



**Please read this  
carefully - it  
contains  
important  
information!!**

## **NEWSLETTER 3**

### **MARCH 2017**

30<sup>th</sup> March, 2017

Dear Parents,

We will be on our Easter holiday break from Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2017. We hope you will have a very pleasant break. See you when we return on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2017.

Yours sincerely,

Sharon Flowers  
Headteacher

## **School Dinners**

(Please note that the Council has approved an increase of 5p in the price of school meals from 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2017)

Next half term (Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2017 to Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2017) school dinners will cost:-

KS2	28 days @ £2.00	£56.00 (£10.00 per week)
Yr 6 children going to PGL	26 days @ £2.00	£52.00
Fun Fridays x 6	KS2	£12.00

You can view the School Dinners' menu around the school and on our website (bramingham.net) in the Parents' section.

Please remember dinner payments are made through the Tucasi cashless system.

As a parent/guardian, you will have been allocated an account for your child and issued with a barcoded letter. If your child(ren) receive Universal Infant Free School Meals or Free School Meals, you are not required to make any payment. However, you are encouraged to register online if you wish to keep track of your child's daily meal uptake.

You will have various methods of making payment securely such as:

**Online** - using a debit card via Tucasi's internet payment service [www.scopay.com](http://www.scopay.com)

**Over the counter** - by presenting the barcoded letter at any PayPoint outlet.

**Via mobile device** – by visiting the Tucasi website ([www.scopay.com](http://www.scopay.com)) and accessing the special mobile friendly features.

### **As a reminder no cash or cheques for top up will be taken at school**

Please note: If your child changes from dinners to packed lunch, or vice versa, you must give the kitchen one week's notice. If dinner money is not paid for 1 week, no further meals will be provided until the debt is cleared.

As a school we endorse the position of the catering services and will not be supplying dinner to a child if the kitchen refuses to give a meal. If the child has not got a packed lunch, we will contact you; you will then have the responsibility of making sure that you provide a lunch for your child.

*ALL DINNER MONEY QUERIES ARE DEALT WITH BY THE SCHOOL MEALS' CASHIER, Mrs Shearer, (telephone 562945).*

## ***Early Years***

The children have loved the Space topic. Thank you for all the feedback about how much they have been sharing their new knowledge and enthusiasm with you at home. They LOVED making the spacecraft with you and we enjoyed sharing these in circle times this week. Please see the website for a few photos and more detail on our Squirrels' page. Many children said that they would like to 'make' more things at home like that!

After Easter our topic will be Minibeasts. We will focus on insects and other small creatures in the natural world. There will be so many opportunities for speaking, observing, reading, writing, creating and maths within the topic. We will also visit Bramingham Woods with the children. After the holidays our Summer 1 half term overview will be on the website.

The children are ready for a break. However, please continue to listen to them read and practise their keywords. We hope you can also enjoy some outside play with them in the spring sunshine.

*The Early Years Team*

## ***Year 1***

Our topic this half term has been 'Where I live' and we have investigated this concept from the broader sense of our place in the British Isles down to our local area of Bramingham. More information about the work we have completed is on our class pages on the school website. There are also photos of the children preparing and enjoying the healthy snacks they made during their DT sessions.

We would like to thank parents for the help and support that has been given to their children this half term with their homework, reading and spelling work. We are very happy to see more children achieving Star Reader this half term and we would like to see this number continue to increase so that every child can be awarded a certificate and book at the end of our summer term. In order to do this the children must be heard read at home at least three times a week with a comment recorded in their reading diaries.

Enjoy your Easter holidays!

*Miss Garton, Mrs Bartlett and Mrs Zajac*

## ***Year 2***

Wrens had a busy start to the half term, learning songs and lines for their class assembly. We hope you enjoyed it. This term Wrens have enjoyed retelling Jack and the Beanstalk and writing a letter as Jack. They have also enjoyed the Lighthouse Keepers Lunch. On our class page on the website you can see photos of us making sandwiches and scones, as part of our DT and learning to write instructions. You will also see some of our practical work on fractions. Foxes have really enjoyed learning and writing about food. Find out what we have been up to by visiting our class page.

Just a reminder that PE will be 2 sessions of outdoor games after the Easter break. Health and Safety: if your child has long hair, please remember to provide something to tie it back. If they wear earrings, these must be covered using tape during the lesson.

We hope you have a lovely break and return refreshed.

*Helen Dyble-Bassett/Laura Brook and Kam Bharaj*

### **Year 3**

Year 3 have had a very busy half term! Our text for this half term was The Iron Man by Ted Hughes. The children really enjoyed the story, even if it does get a bit strange at the end! They have created some beautiful pieces of writing based on this book, as well as some lovely artwork. Have a look on our class pages on the website to see our displays! We also had our Wow Day, when we 'travelled to France' for the day. The children were able to try some French food, sunbathe, go sightseeing and visit a gift shop. Have a look on our class pages on the website to see some of our pictures.

*Miss Gosling, Mrs Baker and Mrs Kelly*

### **Year 4**

We've had an extremely busy half term in Year 4 learning all about the Romans, how our planet is active and reading the thrilling 'Escape from Pompeii'. Look on our website pages to see our outdoor art, based on the work of Andy Goldsworthy.

Next term, we will no longer be going swimming. PE lessons will be on a Monday and Wednesday.

Thank you,

*Mrs Khinda and Miss Finnerty*

### **Year 5**

In Year 5, we have had a marvellous half term exploring the topic, 'Is It Fair?' As part of this work, we have carefully examined where the things that we buy have come from. Many of us were amazed to discover that the foods, drinks and textiles that we purchase have often travelled from afar to get to us! We went 'bananas for bananas' by taking an in-depth look at how the nation's favourite fruit is cultivated. The children wrote incredibly grown up and thought-provoking explanation texts. This work led us naturally to thinking about Fairtrade. We researched the Fairtrade Foundation and the crucial work that it does in supporting producers in developing countries. The children were so moved by the plight of these workers that they decided to make a difference themselves. The children flew the flag for Fairtrade by holding a Fairtrade Coffee Morning. The children made cakes, biscuits and drinks and presented their findings and thoughts on Fairtrade. They learned songs about Fairtrade and wrote their own raps. Thank you to all who supported the event - we hope that you had a lovely morning with us!

Next half term's topic is 'Communication', which will be sure to get everyone talking, emailing and using Morse Code! We can't wait! Check the website to find out more. The Year 5 team wishes you a wonderful break and we look forward to seeing you all in the summer term!

*Mr. Greene, Mrs Robinson and Miss Fitzgerald*

## **Year 6**

The children in Year 6 have had a busy half term revising for their SATs tests in May. They have coped very well and have completed their mock SATs papers this week. After Easter, the children face another busy half term leading up to their tests. However, they have plenty of opportunities to look forward to, including PGL and finding out which musical production they will be performing at the end of the year! Visit the Year 6 page on our website to learn more about the exciting and busy summer term up ahead! We hope you have a wonderful Easter break.

*Miss Smith, Mrs Glass, Miss Sutton and Mr Wyatt*

## **'Speaking Volumes'**

As a school we have been very fortunate to secure a grant of approximately £500 to purchase Christian books. This award has been given by a group of Christian people called 'Speaking Volumes'. They donate amounts of money for Christian books to be placed into the community for all to benefit, some of the places are schools, hospitals, prisons, care homes, libraries and many more. I have chosen books for all ages and abilities throughout our school. These will be used in the classrooms, our reading scheme, assemblies, family workers and the curriculum. We are all delighted with this gift.

*Elizabeth Wright*

## **Choir**

Choir have yet again had a very busy half term. On Friday 24th March, the children from choir went over to our local Sainsbury's to raise money for Comic Relief. They had a lovely time singing to a large audience who also enjoyed themselves, we raised £200 in an hour. Have a look on our school website to see a photograph of our singing adventure!

*Miss Fitzgerald and Miss Gosling*

## **New Private Nursery Setting – 'Learning Lands'**

Some of you will have already noticed new building works and a hut being moved on our school grounds, the Governing Body having agreed to allow 'Learning Land', private nursery, to open on our site in September 2017.

Learning Land will be a private provider of pre-school education for children from the ages of 2 to 4. We will work closely with them and we are confident having them on our site should be of mutual benefit. We do need to make it clear that sending a child to the nursery **will not** mean an automatic place will be available at Bramingham. The usual admission process has to be followed.

If you have any questions about the nursery or require a nursery place for your child please call/text on 07923404034.

### **Breakfast Club/After School Club**

We would like to remind parents that they should be booking and paying for Breakfast Club and After School Club prior to their child attending each session. If at all possible please book by the Friday for the following week to ensure that staff know who to expect.

### **School Council**

We have had a busy half term with Red Nose Day. Thank you so much for your contributions; we managed to raise £346.00 with the sale of red noses and £411.69 with our Red Nose Day non-uniform day!

Next half term we want to start working on improving wet play resources.

*Miss Finnerty and School Council*

### **Sport Results/News**

We have been very busy taking part in competitions and tournaments this half term. Look on our website for all our results.

Well done to all those taking part!

*Mr Wyatt and Mr Bavington*

### **Dropping Off and Collection of Children**

We are finding that more and more children are arriving late into school in the morning. Please note that the school day starts at 9.00am, and children may come into their classrooms from 8.45am. Any child not present for registration will be marked as late on the register and this will affect their attendance record which is monitored by the school's Education Welfare Officer who carries out a check on our registers half termly.

We are also finding that we have more children being collected late by their parent or carers. The school day finishes at 3.30pm and children need to be collected at the end of the day unless they are allowed to walk home. If you have been delayed and cannot collect your child on time, please contact the office to make alternative arrangements if at all possible before 3.30pm. To increase children's safety, a child cannot be left unsupervised in the school. Should we not hear from you by 3.40pm, we will provide a place for your child at After School Club and will request payment from you the following day, as stated on your admission form.

Please make sure the front entrance to the school building is only used if you need to talk to a member of our office staff. There are still a number of parents who walk through the main entrance in the mornings, after dropping off their children; please leave the school via the classrooms or outside cloakroom doors unless you need to speak to the office staff.

## **REMINDERS**

### **Football in the school playground**

Staff have noticed and it has been pointed out by some parents, that children play football in the school playground at the end of the school day, which can be dangerous (we have had incidents in the past including a parent being hit by a ball and also a baby's pushchair), or go on the mini roundabout and climbing frames. We do not supervise the children once they have left their classrooms; staff have to attend meetings, or run clubs after school and an accident could happen for which we might be held responsible. We would therefore appreciate it if you could keep your children under supervision and leave school premises promptly. If this situation does not improve we will be locking the gates to the school playground at 3.40pm.

### **Bramingham Primary School Website**

Don't forget to access our website for news and information, as well as photos and details of activities in your child's class. All letters can be downloaded and if needed printed from the website. Please note that we are adding to it regularly; news, photos and links to activities are frequently updated, so check back often.

The website address is [bramingham.net](http://bramingham.net), if you have a problem accessing it just google Bramingham Primary School website.

### **Appointments**

Could you please make every possible effort to avoid taking children out of school for appointments, such as doctor and dental ones. We have noted an increase in the number of children being collected during the school day for such appointments.

### **Parking**

We would like to remind all parents that ***the school car park should only be used by staff, school visitors or parents with parking permits*** (these are issued by the school under special circumstances).

Cars should not be parked on the yellow lines outside school. Cars parked in this area cause an obstruction in general, and in particular they block pushchair access. We would appreciate your co-operation in this matter, for the safety of all concerned. We are very fortunate that Sainsbury's store has always very kindly allowed parents to park in their car park when dropping off children. There is also the car park at the back of the Bramingham Public House/Local shops. Please make sure you use these facilities and also avoid parking in Campania Grove or Cicero Drive.

### **Child's Personal Information**

It is essential that you let the office staff know of any changes in your details (e.g. email, address, telephone number, mobile number or personal circumstances) so that our contact records are kept up-to-date. If you change your address we will need to see a proof of address e.g. utility bill or a solicitor's letter confirming the sale completion.

### **Lost Property**

Please ensure that all items of school clothing (**and lunchboxes**) are marked clearly with your child's name. This helps greatly when items are misplaced, and we can then ensure that items

are returned to their owners quickly. Our lost property boxes are overflowing with items which are not named making it impossible for us to find the right owners.

**Money Collection**

Any money being sent to school (trips/BC/ASC etc.) **must not** be taken to the school office; it should be sent in a named envelope and given to the class teacher first thing in the morning.

**No Smoking**

In line with the council's policy, Bramingham Primary School is ***AT ALL TIMES A NO SMOKING SCHOOL.*** May we therefore remind parents not to smoke on the school's premises. This includes the school car park, playground and playing field.



## **Term Dates**

Below are the term dates for 2016/2017 and 2017/2018. A copy of these dates is displayed on the Parents' Notice Board in the entrance lobby as well as on our website ([bramingham.net](http://bramingham.net) - note no 'www').

### ***Term dates 2016/2017***

#### **Spring Term 2017**

Term ends Friday 31 March 2017

#### **Summer Term 2017**

Term starts Tuesday 18 April 2017

Half term Week commencing Tuesday 30 May 2017

Term ends Friday 21 July 2017

**Training Day Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2017**

### ***Term dates 2017/2018***

#### **Autumn Term 2017**

Term Starts Monday 4 September 2017

Half term Week commencing Monday 23 October 2017

Term ends Wednesday 20 December 2017

**Training Day Friday 3 November 2017**

#### **Spring Term 2018**

Term starts Thursday 4 January 2018

Half term Week commencing Monday 12 February 2018

Term ends Thursday 29 March 2018

**Training Day Monday 19 March 2018**

#### **Summer Term 2018**

Term starts Monday 16 April 2018

Half term Week commencing Tuesday 29 May 2018

Term ends Friday 20 July 2018

**Training Day Monday 4th June 2018**

### **Dates for your diaries**

*These dates will be made available again throughout the year. They are subject to changes and additions so please make sure Newsletters are read carefully! You will be able to see changes in italic and bold.*

- **31.03.17**
- **18.04.17**
- 19.04.17
- **01.05.17**
- 04.05.17
- w/b 08.05.17
- 12 to 15.05.17
- 19.05.17
- wb 22.05.17
- 26.05.17
- **w/b 29.05.17**
- 09 to 10.06.17
- 22.06.17
- **23.06.17**
- 27.06.17
- 29.06.17
- 30.06.17
- 21.07.17
- **21.07.17**

**Last day of term - Easter holidays start**  
**Back to school - Start of the Summer Term**  
Class photos  
**May Bank Holiday**  
Yr 1 visit Whipsnade Zoo  
KS2 SATS week  
Yr 6 Residential trip to PGL – Little Canada  
Robins' Assembly  
Science Week  
Swifts' Assembly  
**Half Term Week**  
Yr 2 Residential trip  
Yr 5 visit Kew Gardens  
**School closure/training day**  
Sports Day  
Yr 6 Transition Day  
Singing Spectacular  
Leavers' Assembly  
**Last day of term - Summer Holidays start**