

Bishop Road Primary School

Bishop Road, Bristol BS7 8LS



Head Teacher: Gillian Powe

Deputy Head Teacher: Joe Emissah

30th November 2021

Dear Parents / Carers,

Update Letter

Covid guidance

This week the government have revised their guidance to schools, recommending the temporary reintroduction of face coverings for school staff and visitors when moving around communal areas inside school buildings. The guidance states 'face coverings do not need to be worn when outdoors'. We have reissued guidance to all staff about the key measures that should be taken to reduce the risk of transmission. Staff continue to undertake twice weekly testing and are reinforcing hand washing and sanitisation whilst also ensuring ventilation of the classroom. Teachers have been asked to ensure they open windows and doors between lessons at break and lunchtimes, as they are unlikely to be able to have many windows open with children in lessons at this time of year.

Where we have been informed of rising numbers in classes, we have taken advice and limited assemblies for children in specific year groups until the Christmas break.

Since September, it remains the case that close contacts in schools are now identified by NHS Test and Trace and education settings are not expected to undertake contact tracing. As with positive cases in any other setting, NHS Test and Trace will work with the positive case and/or their parent/carer to identify close contacts.

All individuals who have been identified as a close contact of a suspected or confirmed case of the Omicron variant of COVID-19, irrespective of vaccination status and age, will be contacted directly, required to self-isolate immediately and asked to book a PCR test. They will be informed by the local health protection team or NHS Test and Trace if they fall into this category and provided with details about self-isolation. Please continue to follow the [government advice](#) on isolation to ensure you are doing all that you can.

When calling in to report any Covid-related absence, please include the day your child is able to return to school following their isolation, to save the office calling to request this.

We will continue to update you of any further changes.



Around school

Last week children from across the school participated in Anti-Bullying Week, the theme this year being the power of our words to build others up and break the negative cycle of bullying. Children across the school got involved in a range of activities promoting awareness of bullying, both overt bullying as well as more subtle forms. Children have been encouraged to recognise when it is happening to either themselves or others and to let trusted adults know.

Year 5 have been busy with a visit from Helenka Stachera, author of 'The Ice Whisperers' who talked about her latest novel and the inspiration behind it. They will also be learning about the Jewish Chanukah celebrations during our assembly this week and a visitor will join us to tell the children about the story of the Chanukah and how it is celebrated.

As we move into the festive season, Year 3 took part in a workshop about the Christmas story run by Encounter Christianity. The children enjoyed a range of activities including code breakers, discussions and a visit from King Herod.

Recently we took a group of KS2 children, many of whom had never competed for the school before, to an indoor athletics competition. They did very well despite tough competition! We also won one match and lost one match this week in the North Bristol football league. The footballers were very cheerful despite almost freezing conditions.

This term, the children across the school will delve into the community of Guangzhou, China, one of Bristol's twin cities. 'The Bristol Twin City Project,' aims to broaden the children's understanding of a city and culture far from home. Across the school, classes will be exploring the traditions and celebrations of Chinese Culture through a range of practical lessons and workshops in the lead up to the celebration of Chinese New Year in February.

We launched our skip-a-thon fundraising activity this week to raise money for UNICEF and Penny Brohn UK. Our challenge is for every child to skip continuously for 10 minutes during their PE Lessons throughout this week. Please bring any funds raised into school by Monday December 14th in cash or cheque form (payable to BISHOP Road Primary School).

Christmas Jumper Day

Just a reminder that our Christmas Dinner will be served on Wednesday 8th December to all children who have booked, but *all children* are invited to wear something festive, whether a homemade hat/hair band or a Christmas jumper to celebrate the day.

Bags of Kindness

The local B&A church are once again undertaking their Bags of Kindness at Christmas project in which they deliver bags containing Christmas goodies, some basic food and a gift for children. If this is something that would benefit your family, please complete this web form by 9am Thursday 2nd December, indicating the ages and gender of your children [this web form](#)



Lost Property

On Friday this week, un-named items/knitwear left in school last academic year will be available in the Grant playground to sift-through, in the hope that we can re-unite these with those who have lost items. After this, we will be donating the remainder to the PTFA to re-sell.

Musical Lessons

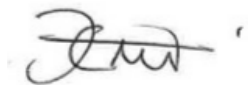
The Bristol Beacon Music Hub are offering instrumental and vocal lessons after school from January, to children in years 4, 5 and 6. Lessons will be offered in small groups for 30 minutes each week. Fees will be payable direct to Bristol Beacon once a class is allocated. Those eligible for Pupil Premium will receive a reduction to this fee. For more information, please follow the link to the letter outlining the offer [Musical Offer Letter Nov2021](#) and separately here, the letter detailing the registration process [Registering for Music with Bristol Beacon](#)

Last Day of Term 2

Reminder that Friday 17th December is an INSET Day and therefore the last day of term for children will be Thursday 16th December.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,



Joe Emissah
Deputy Head

