

Blossomfield Infant & Nursery School

AUTUMN NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2018

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Dear Parents & Carers

Welcome back to the new school year. We hope you have all had a happy and relaxing summer and that the children are ready for a busy and exciting term. We would like to give a special welcome to any families who are new to Blossomfield. We hope you will soon feel at home but please ask if you have any questions or need any help.

This first Newsletter has a lot of information so please note any dates on your calendar/diary. We know you won't want to miss anything! We will send out additional information about some events nearer the time but for others, this will be the only notification. All letters are e-mailed to parents and are also posted on the school website so no need to miss out. Watch out for weekly year group newsletters that give information about what is happening each week in your child's class.



Blossomfield Infant & Nursery School has a new website. The website is now up and running but our administrator needs to check that the transfer of information has been successful and that the content is current and accurate. We will be running our old website alongside the new one until half term when the old website will be discarded. Our new website address is;
www.blossomfield.solihull.sch.uk

Open Morning

Thursday 15th November



This is an opportunity for new and current parents to visit and be shown around. If you know anyone who would like a Nursery place or who has a child due to start Nursery/Reception next September, please invite them to come.

We look forward to seeing you.

School will be open 9.15am - 11.15am

Staffing News

Welcome to new members of staff in school. Mrs Coleman is teaching Year 2 Ash Class. Mrs Mace has returned from maternity leave and will be teaching Birch class with Mrs Hazel. Miss Ricketts is now a full time teaching assistant in Nursery. Mrs Webb and Miss Doyle are teaching assistants who will be supporting teachers across school. Sarah Playford, Tricia Walker and Alice Wigley are joining Blossomfield Childcare as a playworkers.

VALUES

You will find Blossomfield's School Values at the end of this newsletter. Our Values are displayed within school and are regularly shared with the children. The commitment of children, parents, staff and Governors to keep these values makes Blossomfield a happy and successful school.

Welcome to Year Group meetings

These meetings are an opportunity to meet the staff and to hear about the curriculum and systems in each year group. The meetings last

Important
DATE!

for an hour. In Yr2 there will be information about end of year assessments, learning the recorder and the Dunfield visit which we hope to be chosen for this year. Please try to attend as I'm sure you'll find it useful.

Dates for Welcome Meetings:

Reception - Tuesday 11th September - 6 - 7pm

Yr1 - Thursday 13th September - 6 - 7pm

Yr2 - Thursday 20th September - 6 - 7pm

Nursery - Thursday 27th September - 6 - 7pm



Playground Reminder

Thank you for your co-operation in ensuring that children do not ride bikes or scooters on the playground at the beginning or end of the day. Bikes and scooters should be dismounted on entering the school site and pushed to the storage provided. At the end of the day please ask your child not to mount their bike/scooter until they have left the school site. This is to ensure the Health and Safety of other people on the playground.

Please note that there is additional, lit, storage next to the Blossomfield Childcare entrance.

All bikes and scooters should be named and are left at the owner's risk.



Harvest Festival

Our Harvest Festival will be on Thursday 11th October. Once again we will be inviting residents of a local retirement home and we will post pictures on the website.

This year we would be very grateful for donations of non-perishable foodstuffs such as tinned foods, tea and coffee. Donations will be divided between two charities.

Mildenhall House is a semi supported scheme for young homeless people in the centre of Solihull. The aim of the service is to support young people to gain opportunities, experience and skills to enable them to prepare for independent living.

Crossroads is a charity which provides soup, sandwiches, a hot drink and clothing for homeless people in the centre of Birmingham twice weekly and has done for over 20 years. Our Deputy Head Katy Morrison often helps, making the soup and sandwiches and then serving it to around 80 very grateful men, women and children in a central Birmingham location. Any donations, big or small, of tea, coffee, sugar, powdered milk, pasta, soup, tinned vegetables, meat or fish would be appreciated. If you would like to know more about Crossroads please speak to Katy Morrison.

Donations can be sent into school in the week beginning 8th October



Parental Partnership

This group consists of representative parents from each class. The first meeting of the year is on Friday 12th October at 9am. The group discusses issues related to school, feedback on events and generally contributes to school/home dialogue. The meetings are very informal and if you would like to attend, please come along. If you cannot come along but have something that you would like raised at the next meeting, please put it in writing and hand in to the office or send an email to the office. Once we have a list of representatives, you will be able to ask them to bring your questions to the meeting. We look forward to seeing you.

Parking

We respectfully request that parents park considerately, and legally, outside school. Please park on one side of Lawnswood Avenue, as parking on both sides restricts access for buses. Please also refrain from making 'U' turns at the junction of Eastcote Close with Lawnswood Avenue, as this practice is hazardous.



Absence from school

If your child is away from school, please remember to notify us on the **first day** of absence. A quick phone call to the school office is all we need. (0121 744 5522)

Leave of Absence must be requested by completing a form which is available from the office and submitting it at least **10 school working days** before the date of the request. In line with Government Policy, leave of absence will only be granted in **EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES**.

Parent Consultations

We will be holding our first parent consultations on;

Thursday 18th October between 5pm and 7pm

Tuesday 23rd October between 5pm and 7pm

Thursday 25th October between 4pm and 6pm.

This is an opportunity for you to talk to your child's teacher about how they have settled into their classes. Appointment will be booked online and we will send out more details of how to do this nearer the time.

Family Workshops

We invite a Parent, Carer or Grandparent to come into school once a term to work alongside teachers for the benefit of the children. During each session we aim to share a teaching skill which can be used at home in order to continue the learning for the rest of the half term. We believe that this managed approach, which sees parents as one to one expert tutors, has a very positive effect on outcomes for children. It is also an opportunity to spend quality time with your child. The dates and times of sessions are detailed in the autumn term dates sheet below.



We may be able to offer free childcare for younger siblings during family workshops for your child's session. If this is a service that you would use please let Jade Page or Amy O'Callaghan know. You can contact them by telephone; 0779 958 2256 or email; childcare@blossomfield.solihull.sch.uk

You will receive more information about your child's workshop nearer the date.

Blossomfield Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

Blossomfield PTA is a group of friendly parents and teachers who do an excellent job of organising events that raise funds for school. All funds raised are used to enrich the educational experience for the children at Blossomfield. If you have a child in school then you automatically become a member.

We desperately need new members to join our PTA as we lost many key members when their children moved on to Junior School at the end of the last academic year.

If you would like to take an active role in supporting the PTA please come along to their meetings which are held at 7pm in the evening. **The PTA Annual General Meeting will take place at 7pm on Wednesday 19th September.**

Community Family Mentor

Yvonne Cooper is a qualified counsellor and she is Blossomfield's Family Support Worker. She is experienced in supporting families who need advice with regard to their children or other family circumstances. Yvonne is available for consultations on Tuesdays and Wednesdays or by appointment at other times. She offers a confidential service and can signpost families to a range of support services. Yvonne also co-ordinates our Charity Events calendar in school. Yvonne can be contacted through the office.



MacMillan Coffee Morning

Friday 28th September 9 - 10am

The PTA would like to invite you to join us for coffee, to raise money for MacMillan Cancer Support. We would welcome donations of cakes or biscuits that we can sell on the day to raise funds for this good cause.

AUTUMN TERM PROVISIONAL DATES

Please note these dates for your diary. Look out for more dates in weekly class newsletters and on the website. If dates need to be changed due to unforeseen circumstances parents will be informed in class weekly newsletters and on the website 'stop press' line on the home page.

11 Sept	Reception welcome meeting - 6-7pm
13 Sept	Yr1 welcome meeting - 6-7pm
19 Sept	PTA AGM- 7pm
20 Sept	Yr2 welcome meeting - 6-7pm
27 Sept	Nursery welcome meeting - 6-7pm
28 Sept Charity Event	PTA MacMillan Big Coffee Morning - 9 - 10am
2 Oct	Photographer in school for individual photographs
8 Oct	Year 2 Weston Park Trip (details to follow)
9 Oct	Year 2 Weston Park Trip (details to follow)
9 Oct	Nursery Family Workshop - Personal, Social & Emotional Development Acorns 9 - 10am - Conkers 2 - 3pm
10 Oct	Reception Family Workshop Phonics & Reading 9 - 10am Birch Class (All children) Maple Class (surnames A-K inc.) Personal Invitation to follow
11 Oct	Reception Family Workshop Phonics & Reading 9 - 10am Holly Class (All children) Maple Class (surnames L-Z inc.) Personal Invitation to follow
12 Oct	Parent Partnership - 9am
18 Oct	Parental Consultations for all classes 5-7pm
19 Oct	PTA Halloween Disco - details to follow
23 Oct	Parental Consultations for all classes 5-7pm
25 Oct	Parental Consultations for all classes 4 - 6pm
29 Oct- 2 Nov	HALF TERM HOLIDAY School Closed TREE HOUSE KID'S CLUB OPEN

7 Nov	PTA Meeting - Planning Christmas Fayre
8 Nov	Year 2 Family Workshop Writing 9 - 10am Oak (All children) Rowan Class (surnames A-K inc.) Personal Invitation to follow
9 Nov	Year 2 Family Workshop Writing 9 - 10am Ash (All children) Rowan Class (surnames L-Z inc.) Personal Invitation to follow
13 Nov	Year 1 Family Workshop Phonics 9 - 10am Elm Class (All children) Willow Class (surnames A-K inc.) Personal Invitation to follow
14 Nov	Year 1 Family Workshop 9 - 10am Phonics 9 - 10am Hazel Class (All children) Willow Class (surnames L-Z inc.) Personal Invitation to follow
15 Nov	OPEN MORNING 9.15-11.15am
16 Nov	Children in Need (letter to follow)
30 Nov	Christmas Fair 6 - 7.30pm
30 Nov	Y1 St James trip - 'Journey to the stable'
7 Dec	Parent Partnership 9 - 10am
17 Dec	Y1 Carol Concert 9.15 - 10am
17 Dec	Reception Christmas Play 2 - 2.30pm
18 Dec	Reception Christmas Play 10 - 10.30am
18 Dec	Y2 Christmas Play 2 - 3pm
19 Dec	Y2 Christmas Play 9.30 - 10.30am
19 Dec	Y1 Carol Concert 2 - 2.45pm
20 Dec	Morning Nursery Noel 11.00 - 11.30am
20 Dec	Afternoon Nursery Noel - 2.30 - 3pm
21 Dec	Christmas Party Day
21 Dec	AUTUMN TERM ENDS
7 Jan 2018	SPRING TERM STARTS (INSET DAY) children return on 8 January 2018

Dates for the Academic Year 2018-2019

Autumn Term 2018

Starts: Monday 3 September 2018

Half Term: Monday 29 October 2018 to

Friday 02 November 2018

Ends: Friday 21 December 2018

Spring Term 2019

Starts: Monday 7 January 2019

Half Term: Monday 18 February 2019 to

Friday 22 February 2019

Ends: Friday 12 April 2019

Summer Term 2019

Starts: Monday 29 April 2019

(May Day: Monday 6 May 2019)

Half Term: Monday 27 May 2019 to Friday

31 May 2019

Ends: Monday 22 July 2019

INSET DAYS 2018-2019

Monday 3rd September

Friday 26th October

Monday 7th January

Thursday 2nd May

Monday 22nd July

Blossom at Blossomfield
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Our Values



At Blossomfield

- We are happy and feel safe
- We are all different, we are all equal, we are all special
- We want to be healthy and active
- We care for each other and the grown-ups care for us
- We look after our world, near and far, so it can look after us
- We learn to make good choices for ourselves and others
- We have fun learning together even when it's hard
- We achieve the best we can

*Children, Parents, Governors and
Staff worked together
to produce our school values*