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NEWSLETTER 6

8 January 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

Firstly, welcome back to everyone! We hope you all enjoyed the Christmas break. Please take the time to read this newsletter which contains some important information.

Can we take this opportunity to remind parents that for health and safety reasons, all families should enter and leave the classrooms by the outside door. This includes adults with pushchairs which should not be in the corridors because of congestion. Thank you.

FRIDAY FEASTS

The dates for the Friday Feasts this half term are:

- Friday 22 January - Classes 1/1 and 1/2 (Miss Lawes and Miss Richards)
- Friday 5 February - Classes 1/3, 1/4 and 1/5 (Miss Shields, Mr Webber and Mrs Ward/Mrs Bates)

This is an opportunity for parents and carers to come along for a cup of tea and a chat with other parents in our canteen "The Bowhill Diner". There will be colouring for pre-school children and cakes for sale and any money raised will be given to the classes to spend. Second hand school uniform is also often available.

CLASS ASSEMBLIES

- Friday 22 January - Class 3/4 – Mrs Price
- Friday 5 February - Class 3/4 – Ms Cashmore

Parents are welcome to attend their child’s class assembly. Please arrive no later than 2.45 p.m. It is absolutely wonderful to see so many family members coming to see our class assemblies throughout the year. The adults and children work REALLY hard to put on a lovely performance for everyone to enjoy. In order to make these occasions even more special, please would everyone remember to switch their mobile phones off during the assembly and to make sure that younger siblings watch quietly and without running around so that the performance can be clearly heard all over the hall. Thank you very much.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

A proportion of the funding we receive from Government is based on the number of pupils eligible for Free School Meals (as opposed to Universal Free School Meals which is available to all children in Foundation and Key Stage 1). Your child is entitled to Free School Meals if you receive any of the following:

➤ Income Support (IS)	➤ Guaranteed element of the State Pension Credit
➤ Income based and contribution based Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) or Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) on an equal basis	➤ Child Tax Credit without Working Tax Credit (WTC) and annual income below £16,190 a year
➤ Income-based Jobseeker’s Allowance (IBJSA)	➤ Entitled to Working Tax Credit run-on (for a further four weeks after no longer qualifying for WTC)
➤ Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (IRESA)	➤ Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

By registering for free school meals you will be helping the funding of your child’s school. Information will be gathered nationally from schools on **Thursday 21 January**, so if you think your family may be eligible please register before that date **EVEN IF YOUR CHILD IS IN RECEPTION OR KEY STAGE ONE**. You will be helping enormously – funding is used to subsidise, for example, theatre visits, music lessons and additional school support. A form is available from the School Office.

APPLICATION FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL PLACES SEPTEMBER 2016 – CLOSING DATE : 15 JANUARY 2016

Please note that the closing date for applications for a primary school place for children born between 1 September 2011 and 31 August 2012 is Friday 15 January 2016. It is vital that applications are received by the Devon County Admissions Team on time as those received after 15 January 2016 will be regarded as late and, where schools are oversubscribed, will be disadvantaged. Parents can submit applications on-line via www.devon.gov.uk/schools/admissions or forms are available from the School Office.

PLAYGROUNDS AT THE END OF THE DAY

Can we remind everyone that at the end of the day children are the responsibility of the adult they are with. Any children on the adventure playground should be adequately supervised and no children should be playing ball or other games in the playgrounds on their way out of school.

YEAR SIX SATS WEEK

A reminder to Year 6 parents that the week beginning Monday 9 May 2016 will be SATS week.

LONDON RESIDENTIAL 2016

The next instalment for this residential is due by 22 January. If you have not paid the instalment which was due in November could you please ensure this is paid as soon as possible.

BOWHILL RUNNING CLUB

Well done to everyone who took part in Bowhill Running Club – we have had a fantastic term of running! The running club will be starting back on Tuesday next week – 12 January – meeting at 9.15 a.m. in the canteen - please come and join us, new members are always welcome!

FRIENDS OF BOWHILL CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

We are thrilled to say that the Christmas Raffle raised an amazing £474! Well done to everyone involved and thank you all for supporting the raffle either by buying tickets or donating goodies for the hampers. A special thank you to the Friends of Bowhill who work so hard to ensure the Raffle is so successful.

Enjoy your weekend,

Miss C Brooks
Headteacher