



Bierton CE Combined School

Aim High, Achieve Success, Find your Sparkle and Shine



Dear Parents,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a lovely time over the Easter Holidays. Shame that the weather wasn't good, but hopefully you still managed to spend some quality time as a family. It is hard to believe that it is the Summer Term already!

I am, as I am sure you are, so proud of how hard all the children are working this year. It is lovely to see children developing their resilience (one of our 5Rs) and challenging themselves to fall into the learning pit in order to develop their understanding further. Keep aiming high!

All children should have come home with progress reports for the Spring Term. Please remember that each judgement band is very wide and so children often make progress within a band even if they do not move between judgements. The objectives that the teachers have identified as areas for development will help to allow each child to move towards making the progress required to be securely judged as the next judgement band. If you do have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the class teacher directly to arrange a convenient time to talk through any concerns.

We will be continuing to provide the children with a range of opportunities throughout the term to allow individuals to try out different talents and maybe find their own sparkle! This week, already, we have had a group of children experimenting with animation in a session led by Mr Glanney and supported by Mr Arnold. As we go through the term, there will be further opportunities for children to show off different strengths.



Ms Martin
Headteacher

The Value this Half Term

Our Christian values at Bierton are Love, Cooperation, Responsibility, Respect and Honesty. **The Christian value this half term is Respect.** Children at Bierton are respectful in lots of ways. Every day we are encouraging children at Bierton to respect the adults at school and at home. Children are also learning to respect their friends and peers at all times. We have a wonderful school and the children respect all of the excellent resources we are so lucky to have. One of the most important things the children are learning, is to respect themselves.



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Staffing News

At the end of April we say our official goodbye to Mrs Green. Mrs Green has worked at Bierton for 10 years, mostly with children in Early Years. She has unfortunately not been well this year and this has led to her taking retirement due to ill health.

Mrs Green has created some amazing resources over the years to inspire the children's imaginations in the Early Years. She has made seated areas for the children to sit on, an art gallery to display children's work, numerous cooking resources and some very memorable dinosaurs! She has had a real impact on the development of the outdoor learning area for Foundation Stage, so a huge thank you to her!

We will all miss her enthusiasm and creative talents and wish her all the best in her retirement.



A reminder that we are now a **NUT FREE zone**. Thank you for ensuring that your children do not have any products with nuts in their school lunch boxes. It is very much appreciated.

Year 6 Stand up to Cancer Bake Sale

We would like to do a stand up to cancer bake sale because cancer affects almost everybody around the world. I was inspired to do this particular fundraiser by the passing of a family member and also the Great British Bake Off which raises a lot of money for this amazing charity. On Wednesday 2nd May, Pippi, Amber, May, Niamh, Breeze and I will help to raise money by baking several treats for all to purchase and enjoy.

Joanne (Year 6)

**Wednesday 2nd May—Bake Sale
Stand up to Cancer!**



Key Dates

May

Tuesday 1st—Class Photographs

Wednesday 2nd—Bake Sale—Stand up to cancer.

Thursday 3rd—Ash and Alder Trip to Whipsnade Zoo

Monday 7th—School Closed—May Bank Holiday

Tuesday 8th—SEN Drop in for parents of children with Special educational needs.

Wednesday 9th—Newland Park Residential leave at 2pm.

Friday 11th—Newland Park Residential return at 3pm.

Monday 14th—Key Stage 2 SATs Week.

Tuesday 15th - SEN Drop in for all parents.

Monday 21st—Residential trip to Skern Lodge.

Monday 21st—Key Stage 1 SATS Week

Friday 25th—School closes at 3pm.

APRIL NEWSLETTER

Yr 5/6 Roman Workshop

On Friday 20th April, Year 5/6 was invaded by the Roman legions. The children were taken on a dramatic voyage back in time to discover the change in lifestyles of even the most lowliest citizens following the arrival of the Romans. A thoroughly engaging and motivating day enabled the children to take a tour through a bath-house and experience the excitement of the games arena. The children really showed their competitive spirit when completing an interactive quiz. The prize? The opportunity to fire nerf bullets at their friends using a working catapult! One of the highlights of the day was the opportunity to interact with real Roman artefacts from crocodile skin armour to celt helmets and shields. This was a real hands-on experience which they will never forget! The day finished with a gladiator show with various roles being played from slaves to the mighty Emperor. It was a memorable day for all in Year 5/6 and a perfect way to kick-start our new topic.



APRIL NEWSLETTER

E-Safety—Top Tip this Month

Have you heard of 'Fortnite: Battle Royale'? - your child probably has. It is the current online craze.



What is Fortnite?

Fortnite is an online game. Battle Royale is a part of Fortnite where players do not have to pay to play. In Battle Royale, 100 players compete against each other to be the last person standing in player vs player combat.

Users are playing against people of different ages from across the world, and Fortnite has in game audio chat so that players can talk and interact with each other as they play.

What age rating is Fortnite?

Fortnite has a PEGI rating of 12 and PEGI have said this is due to the: 'frequent scenes of mild violence. It is not suitable for persons under 12 years of age'.

This PEGI rating only takes into account the content in the game and not the contact element, where players may be exposed to swearing and offensive language from strangers in voice or on-screen text chat.

What do I need to know?

You are playing against other players

As Fortnite is an online game - you will play against players of different ages from across the world. You cannot turn this communication off or choose who you play against.

The graphics

Fortnite does feature violence when players are in combat with each other. Although the animation of the game is very cartoonish and the violence isn't bloody or gory, it is worth noting that the aim of Fortnite is to defeat other players by fighting against them.

Advice from Childnet International

Have an open and honest conversation with your child

Try to maintain an open dialogue with your child and find opportunities to talk to them about what they love to do online. Parents can help children access the amazing resources the internet has to offer whilst keeping them safe online at the same time.

Asking your child about how they play Fortnite and what they like about it is a great way to start a conversation. Conversation starters (found on the Childnet International website) can help you to have this conversation.

Know how to make a report

On Fortnite you can report players who are behaving inappropriately by using the in-game feedback tool located in the game Main Menu, you can also make a report by emailing the creators of Fortnite.

See what other people think of Fortnite

Common Sense Media allow parents and young people to give their reviews of games that they have played. They have created a very useful video guide to Fortnite with footage of the gameplay involved.

For additional information and helpful tips, visit the Childnet International website (<http://www.childnet.com/blog/a-parents-guide-to-fortnite-battle-royale>)

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Honeycomb Dance Festival 2018

This year we were very excited to be invited again to take part in Honeycomb Dance Festival 2018. Over 30 groups from Aylesbury and beyond showcased their many talents across a two day dance extravaganza! This is always such a wonderful experience for our pupils to take part in with such a professional show and yet again this year, did not disappoint!

Over the past few months our enthusiastic young dancers in Key Stage 2 have been busy preparing for their fantastic performance at the Waterside theatre. They have worked hard and been dedicated to attending their rehearsals every Tuesday in Dance Club with myself and Miss Smith.

Our dance piece was based upon the hit musical 'Flashdance' and children chose the song: 'Maniac'. Children dug out their leg warmers and neon costumes to choreograph the dance with a little help from us! We are very lucky to have so many talented dancers in our school with so many creative ideas.

On the actual day of the Dance Festival, children had a technical rehearsal on the main stage, took part in a Dance workshop led by an experienced choreographer and were able to watch all the other gifted dancers from across Aylesbury Vale in the full show run through. Whilst Miss Smith and I were sadly unable to be there on the day (Due to holidays and Family wedding commitments!) we were very grateful to Mr Glanney, Miss Parry and Miss Richardson who supported the children in our place. A big thank you to all of them for giving up their time to be there.

We were delighted to hear how brilliant each and every child performed, behaved and shined! I know the children thoroughly enjoyed themselves at the Honeycomb Festival and made us all very proud of them. The theatre staff and other dance companies were also very impressed, commenting on how brilliant the children were throughout the day and in their fabulous performance! Well done! Thank you very much to parents for your continued support over the past few weeks! Without your help we would not be able to take part in these wonderful dance events.

Thank you again for all you hard work children, you were absolute stars!

We look forward to dancing with you again soon.

Miss Nutbrown and Miss Smith



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APRIL NEWSLETTER

Cross Country

I am so proud of this year's Cross Country squad. Over 30 KS2 children have represented Bierton this year at races, which is fantastic. The level of commitment, teamwork, support and encouragement demonstrated by each child involved has been amazing. What has really stood out for me is the support the children offer each other: they understand that it is not all about winning, but about having fun and trying their best and this is what makes our children so wonderful. I would like to thank the parents too for giving up their Saturday mornings to support their children and the school (we definitely have the loudest cheering parents)! Also a huge thank you to my dedicated parent helpers- I could not run the club without you. Finally, I am sad that we are losing a few of our Cross Country squad in July, as they embark on the next chapter of their lives. Some of the children have been in the club since Year 3 and they have shown huge commitment and been such excellent role models for our younger children. Sean, Lewis, Max, Harrison, Jack, May, Georgia, Darcey and Amber, thank you for being such amazing team players and keep up the running in your new schools. For the rest of the children, I hope they all continue to be involved with Cross Country next year.

Miss Smith :)

Respecting our Neighbours

Our School Value this half term is respect. Within school we are teaching the children to respect themselves, respect their peers, respect the adults around school and respect the property in school.

To extend this, we would also ask that parents model this respect to their children. One way to demonstrate this is to respect our community by ensuring that you are not parking across neighbours drives, respecting the pavements and those who walk on them by not mounting the pavements and driving along and by showing respect for each other and letting cars pass through.

We thank you in advance for modelling respect to the community to your children.

It is lovely to see lots of parents and children walking / cycling to school and people parking further away and walking down Parsons Lane. Keep it up!



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