



Phone: 01392 206585

Email: admin@bowhill.devon.sch.uk

Website: www.bowhill.devon.sch.uk/

Community Aspiration Responsibility Environment

Newsletter 8

Wednesday 11th January 2023

Happy New Year and welcome to the Spring Term 2023!

We hope that you all enjoyed the Christmas holidays. We would like to take this opportunity to send you and your family best wishes for 2023. We look forward to another busy term and already we are really impressed with how quickly the children have settled back into school routines after the break.

A Sense of Community

Before Christmas, we did experience higher than normal levels of childhood illnesses. This is continuing within our community so we do still need to be as vigilant as we can and would very much appreciate your support ensuring good levels of hygiene and looking out for symptoms. We have uploaded the UK Health Agency's 'Spotty Book' onto our website if you have any queries – this is the same document that we refer to in school – or please do try and ring NHS 111 - [Welcome to Bowhill Primary School | Health and Medical](#) UKHSA have also issued a press notice which can be found [here](#). The advice is aimed at parents to remind them that if their child is unwell and has a fever, they should stay home from school or nursery until they feel better and the fever has resolved.

Extra-curricular Clubs

Our extra-curricular club programme will have already be sent home to you for this term. There are a good range of activities being offered this term. For after school clubs, if a permission slip has been sent home please return this as soon as possible to the office as places are limited. Please note there may be a slight delay with some of the sporting clubs in starting until light conditions after school have improved.

I would also like to express my thanks in advance to the staff who offer voluntarily their time to provide these extra-curricular opportunities for our children.

Devon Martial Arts Club, who run classes in our hall every Monday are offering throughout January a free trial to all pupils, parents and staff of Bowhill School, to come along and try out the classes. Please contact Brett Dowling direct on 07969 638821 if you are interested in taking up this generous offer.

Saints South West are also offering extracurricular activities for this term, offering sessions focused on an enjoyable start in sport and football where they can develop their skills. There are limited spaces for these sessions and they are offering two taster session for free. Further information can be found here: [Our schedule | Saints Southwest | Powered by ClassForKids \(class4kids.co.uk\)](#) and via our website: [Welcome to Bowhill Primary School | Saints South West](#)

Diary Dates

JANUARY		
23.1.23- 3.2.23		Swimming for Asher-Smith at Riverside (6 lessons over 2 weeks)

Safeguarding - From time to time the school may need to make referrals to Children and Young People's Services

School Office

From this term, the school office hours will be 8:30am until 4:00pm. Outside of these hours messages can be left on the answerphone and we will endeavour to get back to you as soon as possible on our return.

Staffing

At the end of last term, we were sad to see Ms. Chanter leave after a short spell with the Explore classes, as she now returns to her teacher training. We wish her the very best of luck.

We are delighted to welcome to school Ms. Shannon Ruse who has joined the Squirrel Class as a teaching assistant and Mrs. Gemma Kerswell-King to our catering team, predominantly based at St Thomas Primary School assisting in the provision of meals there.

Contact details

If you have received a new mobile phone for Christmas or changed home phone numbers or contact details over the Christmas period, please could you advise the school office to enable us to keep your child's records up to date. It is the responsibility of parents to keep this information correct at all times in the event of any emergency and we need to contact you.

School Uniform

Please can we remind you at the start of the new term, that children should be wearing safe and sensible black shoes to school (not fashion boots) and not brightly coloured trainers. All children can currently wear their PE kit to school on the days it is their PE lessons. Can we also please ask that the children's hairstyles are smart, that long hair is tied back and they do not have shaved lines or coloured hair. All earrings need to be removed for PE by the children themselves as we are no longer able to place tape over their ears for them.

We only have a small number of branded products (school jumper/cardigan) having reviewed value for money. We are very grateful to the PTFA who currently offer second hand uniform which is sold fortnightly at the PTFA coffee mornings from 9:00am in the school canteen. Please do have a look on their website for dates for this term when this is happening. It's warm and the regulars that attend are very friendly!

A final plea, please can we request you name everything that comes into school - at least this way, any lost items will always be returned to their owners!

School Absence

Please can we remind parents that requests for absences during term time will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances, at the discretion of the Headteacher and not for family holidays. Further information on the school's attendance policy is detailed on the school's website. It is essential that parents inform school as soon as possible if their child will be absent from school i.e. unwell or has a medical/dental appointment by 9:30am on the day of the absence. As part of our safeguarding procedures, if we have not heard from our families and their children not in school, we do make phone calls using the contact details you have provided, to establish where the child is and that they are safe, or in some cases carry out a home visit if this is required.

Yours sincerely,

Jo Dentith
HEADTEACHER