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Newsletter 15

11th January 2019

Headteacher's Message

Welcome back! I hope that everyone enjoyed a happy and peaceful Christmas holiday.

On Tuesday, all pupils took part in on-line safety workshops. The sessions explored some of the risks and dangers that pupils can face on-line and when using apps and gaming software. Pupils were reminded about how to keep themselves safe in this digital, on-line world. It was evident from the year group workshops that many Bowmansgreen pupils are too trusting and quite naïve when it comes to communicating with on-line 'friends' and we will be following this up throughout the year. Ask your children how many friends or followers they have - you might be shocked!

Teaching pupils about on-line safety is not only part of our school curriculum but also part of the responsibility we share with parents in educating and safeguarding children in today's world. It was disappointing that so few parents were able to attend the parent workshop as there was lots of useful information about what types of apps and games your children and their peers are using and an insight into how they are used, not just by your children but by other users who may be trying to exploit, bully or groom them. On a weekly basis, we see parents who are upset or angry because of an incident that has taken place outside of school, involving messages or content on phones, apps or games. We usually find that at some point somebody has written, sent or seen something unkind or inappropriate. We can also often tell which pupils are clearly spending too much time, often too late at night, on phones, tablets or headsets. It is an increasingly significant issue concerning this generation of children. It is essential that we work closely with parents to ensure pupils are kept safe, including making sure that as the adults, we have the knowledge, skills and understanding to help pupils take responsibility for their on-line, phone or gaming behaviour.

I am delighted to welcome Miss Allison Chivers to Bowmansgreen. Miss Chivers has joined the Y4 teaching team, sharing the newly named 4CG with Mrs Gritz. She is also part of our inclusion team and will be working closely with families; supporting pupils with SEND; and as a Designated Senior Person (DSP) will be a named adult to contact if anyone in our school community has any child protection concerns.

I am sure many of you will have noticed that Mr Rushforth has not been waving 'hello' or 'goodbye' at the school gates recently. Unfortunately, he has been unwell during recent weeks and is currently recovering in hospital. I know that you will join me in wishing Mr Rushforth a speedy recovery and we hope to see him back giving high-fives very soon.

Please could we ask that all pupils have their PE kits at school every day. At Bowmansgreen, we take every opportunity to get pupils active and it is a shame if some pupils cannot take part in PE or fitness sessions if they do not have appropriate clothing or footwear.

Please visit our school website and download the Bowmansgreen app to keep you up to date with school information and events.

Enjoy your weekend.

This Week's Author, Reader & Mathematician of the Week Congratulations to:

Author of the week KS1 Niamh 1W & KS2 Aimee 5CW

Reader of the week KS1 Adam Rec & KS2 Luca 6HW

Mathematician of the week KS1 Robyn 2LC & KS2 Leo 3C



Cleaner Required

We are looking for a school cleaner for up to 10 hours per week term time and approximately 30 hours during the school holidays. Preferred term time working hours are before 8am or after 3.30pm on week days; holiday hours offer some flexibility. Salary £8.50 per hour.

Please contact Rebecca Robertson, School Business Manager for more information.

Early Years News from Miss Minardi

This week

It has been a great first week back at school! We have been recapping all of our sounds and learning the sh, th and ng sounds. Ask your child to teach you the new actions for these sounds using their Jolly Phonics. We have also started our new topic of fairy tales and reading the *Gingerbread Man* and *Hansel and Gretel*. We have been talking about what a fairy tale is. Which fairy tales have you read at home?

In Maths we have been singing lots of counting songs, building towers and practising our 'careful counting.'

Next week

Next week in literacy we will be looking at a range of fairy tale books. Please support your children at home by re-reading any that you have, discussing the characters, story and setting. We will be using story language and making our own story maps based on the story of *Sleeping Beauty*.

In Maths we will be counting backwards from 20 and talking about 1 more and 1 less. Please support your child in singing lots of counting songs!