

### Friday 19th April 2024

Welcome back to the summer term which will hopefully be full of sunshine!  
It has been great to have the school full of happy voices again and the children are thrilled to have new furniture which has made a huge difference to our learning environment.

Wishing you all a fun-filled weekend and a joyful and productive term ahead!

Thank you to everyone who has signed up to the Spruce Up Day. We will see you on the 27<sup>th</sup>!

Anna Lopez  
Headteacher

#### Key dates:

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April** – PTFA Bingo night

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April** – Site Spruce-up day

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May** – Vision Screening for Reception

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May** – School Closed – Local Elections

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May** – Bank Holiday

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> to Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May** – Year 4 residential

#### Reminders from the office:

**Informing school of your child's absence** – Please can we ask that you contact the school office to inform us of your child's absence by 9.15am. You can call the office on 01392 206585 or leave a message if they are unable to answer – we now have a dedicated absence line – choose Option 1. You can also email via the admin email account – [admin@bowhill.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@bowhill.devon.sch.uk) – thank you.

**Vacancies** – we currently still have vacancies for mealtime assistants – please see the link below or ask at the school office if you are interested in joining our friendly team.  
<https://bowhill.devon.sch.uk/vacancies/>

#### Start of the day:

We had 144 responses on the 'start of the day survey' I sent out. 85% of parents prefer the children going straight in so we will do that from now on – this was also the overriding staff preference. I want to address a few concerns around it which a few parents have raised:

| Concerns raised                                                        | How we can address it                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Lack of time to talk to teachers in the morning                        | Children from Reception to Year 3 can be dropped direct to the classroom door and handed over to teachers – this is a time for quick messages. Please send dojo messages or make an appointment for conversations which need more time.<br>Years 4,5 and 6 for urgent messages please dojo or see the office first thing and messages will be passed on.<br>All teachers are out and available to talk at the end of the day. |
| Reducing time for children and parents to chat at the start of the day | Families can come on to site at 8.30 from the front entrance and 8.35 from the Dunsford Hill entrance – the gates close at 8.50.<br>This allows almost 20mins at the start of the day.<br>After pick-up the site remains open on the front gate due to After School Club.                                                                                                                                                     |

So, to give complete clarity:

**8.30** - children can come the playground through the front gate (Dunsford Hill gate will open at 8.35)

**8.40 to 8.50** - children go to class

**8.50** – children arriving from this time onwards will get a late mark and will have to enter through the office

**Please do not go to classroom doors until 8.40**