



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

## **NEWSLETTER 4**

### **MAY 2017**

25<sup>th</sup> May, 2017

Dear Parents,

We will be on half-term holiday from Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> May, 2017. The children will be returning to school on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2016. We hope you will have a very pleasant break.

Yours sincerely,

Sharon Flowers  
Headteacher

## **School Dinners**

Next half term (Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2017 to Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July, 2017) school dinners will cost:-

KS2	34 days @ £2.00	£68.00 (£10.00 per week)
Yr 4, 5	33 days @ £2.00	£66.00
Yr 6	32 days @ £2.00	£64.00
Yr 6 going to Lea Manor	31 days @ £2.00	£62.00
Fun Fridays x 7	KS2	£14.00

You can view the School Dinners' menu around the school and on our website ([bramingham.net](http://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**

Squirrels have been closely tracking the changes of the caterpillars, from their tiniest size through to the pupa stage and this week to butterflies they have emerged into. We have written about them, discussed the changes, observed their bodies in ever-changing detail and 'wished them well' as butterflies.

Next term our topic will be 'Food and Farming' so please see every trip to the supermarket as an opportunity for your child to learn more about our food and where it comes from! On that note we will be making two trips next term. The first one is to our local Sainsbury's in June for a morning of learning about food groups. The second trip will be to Dell Farm in July. More details will come out in letters nearer the time for each trip.

Please continue to keep supporting your child in their reading and writing at home. Practising these skills at home makes such a vital difference to a child's achievement and confidence.

*The Early Years Team*

### **Year 1**

Year 1 have enjoyed working on their topic of 'Animals' this half term. A particular highlight was the trip to Whipsnade, please see our class pages for photos of us having fun at the zoo. The children have also worked really hard on preparing for our class assemblies and we hope you enjoyed our performances. We can't believe the children only have one half term left in Year 1 and we will be working hard on preparing them for all the new things they will experience in Year 2.

*Miss Garton, Mrs Bartlett and Mrs Zajac*

### **Year 2**

A big well-done to everybody for working so hard on their SATs - we are proud of you all. To find out what we have been doing this term please look at our web pages. May we draw your attention particularly to the information about PE at the bottom. We still have a number of kits not coming in each week and plenty of unnamed garments going to lost property. Have a great half term, and keep reading!

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

### **Year 3**

This half term, Year 3 have loved learning all about Mrs Pepperpot, an unusual old lady who sometimes shrinks to the size of a pepper pot! Mrs Pepperpot always seems to shrink when she least expects it and at the most unfortunate of times. The children enjoyed retelling the story of Mrs Pepperpot and the Moose and writing their own version of a Mrs Pepperpot story! (Have a look at our Mrs Pepperpot displays to see their work.) Also, the children have designed, made and evaluated their own musical instruments - have a look on the school website to see some pictures!

*Miss Gosling, Mrs Baker and Mrs Kelly*

### **Year 4**

Something extremely peculiar happened in Year 4 this half term...One morning, we arrived in our classroom to find a mysterious rope dangling from the ceiling. The children all speculated as to where the rope had come from and what would happen if we pulled it. The rope acted as a wonderful stimulus for the children to write their own adventure stories. We had children disappearing into the past, to space and even to a haunted house. Come and see our fabulous stories on our 'Dangle' display.

In science, both classes have investigated the use of electricity as well as electrical conductors and insulators. They have created a fair test to see which household objects would act as a conductor. They have also tested circuits to see what would happen if extra components were added.

You can also have a look on the website on our classroom page to see our work!

*Mrs Khinda and Miss Finnerty*

### **Year 5**

Life in Year 5 has been as busy as ever. We have learnt about communication and its huge importance in our lives. As part of this, we have done lots of geography, looking at the languages that are spoken across the world. We were amazed to find out how many different languages there are. Can you believe that there are around 7000? We have also very much enjoyed studying Anthony Browne's 'Voices in the Park' which has been thought-provoking and helped us all to recognise that the same situation can be perceived differently from different points of view, it inspired us to do some amazing writing. Communication through art, in the form of pop art work inspired by great artists such as Andy Warhol and Roy Lichtenstein, has also formed an integral part of our work; and we are all delighted with the pieces of original art produced by the children. These will soon all be on display in our classrooms and you will also be able to view our gallery on the Year 5 class pages of the Bramingham website.

Next half-term's topic will be 'Living, Growing and Change', and will include our trip to Kew Gardens. It promises to be a fascinating topic and an apt way to end a very industrious year please check the website for more information!

We'd like to wish all children and their families and very enjoyable half-term break.

*Mrs Robinson, Miss Fitzgerald and Miss Dougherty*

### **Year 6**

The children in Year 6 are now able to breathe a sigh of relief now their SATs have come and gone! However, a busy term requiring lots of hard work lies ahead of us. Please visit the website and take a look at the Year 6 pages to find out about our fantastic production, information about mini enterprises and more!

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

### **Science Week**

Monday 22nd May marked the start of Bramingham's Science Week. To launch, we had a fun assembly looking at scientific advances through the ages. We found that we couldn't imagine a world without mobile phones, computers and electricity, and much less, a world without the wheel! When discussing how innovations and discoveries are made, we realised that scientists must be good at asking awesome questions. The children were then challenged to think of their own. The quality and range of the questions was impressive. We had some really 'big' questions, and others that were more investigable. Each class was given one of the children's questions to focus on. The children have been busy planning and conducting research and investigations. Each class will present their findings back to the whole school after the

holiday. We can't wait! In addition to this, the children enjoyed a mixed-age workshop on Wednesday afternoon. They explored marvellous magnets, foamy fountains, curious cups of cornflour, cool colour spinners, and much more besides. We all had excellent fun, learned lots, and, of course, made a bit of mess in the process! What a lot of super scientists we have here at Bramingham!

*Miss Fitzgerald*

### **Choir**

Choir have not met many times this half term, due to a few Bank Holiday Mondays (not that we're complaining!). When we have met, we have been learning some new songs ready for Singing Spectacular in June and we are lucky enough to be singing some songs we already know too! Lyrics have been sent home with the children, so they can practice even more at home.

*Miss Fitzgerald and Miss Gosling*

### **Rediscovered Project**

Over the past few weeks, fourteen Year 6 children have been involved in a project named 'Rediscovered' which was organised by Next Generation Youth Theatre (NGYT) in collaboration with Wardown House Museum and Gallery. The museum has undergone extensive refurbishment this year and will be reopening at the end of May. To celebrate its reopening, Luton Culture worked alongside NGYT to put on a series of performances in which members of the public could watch, listen to and imagine stories from the museum's past. The performance day was last weekend and all of the children made me very proud. The piece they performed was inspired by Wardown House Museum's use as a shelter during World War I. The children were brilliant and were a real credit to Bramingham. They performed twelve times in total, with each performance to a new audience touring the newly-refurbished museum. Hannah Kelly, an ex-pupil and leader of the project with NGYT, was amazed by the talent of our pupils and informed us that many members of the community commented on how fantastic they were. A huge well done to Amin Rodrigues, Joshua Daly, Jeremy Barfour, Adam Upperton, Kamran Qadeer, Rahim Souiri, Faizah Suleman, Elsie Oware, Anaya Richards, Melissa Brako, Jessica Murphy, Maddison McArthur, Chloe Yeatman and Zaira Ahmad!

*Miss Smith*

### **Family Workers**

Just a few bits from us before we break up for half term.

**Toddler Time**-Stay and Play for pre-school children. Every Monday in the Family room 9.00am-10.15am.

**Meeting Needs coffee mornings/afternoons**- For parents of children with physical, medical, additional or Special Educational Needs. Last dates for this academic year are:

Wednesday 14th June @ **2.00pm-3.20pm**

Wednesday 19th July @ **9.00am-10.45am**

### **Dressing up box**

We would like to set up a dressing up box in the Family room. We would love donations of dressing up outfits for both boys and girls. Please could they be in clean and useable order. If you have any outfits you can donate please drop into the Family Room or the Office.

### **Year 6 Parents**

We have had passed to us a couple of items of nearly new Lea Manor uniforms. We have one boy's blazer chest size 32", one girl's blazer also chest size 32" and one pair of sports shorts XS waist 30". They are all in very condition and as new. If you would be interested please contact us on 617500 or via email. If there is huge demand we will have to pick names from a hat to ensure fairness.

We hope you have a safe and enjoyable half term and look forward to seeing you on your return for the last few weeks of the academic year.

*Miss Legg and Mrs Altaf*

### **School Council**

This half term has been a relatively quiet one for School Council. We helped to collect a range of items for different charities. Thank you for any donations you made. We have lots planned for the final half term of this year, so keep your eyes peeled for the green letters!

*Miss Finnerty and School Council*

### **Sport Results/News**

We are always very busy taking part in competitions and tournaments, we constantly update the website so look out for our latest results!

Well done to all those taking part!

*Mr Wyatt and Mr Bavington*

### **'Emily' – our old school minibus**

You may have noticed that our old minibus 'Emily' is back and it looks like new! It has a strong engine but its sub frame needed a lot of work. Many repairs to the body had to be carried out to make it road worthy, windows seals and glass needed replacing – this was not an easy job. The minibus was a W registration so parts had to be custom-cut as well as being re-sprayed, etc. Surprisingly, and despite encountering many additional difficulties, Camford Car Care in Sundon Park charged us what they had originally quoted us, which was extremely reasonable! We would like to thank Chris Larkin and his team for an excellent job and for their dedication and care. They have proved themselves to be a very reliable company, and well worth every penny! Thank you too for previous donations to our mini-bus fund which has meant we still have 2 excellent minibuses!

## **REMINDERS**

### **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.

### **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 or go on the mini roundabout and climbing frames at the end of the school day. This can be dangerous (we have had incidents in the past including a parent being hit by a ball and also a baby's pushchair). 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***

#### **Summer Term 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.*

➤ **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

➤ 30.06.17

➤ 06.07.17

➤ 10.07.17

➤ 11.07.17

➤ 17.07.17

➤ 21.07.17

➤ **21.07.17**

### **Half Term Week**

Yr 2 Residential trip

Yr 5 visit Kew Gardens

### **School closure/training day**

Sports Day

Yr 6 Transition Day 1 – all high schools (inc. LMHS)

Yr 6 Transition Day 2 - LMHS only

Singing Spectacular

Yr 4 visit Brighton

EY visit Dell Farm

EY visit Dell Farm

Yr 6 Go Bowling

Leavers' Assembly

### **Last day of term**