



Bevendean Primary School

Heath Hill Avenue, Brighton, BN2 4JP

T: 01273 681292

F: 01273 622334

E: admin@bevendean.brighton-hove.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mr Martyn Giddens

Deputy Headteacher: Mr Mark Dally

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back!! The 2017-2018 academic year has started. It was lovely to see all the children back at school on Monday 4th September 2017; especially lovely to see last year's Year 2 children making their way confidently to their new Year 3 Classroom. Having spoken with children, teachers and support staff throughout the past few days; it is very clear that everyone has settled extremely well into the school for the start of the new academic year.

We would like to welcome all new children to our school.

New Staff

We would also like to welcome the new members of staff to our school, firstly, Miss Giles and Mr Smith who are teaching in Year 3 & 4 respectively and Mrs Hindle who is teaching in the Launch Pad. Mr Ertan and Miss Botting join us as Mid-Day Supervisory Assistants. We welcome Mrs Cohen, who was previously an M.D.S.A, but has been successful in obtaining a teaching assistant position at the school, working in Reception. Mrs Hammond, our newly appointed School Business Manager has already started and is enjoying her new role. Mr Crampton started on Monday 4th September as our new School Premises Manager. Please join us in welcoming our new staff, we know that they will make a big impression on the school as their predecessors did.

Meeting with Parents

All teachers will be out in the playground at 8.50am each morning (5 minutes before the whistle) and are also available at the end of the day to speak with parents/carers. Please use this time to introduce yourself to your child's class teacher.

Open Classes & Parent Sessions

We are providing an opportunity for parents/carers to meet teachers and hear about what your child will be learning at school this term: Year 1 & 2: Monday 11th September 3.10pm - 3.40pm and Year 3 - 6: Tuesday 12th September 3.15pm - 3.45pm. Our first Parent Sessions (with an English focus) are Tuesday 26th September 9.00am - 9.30am for Reception - Year 2; and Year 3 - 6, Thursday 28th September, 9.00am - 9.30am. Our School Calendar: all important dates for the year have been entered onto the school's website calendar (<http://bevendean.eschools.co.uk/website/home/>) our 'Calendar of Events' went home earlier on this week.

Martyn Giddens

Headteacher

School Houses

We have updated our Houses for the this academic year with a change to the leader of Palace Pier, welcome to Miss Barnett who replaces Ms Davies as she is now only working 3 days a week.

Thank you Ms Davies for all your input last year. You can read below our newly nominated House Captains and Vice captains, well done to them all and good luck!



Pavilion House

House Leader: Miss Miller
House Captain: Grace Shipton
Vice-Captain: Colby Martin



Palace Pier House

House Leader: Miss Barnett
House Captain: Daisy Kirby
Vice-Captain: Thomas Heath



West Pier House

House Leader: Mr Dally
House Captain: Harley Frost
Vice Captain: Zariye Aslan



i360 House

House Leader: Miss Ingram
House Captain: Joe Cordner
Vice-Captain: Poppy Grainger

After-School Clubs

Please see our website for details about the after-school clubs that are being offered. These are being run by outside providers; please contact them directly in the first instance. The "Schools Out" activities centre is open Monday to Thursdays every week, please see Debbie in the school office to book, or refer to the school website for more details.

Gates, pick up and drop off

The school gates open at 8.45am everyday and stay open until 8.55am. Please ensure that children arrive on time by allowing enough time to get ready in the morning. This enables them to have the best start to the school day. If you are later than 9.00am please come in via the main school office so we can sign your child in.

A reminder, Year 1 & 2 parents/carers need to walk their children into the playground and wait with them until the whistle at 8.55am.

School finishes at 3.10pm for KS1 and at 3.15pm for KS2, with the gates opening at 3.00pm.

No playing on bikes or scooters at the start or end of each school day please.

Uniform

It was lovely to see so many children in beautiful school uniform. If you are unsure of any aspect of school uniform please refer to our school website.

Please make sure your child has their freshly laundered PE Kit every Monday morning; this can stay on their peg throughout the week and be used on the days they do any other sporting activity. Please remember to take them home on a Friday after school.

School Security

The school has recently upgraded all the exterior CCTV cameras. These cameras accurately monitor and record any activity out of school hours. Unfortunately, when the scaffolding was erected during the summer for hall roof works, some children made their way up onto the hall roof and damaged two of the cameras. However, they were clearly recorded doing this. The School's Governors are in the process of reviewing this footage and will be following up as appropriate. If you have any further information that may provide useful to the school and then please contact us.

Learning Mentors / Speaking with a Member of Staff

There will always be a Learning Mentor on the Upper School Gate (Taunton Road entrance) and the Lower School gate each morning. If you have any concerns or questions, then please speak with them as soon as possible. You can make an appointment with one of the school's Learning Mentors: Mrs Soudain, Mrs Verduyn, Miss Pinnell (Monday, Wednesday, Thursday) and Miss McLeod (Tuesday & Friday) at any point throughout the week.

Mrs Soudain is our Senior Learning Mentor, and has worked at Bevendean Primary School for more than 20 years. She understands and appreciates the many complex issues for children when managing the relationships and incidents throughout the course of a school year. Mrs Soudain and her dedicated team are also available for drop-in sessions from 9.00am - 9.30am on a daily basis. Either speak with them at the gate in the morning, or speak with Debbie in the office and she will contact a Mentor to speak with.

Bullying

Bullying does happen from time to time at Bevendean Primary School. However, we are very aware that in the (hubbub/hustle and bustle) of school life there are times when children, with their unique personalities, have 'fallings out'. We encourage our children to report all incidents; each one is taken seriously and investigated fully. We understand that teasing, mean moments and conflicts of any kind can be very upsetting for children but these are very different to bullying. (Bullying is when a child is repeatedly hurt, physically or emotionally even after the bully has been asked to stop).

If your child has been upset by the actions of others, it can be very emotive and therefore easy to jump to the conclusion they have been bullied. When discussing the incident with your child, it may help to use the kind of language they are used to hearing at school. When a pupil has been hurt on purpose, without provocation but it is a 'one off', we refer to it as a 'mean moment'. Teasing is a tricky one because what one child believes to good humoured banter with no malice intended may be perceived by the other child as hurtful. None of these behaviours are acceptable. Following the Restorative Justice method allows us to best support our children to explore their emotions and better understand how their actions can impact on others.

The Learning Mentors will be holding a Coffee Morning on Friday 22nd September at 9.00am to which you are all invited. The purpose of this is to explain our role within the school and we will be happy to discuss issues such as bullying at that time.



Positivity

As a school, both our staff and the members of the wider school community, work extremely hard to reflect a positive image of the school. There may be an occasion, where you might not feel as happy about an incident or something that has taken place. At these times, we insist that you contact us and arrange a time to speak about what has happened. Our School Governors do not condone the use of Social Media as a method of communicating these. This can be extremely damaging for the school, perhaps individual staff and children.

Data Collection Sheets

Every year we send out data collection sheets. These forms are sent home to make sure that we have correct up-to-date information for your child: telephone numbers in case of emergency, and email address for eSchools etc.

Summer Work

Bevendean Primary School has been a very busy place throughout the entire summer period. Bevendean is a successful and popular Brighton Primary School, consequently, we continue to ensure that our infrastructure is maintained for future years. A considerable amount of work has taken place over the summer period:

- Painting and repairing in the school's canteen
- Painting of the exterior windows in the Nursery / Reception / Community Room Block
- Wet Pour replacing the 'blue rubber chips' in the Upper School Playground apparatus area
- Replacement of the Hall Roof
- New carpet in the school's staffroom
- Replacement of the old windows in the school's library! This was a major job, and as well as looking fantastic, the new double glazed windows will ensure that the library is warm and inviting throughout the winter months; and cool during the summer, as all the new windows open!
- Flooding Work: new drainage has been installed to the front of the school which will ensure that the school no longer floods during a heavy downpour.
- All the computers in the school have been upgraded for use by both teachers and children. There are now enough computers in our ICT Suite for all children to work on the computing curriculum independently supported by their adults.

If you would like to know more about the work that has been completed, or have a tour of the school, then please feel free to make an appointment with the Headteacher.

Parking at Drop-off and Pick-Up

Already in the 5 days back at school, parents & carers have contacted us extremely concerned about the unsafe and inappropriate parking. Please **DO NOT PARK** on the footpath and park only in the designated parking areas. The school has received information/photos already and we will be passing this information in to the appropriate authority to follow-up. We have instructed Parking Wardens to complete surprise visits to support the school in keeping our children safe at these very busy times of the school day.

Trips and School Events

You will shortly be receiving a letter which will outline all annual events and activities for your child that may involve a cost. This will ensure that parents/carers can plan ahead by putting money aside; perhaps regularly adding a small amount on to ParentPay to cover the costs etc. We will also include other events such as non-uniform days, fund-raising events etc. We are mindful that these events do add up over the course of the year. As a school, we appreciate that many families do struggle with these additional costs at times.

eSchools

From September 2017, the school will only be emailing out copies of the school's Newsletter. If you DO NOT have internet access, please inform the school and we will ensure that you receive a printed copy of the Newsletter. All school letters are available on the front page of the school's website. From the start of this term, it is essential that all parents/carers have an eSchools login, which ensures that you will receive all schools communication via email. This continues to be our primary mechanism for communicating with parents & carers.

Bevendean Attendance Update

Great news, our attendance finished last year at 95.1%; there is still work to be done but this is a huge improvement from the previous year. Thank you for supporting us in ensuring your children attend school every day and arrive on time.



Congratulations to the following children who achieved 100% attendance for the entire year:

Ava-Rose Foster, Willow Packer, Ceyhun Akyol, Daisy Hill, Ruby Bennett-Boyce, Dylan James-Vaughan, Lana Berry, Amy Philips, Helayna Fern, Ruby-Sue Mann, Hollie Upton, Amy McMahon, Ellie Gardner and Max Cruttenden

We hope you enjoyed your prizes over the holidays.

A special thanks to the following businesses who kindly donated prizes:

Drusillas Park, Fishers Farm, Fort Fun, Jungle Rumble, Laser Zone, Lecca Café, MOD Pizza, Monkey Bizness and Sky High Trampoline.

Please remember to let the school office know by 8.45am if your child is unwell and provide evidence of their absence when they return where possible e.g. an appointment card, medication etc. It is expected that all routine doctor and dentist appointments are made outside of school hours please.

Holidays During Term Time

All holidays in term time must be requested in writing at least 14 days prior to your child's leave of absence. An application form is available at the office, or can be downloaded from the school's website. Please note, in accordance with guidelines from the Local Authority and DfE, holidays in term time are unlikely to be authorised and are subject to a £60 fixed penalty notice per adult, per child. For your information, the fine is levied because your child has been absent from school irrespective of who has booked the holiday.

Attendance Officer

Our attendance officer is Jo Whitmore, she is in school on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8.00am – 1.00pm. Please do not hesitate to contact her should you wish to discuss any concerns you may have in ensuring your child attends school regularly and on time.

School Data 2016 – 2017

At the end of 2016 – 2017 academic year, the Headteacher reported to School Governors, the end of Key Stage results. These will be available on the website soon.

Medical Update



If your child has an Asthma Pump, an EpiPen Pen or needs to take any medication on a regular basis please come and fill out a new medical form at the office. Please check that your child has an up to date pump etc at school.

Remember we are a **nut free school**, so please be mindful when packing your child's lunch or snack and check that there are absolutely no nuts in the ingredients. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.



School Dinners

As I am sure you are aware the school dinners have gone up from £2.10 per meal to £2.20.

All children in Reception Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to Universal Free Schools Meals so please do consult the menu and encourage your child to come along and taste them.

If you think your child may be entitled to Free School Meals (even if you have a child on Universal Free schools) because you are in receipt of one of the following benefits, please come and fill out a form in the school office:

- * Income Support
- * Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- * Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- * Universal Credit
- * Support from the National Asylum Support Service under part 6 of the Immigration & Asylum Act 1999
- * The guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- * Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than £16,190
- * Working Tax Credit run-on

Children registered on Free Schools Meals provide funding for the school which we can then use to boost children's learning. Please note all this information is dealt with confidentially.

ParentPay is set up for payments for school dinners, trips, swimming and breakfast club. If your child would like a drink other than water there is a small charge. All drinks and meals must be paid for in advance. Thank you for keeping an eye on your dinner account on ParentPay so this does not slip into arrears

Old £1 coins

The old £1 coin is being withdrawn from circulation from October so the school will no longer be accepting old coins from now onwards. Thank you.

Fridge News: September

- Monday 11th : Y1 & Y2 Parents' session 3.10pm to 3.40pm (Open Classes)
- Tuesday 12th : Y3 - Y6 Parents' session 3.15pm to 3.45pm (Open Classes)
- Wednesday 13th : All Reception children in
- Monday 18th : All Nursery children in
- Friday 22nd : 9.00am to 10.00am - Coffee Morning in The Rainbow room
- Tuesday 26th : Rec, Y1 & Y2 Parents' Session 9.00am to 9.30am (English)
- Thursday 28th : Y3 to Y6 Parents' Session 9.00am to 9.30am (English)
- Friday 29th - Thursday 5th October (not Wed 4th Oct)
Scholastic Book Fair - 3.15pm to 4.00pm

Fridge News: October

- Thursday 5th : 9.05am - Pupils Harvest Assembly (Donations welcome - dry goods only)
- Wednesday 11th : PHOTOS - 8.00 to 8.45am for families, 9.05am to 2.30pm for individuals
- Wednesday 11th : Y6 Paper applications for Secondary School to office by noon
- Thursday 12th: Year 3 visit from Bigfoot Theatre Company
- Friday 13th : Year 6 Class Assembly - 9.05am to 9.35am

Monday 16th to Friday 27th October

HALF TERM - School Closed

- Monday 30th - Children return to school
- Tuesday 31st - Secondary School Online applications deadline