

Newsletter 1

Monday 12th September 2022

Queen Elizabeth II

We were very sad to have heard of Her Majesty The Queen Elizabeth's death last week. We have a book of condolence available at the school office for anyone to sign. School will be shut on Monday 19th September as a mark of respect so as a community we can commemorate with the nation.

Welcome back everyone after the summer break

The children have quickly settled back into their routines and it has been great to see their enthusiasm in returning over the last week. We all look forward to an exciting, busy and productive year, teaching and learning with your children and working in partnership with all of our families.

I would like to take this opportunity of extending a warm welcome to all parents and children who are new to the school. As always if, during the course of the year, you have any concerns about your child, please do not hesitate to contact school or your child's class teacher via Class Dojo.

Meet and greet

We want to continue with the calm start to each school day so parents will only be allowed into the school building with a pre-planned appointment. Teachers will continue to meet the children in the playground before heading into class. We will however be introducing a 'meet and greet' session each term whereby all the classrooms will be open and you can come and view your children's books and meet your child's class teacher in an informal context at the end of the day. The first session will be:

- Explore Phase (Early Years/Year 1): Thursday 22nd September at 3:30pm
- Aspire (Year 2/3 Classes): Thursday 15th September at 3:30pm – Please note **Bonetta** class will be on Wednesday 14th September at 3.30 p.m.
- Achieve (Year 4/5/6 Classes): Friday 16th September at 3:30pm

A member of the senior leadership team will also be available each morning on the main playground to help with any queries you may have.

Diary Dates

An overview of next year's term dates is available on the website in the parent's section. This may be subject to change. Events will also be notified here each fortnight for a month at a time.

SEPTEMBER		
12 th to 15 th		Staggered attendance for new Reception children
Weds 14 th	3:30pm-4:00pm	Meet and Greet for Bonetta class
Thurs 15 th	3:30pm-4:00pm	Meet and Greet for Aspire (Years 2/3)
12 th -23 rd	pms	Swimming for Johnson at Riverside- (6 lessons over 2 weeks – more details via Class Dojo)
Friday 16 th	3:30pm-4:00pm	First full day for Reception Children Meet and greet for Achieve (Years 4/5/6)
Monday 19th	School Closed	Bank Holiday - State Funeral
Thursday 22 nd	3:30pm-4:00pm	Meet and greet for Explore (Early Years/Year 1)

Communication with parents/carers

Newsletters will be emailed once a fortnight highlighting current information in school and future events. Copies are posted on the website. We also use Class Dojo and School Gateway for shorter reminders. Please do check your child's book bag as letters associated with class/whole school events requiring your consent are still circulated as paper copies.

Contact details: It is really important to us that we are able to contact you or your other named contacts if your child becomes ill or has an accident. Please can you ensure that the school office is made aware of any changes to contact information. Thank you.

Office hours: The office hours are between 8:30am and 4:30pm when a member of the school administration team is available. Answerphone messages can be left outside of these hours and we will endeavour to return your call the next working day. We also aim to ensure that all emails are replied to within a 48-hour period unless it is an urgent matter. The school email address is admin@bowhill.devon.sch.uk

SEND Mailbox

We have a designated SEND email address so if you have any queries regarding any additional educational needs for your child, please can you send them here - send@bowhill.devon.sch.uk

Responsibility by all

School Uniform

We expect all of our children to wear the appropriate school uniform. We feel that it helps to develop a sense of community and pride in being part of our school. Details are available on the school's website. We also have a second hand uniform shop, organised through the PTFA which is available once a fortnight, every Friday from 9:00-10:00am in the school canteen (you are welcome to stay for a cup of coffee and chat with other parents). We reviewed our school uniform last year to ensure that it is as cost effective as possible with the only branded items being our school jumpers and cardigans. Please can children wear sensible black shoes not fashion boots and we request that socks are black, white or grey only. Long hair needs to be tied back; of a natural colour and not to have unnatural lines shaved into the head. Jewelry is permitted to a watch only and ear-rings to be a plain gold or silver stud. All children need to be able to remove their own ear-rings before PE.

Please can you name everything as anything with a name on it will be returned to its owner!

Secondary School Applications - Reminder for Year 6 Parents

The application window for Year 7 secondary school admission in 2023 is now open. Parents of Year 6 pupils should have recently received a letter from the Local Authority giving details about applications for secondary schools. It is important that all Year 6 parents make their applications either on-line or send a paper copy to the Admissions Team at Devon County Council by **31st October 2022**. It is important that the application is made on time so that parents can secure a place for their child at the secondary school of their choice. If you have any difficulties accessing this online, please ask school for assistance and we will happily support your application.

Yours sincerely,

Jo Dentith
HEADTEACHER