



Bradfield C of E (Aided) Primary School

5th October 2021

Dear families,

As always at this time of year, our thoughts are turning to the changing season and the promise of Harvest. We celebrated Harvest Festival in school on Friday with the theme of "Sharing". The children have been learning how important it is to share the resources of the world with others so that no-one goes without. There is enough food in the world to feed everyone so why do some go hungry?



Our wonderful harvest collection for the West Berks Foodbank

In assembly, the children have also been learning about how our actions can impact on others by slowing down climate change and the natural disasters that occur across the planet. They have some great ideas for how we can all do our bit and we hope to put some of those ideas into action over the next year as we work to attain the Green School award.

Here is some of the art work produced for the Harvest assembly



Y4 waterfalls



Y6's take on "Wheat Field with Crows" by Vincent Van Gogh



Y2's art work to accompany their poem on Sharing

I am always pleased to welcome visitors to our school and last week we had a visit from a school improvement advisor from West Berkshire. During our walk around the school, she noted how happy and settled the children were and how much learning was going on which made me feel very proud of our community. A great start to the school year!

School Places

If you are aware of anyone in the area who is looking for school places please let them know that we do have some spaces available in most year groups and we would be delighted to show them round.

We also have appointments for those looking for Reception places for September 2022 over the next few weeks. Do let your friends and family know to call the office to book onto one of the published dates.

Concerns and complaints

We work really hard to make sure that everything runs smoothly and effectively, but we do recognize that sometimes we fall short of some expectations. If you have any specific or even general worries about your child and school, please contact the class teacher in the first instance who will be able to deal with the majority of issues. In the event that their response is not satisfactory, the school does have a formal complaints procedure which can be used to manage any further escalation. Whilst we understand that social media is a useful tool to keep in touch with other parents, please address any school concerns to the people who can affect any necessary changes.

Assemblies

The Covid situation has meant that families have been unable to attend school assemblies so far this term. Data from the local authority indicates that the number of cases continues to rise in schools and it would therefore be foolish for us to consider holding large gatherings currently. However, if the cases begin to fall and any seasonal surge is under control, we hope that regular parent assemblies can resume. We will be reassessing the situation after half term. Fingers crossed!

Outdoor footwear

As the weather becomes more "autumnal", please ensure that your child has a spare pair of shoes in school to wear at lay and lunchtimes on the field. These can be PE trainers.

Drop off and pick up

When dropping off and picking children up from school please be aware that the pavement is very narrow outside the school. If you encounter other families coming in the opposite direction please be considerate and allow the children to remain on the pavement with adults using the road for overtaking. It can be extremely hazardous to ask our young people to step into the road when cars or bicycles may be coming up behind them. Considerate parking and driving will also help to reduce the risks.

I am looking into the feasibility of a walking bus to be available to reduce the numbers of people coming onto the site however, this will rely heavily on parental volunteers. If anyone is interested please contact me through the school office.

School lunch on Thursday 7th October 2021 – SPACE DAY

The autumn school census takes place on Thursday 7th October. On this day, the local authority count a variety of things including the number of EYFS and KS1 children taking a free school meal. This number is then used to provide valuable funding to the school of around £400 per meal taken. PLEASE consider allowing your child to take up their entitlement on Thursday so we can maximise this opportunity.

Dolce have provided a special SPACE themed menu for that day. There is also a colouring competition (entries to school by Weds 6 October), and a lucky plate competition where the child with the lucky sticker will win a £5 Amazon gift card.

Parent/Teacher meetings – Tues 19th and Thurs 21st October 2021

Please look for the email sent earlier today with details on how to book. There is ONE ten minute meeting per child, and meetings will be online via your child's Teams account.

Reminder regarding illness

As part of our attempts to keep Covid at bay, we ask that any child demonstrating any of the Covid symptoms does NOT attend school until a negative PCR test has been received. Whilst I do appreciate the frustration when you think it is just a cold, this is to keep us all safe. A high temperature is classed as anything over 38 degrees.

Sponsorship required

As you know, at Bradfield we are proud of our sporting tradition. We try to offer every child the chance to represent the school in an external competition during their time with us. Recently we have noticed that the school kit used for these events is looking rather sad and old and we would love to provide our children with the type of equipment they can feel proud to wear. As with everything though, this means having money to buy new kit. SO.... we are hoping that some lovely person or company out there would feel happy to sponsor a set of kit for the school. We would like to have 3 kits available to suit different sports and different age ranges. If you are able to help us with this please contact the school office. THANK YOU!

Best wishes,

Caroline Johnson

OTHER ITEMS

Foodbank referrals and free school meals

If you or anyone you know could do with help please let us know and we can make a referral to the West Berks Foodbank.

Equally if you think you may be entitled to free school meals please go to <https://info.westberks.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals> to check and apply if necessary.

Road closure

We have been asked to let you know about the following road closure:

Mariners Lane, Bradfield Southend, will be closed from 09.30 to 15.30 on the 20th October 2021, the closure will be between its junction with road known as Bishops Road, and its junction with Southend Road.

An alternative route is via Southend Road, Cock Lane, road known as Bishops Hill, road known as Bishops Road and vice versa.

The purpose of this closure is for contractors to carry out sewer cleaning and maintenance.

Residential access will be maintained throughout and the diversion will be signed on site.

Please Note: Blue light access will be permitted

All enquiries should be directed to: Lanes Group Plc on 07518 900 655

A plan of the closure can be found at: (click on link) <https://one.network/?tm=GB123740367>

All Yours Period Boxes

If you need help with period products please visit www.periodbox.uk/request-an-all-yours-box/ and complete the form to say what you need. A free All Yours box will be sent to you. You can request a box for yourself and your family members and a range of products to suit as many preferences and circumstances as possible.