the school logo on. 86.% of parents voted for the jumpers/cardigans to have a school logo and 75% of the children also thought the school logo should be on the jumpers/cardigans.

We are therefore keeping the school jumpers/cardigans with the school logo.

Our school uniform policy can be found on the school website.

School Uniform can continue to be purchased via ParentMail from the school office.

Where would you prefer to purchase branded items?
190 responses



- School Office
- Specified department store/ supermarket

As 82.1% of parents voted that they would prefer to purchase items from the school office, we will be continuing to offer this service.

Self-care summer

for primary pupils

#SelfCareSummer

Relationships and connection

Spending time with friends and family is not only fun but can also be good for your wellbeing, especially if you are feeling sad or lonely.

Week 1

Resource

Play and entertainment

Making time to play can be part of self-care. Whether it's with friends, animals or through board games, all types of play and having fun is important.

Week 2

Resource

Relaxation

Summer can be busy with lots of plans, but remember to take time for you, to relax and do things you enjoy.

Week 3

Resource

Physical activity

Keeping active can boost your mood and wellbeing. Whether it's dancing, sports or going for a walk, you can do it your way.

Week 4

Resource

Creativity

Being creative can help you express yourself and relax, whether it's acting, cooking, drawing, writing or making music.

Week 5

Resource

Emotional health

Don't forget to be your own best friend and be kind to yourself. Some people find writing down their feelings can help to get things off their chest.

Week 6

Resource

Summer Holiday Self Care Tips

Below are a few websites that provide tips for supporting you and your children over the summer holidays.

Anna Freud Association

<https://www.annafreud.org/schools-and-colleges/self-care-summer/>

The summer holidays offer an opportunity to recharge, but some young people may find themselves struggling without the structure and support network of school.

We've created these #SelfCareSummer packs for primary and secondary schools. These packs feature a range of creative activities based on self-care strategies that other young people have found useful in helping them stay mentally healthy.

They also signpost young people and their families to additional support, including the AFC crisis messenger text service.

Young Minds

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/professional/resources/self-care-support-over-the-summer-holidays/>

National Autistic Society

<https://www.autism.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/professional-practice/summer-holidays>

The summer holiday can be a difficult time for autistic people and their families. Whether going away for some of the summer or staying at home, the change in routine can be a challenge.

KIDS EAT FOR FREE OR LESS DURING SUMMER 2022



MORRISONS

Spend £4.99 to get a free kids meal after 3pm daily, normally all day during half term.

ASDA CAFE

Kids eat for £1 every day with NO need for a paying adult from 25th July - 4th Sept, 2022.

DUNELM

One free mini main, two snacks and a drink for every £4 spent in the in-store cafe.

YO! Kids eat free from 3pm-5:30pm Mon-Thurs for every £10 spent on food.

BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE

Free breakfast for two children under 16 with every paying adult.

HUNGRY HORSE

Free kids breakfast with an adults breakfast from 9am-12pm daily.

IKEA

Get TWO kids hot meals, fruit, drink and jelly for £5 in their Swedish restaurants (subject to availability).

BELLA ITALIA

Kids eat for £1 with each adult meal from 4-6pm on Mon-Thurs.

DOBBIES

Kids eat free with an adult main meal.

TABLE TABLE

Two children under 16 get a free breakfast with one paying adult every day.

CAFE ROUGE

Kids eat for £1 with an adult meal excluding Saturday.

MORE TO COME!!

M&S, TESCO and more expected soon, see websites for latest information.

I am sure you have probably come across these, but we just wanted to share some of the places that children can eat for free or for less this summer.