



# Boughton Leigh Infant School

Newsletter: Friday 20th September 2024

Dear Families,

Welcome to this month's newsletter from BLIS! We are excited to share key updates, important dates, and upcoming events to keep you informed about what's happening in our school community.

In this edition, you'll find essential information on:

**Upcoming Events and Holidays:** Mark your calendars for important dates, including school photos and a Halloween disco. The school website also has events for the remainder of this academic year listed to support advance planning!

**After school clubs:** We have a few clubs that still have some spare spaces. Sign up to get involved.

**Reminders:** Key notices about Free School Meals and eligibility for pupil premium support.

**Parent-Teacher Communication:** Details on upcoming parent-teacher meetings and how to stay connected with your child's progress. Also, a request to update contact information for separated families.

**Fundraising:** We recently shared information about Asda rewards and the school cashpot, a reminder of what you need to do is included. We have also signed up for a recycling scheme called rags 2 riches. If you have any unwanted clothing we have organised a collection date in November. Both schemes will raise much needed funds for school.

As always, we value your partnership in making this a fantastic year of learning and growth for your children. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Warm regards

## Diary Dates

|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| Training Day (School Closed) | Friday 25th October 2024                            |
| Half Term                    | Monday 28th October - Friday 1st November 2024      |
| Christmas Holiday            | Monday 23rd December 2024 - Friday 3rd January 2025 |
| Training Day (School Closed) | Monday 6th January 2025                             |
| First Day of Spring Term     | Tuesday 7th January 2025                            |
| Half Term                    | Monday 17th February - Friday 21st February 2025    |
| Easter Holiday               | Monday 14th April - Friday 25th April 2025          |
| First Day of Summer Term     | Monday 28th April 2025                              |
| Half Term                    | Monday 26th - Friday 30th May 2025                  |
| Last Day of Summer Term      | Thursday 17th July 2025                             |
| Training Day (School Closed) | Friday 18th July and Monday 21st July 2025          |

Mark your calendar



## SCHOOL CLUBS

Our after-school clubs started last week and have already been a big hit with all the children involved.

There are still spaces left on the following clubs if your child/children would like to attend:

- **Chinese Culture Club**  
(Monday - Reception, Year 1 & 2)
- **Tae Kwon Do**  
(Tuesday or Friday - Reception, Year 1 & 2)
- **Cheerleading**  
(Wednesday - Years 1 & 2)
- **Girls Football**  
(Thursday - Years 1 & 2)

Places can be booked via Magic Booking or by contacting the School Office.



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION!

School funding is very tight for all schools and it is crucial for this school that we are able to get our maximum funding in order to be able to maintain the level of staffing/services we currently have.

Please remember that if your circumstances have changed and your child is now entitled to **Free School Meals** (which is different to *Universal Infant Free School Meals*) we can claim the Pupil Premium Grant and offer you support in other ways such as:

**A reduction on the cost of all trips/ experiences, contribution toward the purchase of School Uniform and support to attend clubs**

For more information or to complete your online application please visit:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/education-learning/apply-free-school-meals>

Please also notify the school if your child has a parent in the Armed Forces, your child is adopted or has previously been looked after by the Local Authority as they may also qualify for pupil premium.

Here at Boughton Leigh we recognise that all families are different and that it is also possible for family circumstances to change during your child's journey with us.

In order to support these differences we kindly request that if parents are separated and would like separate communication from school, you inform your class teacher and/or the school office so we can help facilitate this.



Let Us Know!



## FUNDRAISING



# ASDA Rewards

Between **2nd September** and **30th November 2024** – every time you shop with Asda using your Asda Rewards app, Asda will donate 0.5% of the value of your shop to your chosen Primary school. Also, every time somebody opts-in to support our school, Asda will give an additional £1 to the school Cashpot.

**Please download the app, opt-in and select Boughton Leigh Infant School as your chosen school.**

This year we have partnered with Rags2Riches in order to raise additional funds for school.

Rags2Riches collect items including clothing, pairs of shoes and handbags/purses and in return donate funds to school.

Please hold this in mind if you are anticipating a wardrobe clear-out and bring any unwanted clothing items bagged and into school on **Friday 15th November** ready for collection on **Monday 18th November**.



# Calendar of Events

In this newsletter you will find a handy guide to all of our calendar events taking place throughout the Autumn Term.

Further details for some of the events are listed below:



## SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

On **Friday 18th October** we have our individual school photos.

If your child has a sibling who does not attend our school then you are welcome to bring them in at 8:30am to have a photo taken of them together.

**Please make sure your child is dressed in full school uniform.**

## Halloween Disco

On **Tuesday 22nd October** we have our Halloween school disco to celebrate the end of what will have been an amazing first half term. The disco will be for all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.

This is a school fundraising event at a cost of £2.50. Payments can be made via Magic Booking from Tuesday 1st October.



## Harvest Festival

On **Tuesday 8th October** we will be attending Christ Church for our annual Harvest Festival Celebration. Parents are invited to attend with us and help chaperone the children on the walk there and back after the service. If you are able to attend with us please let your child's class teacher know.

This year we will also be continuing with our support of Rugby Foodbank.

If you are able to support, children can hand donations in to their class teacher.

The foodbank **does not** need Baked Beans, Pasta and Cereals as they have had excess donations of these but does need items such as **tinned vegetables, tinned meat, tinned custard, hot chocolate drink and sweet biscuits.**

Thank-you



Parents Evening will be taking place on **Monday 14th and Tuesday 15th October.**

These meetings will be face to face appointments; however, if you are unable to attend a face to face meeting please contact the office who will help make online arrangements for you.

Bookings can be made via Magic Booking from **Friday 20th September.**

We encourage all parents to make an appointment as it is a great opportunity to speak with your child's class teacher about how they have settled into their new school year.



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2024

PARENTS EVENING  
APPOINTMENTS LIVE ON  
MAGICBOOKING

SEPT  
20

OCT  
8

HARVEST FESTIVAL AT  
CHRISTCHURCH

PARENTS EVENING

OCT  
14 & 15

OCT  
18

INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL  
PHOTOS

HALLOWEEN DISCO

OCT  
22

**DEC**  
**9 & 10**

**YEAR 1 CHRISTMAS  
PERFORMANCES**

**YEAR 2 CHRISTMAS  
PERFORMANCES**

**DEC**  
**11**

**DEC**  
**12 & 13**

**RECEPTION CHRISTMAS  
PERFORMANCES**

**CHRISTMAS SERVICE  
AT CHRISTCHURCH**

**DEC**  
**17**

**DEC**  
**17**

**CHRISTMAS DISCO**

**PANTOMIME**

**DEC**  
**20**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT  
[WWW.BOUGHTONLEIGH.CO.UK/](http://WWW.BOUGHTONLEIGH.CO.UK/)**



# Attendance Matters

Every student. Every day.

From the 19<sup>th</sup> August 2024 the Department for Education's guidance [Working Together to Improve School Attendance](#) became statutory. The aim of this Government guidance is to ensure schools, governing bodies and the local authority provide a supportive approach to maintaining high levels of school attendance and improve access and consistency of support.

As a school we aim through our whole-school culture and ethos to value good attendance, including:

- Setting high expectations for the attendance and punctuality of all pupils.
- Promoting good attendance and the benefits of good attendance.
- Reducing absence, including persistent and severe absence.
- Ensuring every pupil has access to the full-time education to which they are entitled.
- Acting early to address patterns of absence.

Building strong relationships with families to make sure pupils have the support in place to attend school. We also promote and support punctuality.

## Daily attendance registers

Attendance is recorded and monitored daily by our school's Attendance Officer Mrs Underhill and the school's Senior Attendance Champion Mrs Gautrey. The school day starts at 8:45am and ends at 3:15. Pupils must arrive by 9:00am. Pupils who arrive in school after 9:00am will be marked as late. Pupils who arrive after 9:30am will be marked as absent for the morning session which will have an affect on their attendance data.

## Unplanned Absence

Parents must notify the school of the reason of the absence on the first day of an unplanned absence by 9:00am, or as soon as practically possible, by calling the school office which can be contacted by 01788 571679.

As a school we will mark absence due to physical or mental illness as authorised, unless the school has genuine concern about the authenticity of the illness. If an illness is to last longer than five days or there are doubts about the authenticity of the illness, we will ask for medical evidence. This can be in the form of a doctors' note, prescription, appointment card or other appropriate forms of evidence. If the school is not satisfied about the authenticity of the illness, the absence will be recorded as unauthorised and parents will be notified of this in advance.

## Planned Absence

We encourage parents to make medical and dental appointments out of school hours where possible. Where this is not possible, the pupil should be out of school for the minimum amount of time necessary. Parents should notify the school in advance of the appointment and provide evidence of the appointment which could be in the form of letter, text message etc.



# Attendance Matters

Every student. Every day.

## Following up unexplained absence

Where any pupil we expect to attend school does not attend, or stops attending, without reason, the school will:

- Call the pupil's parent on the morning of the first day of unexplained absence to ascertain the reason. If the school cannot reach any of the pupil's emergency contacts, the school may conduct a home visit, contact children's services or the police.
- Identify whether the absence is approved or not.
- Call the parent on each day that the absence continues without explanation, to ensure appropriate safeguarding action is taken where necessary. If absence continues, the school will consider involving an education welfare officer.
- Where appropriate, offer support to the pupil and/or their parents to improve attendance.
- Identify whether the pupil needs support from wider partners, as quickly as possible, and make the necessary referrals.
- Where support is not appropriate, not successful, or not engaged with: issue a notice to improve, penalty notice or other legal intervention.

## Penalty notices

A fine can be issued to parents for the unauthorised absence of their child from school, where the child is of compulsory school age, by issuing a penalty notice.

[If the school issues a penalty notice, it will check with the local authority before doing so, and send it a copy of any penalty notice issued.](#)

Before issuing a penalty notice, the school will consider the individual case, including:

- Whether the national threshold for considering a penalty notice has been met (10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a rolling period of 10 school weeks).
- Whether a penalty notice is the best available tool to improve attendance for that pupil.
- Whether further support, a notice to improve or another legal intervention would be a more appropriate solution.
- Whether any obligations that the school has under the Equality Act 2010 make issuing a penalty notice inappropriate.

A penalty notice may also be issued where parents allow their child to be present in a public place during school hours without reasonable justification, during the first 5 days of a suspension or [exclusion \(where the school has notified the parents that the pupil must not be present in a public place on that day\).](#)

Penalty notices can be issued up to three times with the first fine starting from £80, to over £160 for further penalty notices.

Our attendance policy can be accessed in full via this [link](#) on our website.

Every school day matters and we appreciate your support in our continuous strive to improve attendance and punctuality. If you have concerns or queries about attendance please contact the school office via the email address [admin2598@welearn365.com](mailto:admin2598@welearn365.com) and a member of the attendance team will be able to help you.