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Newsletter 1

8<sup>th</sup> September 2017

### Dates for your Diary

Tues 12 <sup>th</sup> September	6G Trip to AIRBUS
Tues 12 <sup>th</sup> September	Y4 Swimming Starts
Tues 12 <sup>th</sup> September	Y1 & Y6 Parent Curriculum Meetings
Wed 13 <sup>th</sup> September	Y2 & Y5 Parent Curriculum Meetings
Thur 14 <sup>th</sup> September	Y3 & Y4 Parent Curriculum Meetings
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> September	Celebration Assembly @ 9.00 am

### Nearly New Uniform Sale

On Monday morning, between 8.30 am & 9.00 am, Mrs Manly & Ms Spindler will be running the first nearly new uniform sale outside the mobile classroom.

All items 50p.

Could we please ask parents/carers to donate any clean, good condition or outgrown PE kit (including plimsolls) to the school.

Many thanks.

### Churches Together Food Bank Dates

Please find below the dates for the food bank at The Baptist Church, Kings Road. It is open between 10.00 am & 11.00 am on: **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> & Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September**

### Parent Curriculum Meetings

Our curriculum meetings for parents/carers will take place during the week beginning Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September.

During these meetings staff will be able to provide information on the curriculum for the forthcoming academic year, as well as other information such as days for PE.

Dates for meetings are as follows:

Year 1 & Year 6 - Tues 12<sup>th</sup> September @ 2.30 pm  
Year 2 & Year 5 - Wed 13<sup>th</sup> September @ 2.30 pm  
Year 3 & Year 4 - Thur 14<sup>th</sup> September @ 2.30 pm

Please come to the school office on your arrival.  
Thank you.

Dear Parents/Carers,

### Headteacher's Message

Welcome back to a new term. I hope that you all enjoyed a lovely summer. This week, I have been hearing about some of the exciting things that our families have been busy doing during the holidays. Pupils have returned to school well-rested, re-energised and ready to learn. School is already buzzing with curiosity, excitement and an enthusiasm to learn.

I am really sorry to hear there has been a lot of frustration and upset about the allocation of places at our after school clubs. It is fantastic that our clubs are so popular but it is not acceptable that the allocation process causes so much anxiety or pressure on the day that places are released. We have reviewed this process and it will change for next term.

Many of you will now have had the chance to say 'hello' to Miss Golding, our new Deputy Headteacher. As part of her role, Miss Golding will be overseeing teaching and learning and will be working with many of your children across the school. She has lots of ideas to help continue to improve the quality of teaching and learning and she has quickly recognised what motivated, enthusiastic and well-behaved pupils we have at Bowmansgreen.

Cockerel cards will now be presented to individual pupils in Friday's celebration assembly and will no longer appear in the weekly newsletter.

As you are aware, at the end of last term we began to review the homework policy. This is so that we can achieve a consistent, whole school approach to homework that supports and consolidates your child's curriculum as well as addresses any gaps in their knowledge. Homework will be set according to the new policy from next week.

I look forward to seeing parents from Year 1 to 6 at next week's curriculum evenings.

## Reminders from the Office

During the day, we are requested to deliver many messages/packages to children which can cause disruption in the class. These can be packed lunches, PE kits or messages informing the teacher that they are going home with a friend, neighbour etc. Please can we ask you to make sure that children have what they need on arrival at school and that any changes to pick up arrangements are given in the morning to the class teacher (with the exception of emergencies, of course). The school office is extremely busy throughout the day and we are concerned that we may not be able to deliver the message/package in time, despite our very best efforts. Thank you.

### Absence from School

Please could we remind parents/carers that you are required to telephone or text the school office on each day of your child/children's absence. This does include absence for religious holidays.

### Medication Reminder

Unfortunately the school office is not allowed to give the children any antibiotics or Calpol/Nurofen during the school day. Parents/carers are more than welcome to come to the school and to give the medicine themselves.

### School Mornings

The classroom and entrance doors are shut promptly at 8.45 am. If your child arrives after 8.45 am at the front entrance they need to come through the School Office. If they arrive at the back entrance please make sure they see the adult on the junior door so that we can be sure they are marked in. The back gate (Library side) is shut promptly at 9.00 am.

### End of Day Arrangements

We would like to remind parents/carers that unless you have filled in the forms for your child to leave school independently the class teacher will only let the children leave if they are being collected by someone over the age of 16. Reception and KS1 finish at 3.00 pm and KS2 finish at 3.05 pm, please ensure your children are collected on time.

### Packed Lunches

Please could we remind you that children should not bring in nuts or nutella sandwiches to school as we have several children in school who have severe allergies.

### Birthdays

Unfortunately the school policy is that we do not allow children to bring in sweets/cakes to their class to celebrate their birthdays. This is because we are a healthy eating school and we also have a lot of children with allergies.

## Breakfast Club News from Mrs Stanley

Welcome back! Hope you all had a lovely break and lots of fun. ☺

Breakfast Club opened at 7.30 am to excited children ready to start the day. We all settled into the routine of choosing our cereal and spreading our toast ready for the beans. "Just Dance" was on Wednesday and the Friday movie was The Good Dinosaur. Some of our new Reception children have already started Breakfast Club, so please come along and enjoy your breakfast with us. Then when you've finished, choose an activity.

Every Friday is 'Special Breakfast', with today being sausages, scrambled egg and beans. For anyone who has not yet tried Breakfast Club we are open every day from 7.30 am. Breakfast consists of a choice of cereals, toast, yogurts and a hot breakfast option eg: porridge, beans on toast or boiled/scrambled eggs with the choice of juice or milk to drink.

Activities include indoor / outdoor sports or games, arts and crafts, puzzle table, reading corner, train set, colouring area, Lego and building, role play animals, dinosaurs and shops.

We offer great value childcare or a club just to start the day off with a healthy breakfast and socialise with your friends. If you need any more information please ask for Mrs Stanley. We look forward to meeting you soon.

Breakfast Club is £3 per child/adult, £2 for siblings and FREE for Pupil Premium children.



## School Gateway App

Please could we ask any parents/carers who do not already have the School Gateway app to download it for free from the app store. The app enables you to pay for school dinners, trips and clubs. Text messages from the school will also appear on the app and are free for the school to send via the app.

If you have any problems downloading the app please see the school office, who will be able to help you.

Thank you.

## Secondary School Open Evenings

All Y6 children will have been sent home with a copy of the "Moving On 2017" leaflet last term. This is the Hertfordshire County Council Guide for applying for secondary and upper schools for 2017/18. All of the information you need is available on the county website [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions). Your application needs to be completed by 31<sup>st</sup> October. Applications that are received after the deadline are less likely to be offered their preferred school choices. If you do not have access to a computer please let the school office know so we can arrange for you to come into school to use a school laptop. Please find below the dates for the Secondary Transfer evenings:

Marlborough - St Albans	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> September	6.00 - 9.00 pm
Loreto College - St Albans	Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> September	6.00 - 9.00 pm
Townsend C of E - St Albans	Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> September	6.00 - 8.45 pm
Samuel Ryder Academy - St Albans	Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> September	6.00 - 9.00 pm
Roundwood Park School - Harpenden	Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> September	5.30 - 8.30 pm
Verulam School - St Albans	Saturday 30 <sup>th</sup> September	9.00 am - 12.00 noon
Parmiter's - Watford	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	4.00 - 8.30 pm
Sir John Lawes - Harpenden	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> October	6.00 - 9.00 pm
Beaumont - St Albans	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> October	5.45 - 8.45 pm
Nicholas Breakspear Catholic - St Albans	Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> October	5.30 - 8.30 pm
STAGS - St Albans	Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> October	6.00 - 9.00 pm

## Early Years News from Ms Robbins

### ***This week***

The children have had a great first week in school and are starting to settle nicely. It was lovely coming to meet the children in their homes and thank you for making us so welcome. This week the children have been adjusting to the rules and routines and familiarising themselves with the resources in the classroom, what they are and where they are kept and how to look after them. We have started to share their 'Bag about me' and will continue to do this next week.

We hope your child has enjoyed their first week in school and I'm sure they will need a rest this weekend as lots of them look very tired today.

### ***Next week***

On Monday morning when you arrive with your child we will have a photograph of them to do their 'self-registration'. They will be in their 'Key worker' groups so will need to look around and find where they are. Group 1 have done very well at lunch this week and will be able to help the children staying next week.

We will be starting our topic of 'People who help us' by walking around school and meeting important adults that help us. We will also be talking about people who help them at home: mum, dads etc.

Have a good weekend.