

5th October 2009

Dear Parent / Carer,

We have had a great start to the term and the Autumn Term is now into full swing. There are a few items I would like to draw your attention to, in addition to the calendar that was recently sent to you. Further events may be added in due course and we will endeavour to keep you up to date. Don't forget that our calendar is always on our school website along with other information. www.bushfieldschool.net

The Radcliffe

We would like to pass on our congratulations to the Radcliffe School who are celebrating some very good exam results, building further on the progress made last year.

Here are the headlines from the latest Radcliffe newsletter:

'For the third year in succession, school records were broken, with the proportion of students achieving 5 x A-C rising dramatically from 51% last year to 76% with 40.6% of our students gaining five A*-C including English and Maths. Subject areas including Art, Performance and Sport all achieved 100% A*-C grades.'*

Transition went very smoothly for our Year 6 children moving up to their new school. We have already had very positive feedback from both pupils and parents about how well our pupils have settled in at The Radcliffe and many have already paid us a visit to tell us how well they are doing.

Halloween Party

We have decided to have a bit of a Halloween party on Thursday 22nd October, 5:30pm – 7pm. Children are asked to come in fancy dress, there will be prizes for the best costume, and we will be having a pumpkin competition! Children are invited to make Halloween pumpkins (or any other vegetable) into lanterns. They can then bring these with them to the party and they will be judged on the night.

There is a small charge of £2 per child payable on entry, which will include food and a disco.

Harvest Assembly

As usual we will be celebrating Harvest in an assembly together on Friday 9th October, 2.30pm with Rev Jeremy Trigg. We would be grateful for harvest donations which we will donate to 'The Ark' charity which supports our local teenagers in Wolverton. If you have fresh goods or fruit / vegetables to donate, please leave it until Friday to bring them in. Thank you.

Security Fencing

Thank you for the positive feedback we have had about our new fencing which has been motivated by safety issues. It is not invincible but we now have a good physical barrier to prevent children running into the car park and, also, to stop anyone just wandering in.

Please can I remind all parents and carers that registration is at 8.45 am in class and gates will be closed: anyone arriving late must enter via our main reception.

Parent Information Lunchbox reminder

We will always try to support parents / carers as much as possible; however, there are many other outside agencies, networks and support groups that can offer additional, objective advice and information about a wide range of issues that affect parents, children and families.

In our reception area there is a Parent Information Lunchbox that gives information about these supporting groups and how to contact them. Feel free to browse through this and ask staff if you have any questions.

Milton Keynes Music Service

Music continues to feature strongly at Bushfield with many peripatetic lessons taking place both during the school day and out of curriculum time. The Milton Keynes Music Service is able to offer extra curricular tuition in many instruments, please follow this link to their webpage <http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/music%5Fservice/DisplayArticle.asp?ID=13107>

Just to remind you, also, that we operate a waiting list for peripatetic music lessons, so please let us know (by contacting the office) if you are interested in your child taking up music lessons.

Parent Mail

Thank you to all parents who have signed up for Parentmail. It is proving very popular and hopefully will help save the mountain of paper we use each year! Please remember to check your emails regularly for information and update us of any changes in your contact details. If you have not yet signed up and are able to receive email updates please pop into the office and we will give you a form.

Uniform

The children are looking very smart in this new term in their uniform. Can I say a big thank you to everyone for your continued support with this: it definitely contributes to team spirit and positive attitude. Believe it or not we already have a large amount of lost property! Please help us by naming all your child's belongings so that they can be easily returned to you.

Can I ask that as the weather gets colder that any tights / socks worn remain in neutral school colours as stated in our policy (rather than pink / stripes / fluorescents etc which detract from the uniform!).

Parent helpers

I am becoming increasingly aware of the wider talents within our local community!

Do you know any willing volunteers who would like to

- Help develop our Bushfield Secret Garden?
- Help out on school trips?
- Hear children read regularly?
- Support at an extra-curricular club?

If you have any spare time and would like to offer then please get in touch with us.

Anyway that is all for now; please keep in touch with us about how things are for you and your children. I very much value your feedback on how well we are doing: please help us to get it right.

Best wishes,

Andrea Curtis

Head teacher