



Dear Parents and Carers,

It feels like we've only just returned to school from the summer holidays, yet we are already planning our Christmas celebrations! Please see the calendar dates to add events to your diaries so that you can join us for some of the events! Details of parents' evening will follow soon via Parent Mail, but if you would like an additional appointment with either Miss Biney (to discuss SEAN) or with me (to discuss whole-school matters), please let the office know.

The pupils have started the new academic year brilliantly, and I am really proud of the progress I am seeing from so many. Our new staff have settled well and are already part of the BJR family.

It has been a very difficult start to the year for me and the leadership team. Within hours of opening the school, we were required to have in-depth knowledge of Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete, surveys and reports for the DfE. The following week, the funding increase for schools changed from 2.7% to only 1.9% (the equivalent of nearly £20,000 less income). We'd just sorted out what that meant for the school, when the new gas meter sprung a leak and we had to shut the school. (We are still pursuing legal action to claim the money back for the repairs and disruption.) This week, one of the pumps for the boiler has been damaged and also needs replacing – the list goes on! We've also had our usual run of autumn coughs and colds, as well as a few cases of measles, chicken pox and scarlet fever. The school team have been incredible, covering staff absences, looking after one another, whilst still organising and running incredible trips and events for our pupils.

We welcomed the London Print Prize team again to work with UKS2 and we are very hopeful for another year of prize winning entries! Our fortnightly swimming lessons have restarted for UKS2, with many children making exceptional progress in their confidence and ability in the water. Just after half term we'll be sending a number of pupils to PGL, with those remaining in school enjoying a series of team-building activities and games. Following on from last year's success, the choir have been invited to sing at some local events – details will be shared soon – and our school parliament are already making positive changes to our school.

I wish you all a restful and enjoyable half term break with your family and loved ones, and look forward to welcoming you back to school on Tuesday 31st October.

Matthew Harris

Headteacher

Secondary School Applications for 2024 intake:

Closing date for Greenwich and Bexley applications is 31st October 2023

Reception Applications for 2024 intake:

Closing date for Greenwich and Bexley applications is 15th January 2024

Apply online:

www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/admissions or
www.bexley.gov.uk/admissions

Dates for your diary

19 th Oct	School Finish 3:10pm
20 th – 30 th Oct	Half Term
31 st Oct	Children Return
8 th – 10 th Nov	Yr5 & Yr6 PGL Trip
17 th Nov	Children in Need Day
20 th Nov	INSET Day
23 rd Nov	Nasal Flu Vaccination
23 rd & 28 th Nov	Parents' Evening
24 th Nov 2:30pm	Yr5 Leading Worship
8 th Dec	Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Lunch
8 th Dec 3:30pm	The Snow Ball
12 th Dec	10:00am & 2:15pm EYFS Carols
13 th Dec 9:30am	KS1 Nativity
14 th Dec	Pantomime!
18 th Dec	CRiBS Performance
19 th Dec 9:30am	Christmas Church Service
19 th Dec 1:40pm	School Finishes
20 th Dec – 2 nd Jan	Christmas Holidays

Our School Online

www.bishopjohnrobinsonprimary.co.uk
Please follow us on Twitter @BJRSchool



The Diocese of
Southwark

Contact the School Office

0208 310 9160
admin@bjr.greenwich.sch.uk

Parking outside School

When parking, please kindly respect our neighbours and the community. Do not park across driveways, on the double yellow lines, the zigzag lines or turn your vehicle around directly outside the school gates.

It is very important that we park safely and considerately before and after school each day.

Thank you for your support in this matter.



The KS2 BJR Snow Ball

On Friday 8th December, from 3:30pm until 5:00pm, we will be holding KS2 Snow Ball. There will be music for dancing, along with a selfie photo booth, party food and drinks. Tickets go on sale after half term!



Polite Reminders

School Shoes - Only black shoes (or completely black trainers for EYFS) are to be worn in school.

Maintenance Fund – Each year, we pay a maintenance contribution to the diocese for their support with our Church of England status. We ask for parents to contribute £8 per half term to help cover this cost. If you have not yet paid, please contact the office to arrange payment.

PE Kits – Children in Years 1-6 should come to school in their PE kit on their designated PE day. PE kits should be grey or black jogging bottoms, a white or house colour t-shirt and a grey or black jumper.



Grey or Black Sweatshirt



House Colour or White T-Shirt



Grey or Black Shorts / Joggers



Black or White Trainers / Plimsolls



Black History 365

We are passionate about celebrating the rich and vibrant history of our pupils' heritage and ethnicities, celebrating what it means to have dual identities – whether that is white and European or Black and British (or any other combination!) Pupils have particularly enjoyed learning about heroes from all walks of life; those who have changed the world for the better, with many quoting their faith as their inspiration for their actions.

Following an excited discussion with pupils, we are planning to host an "African Day" on **Thursday 30th November**. It is still in the planning stages, but we are hoping to share with pupils and staff some of the home languages spoken by our families, as well as food, music and dance from west Africa.

If any parents or carers would be willing to come into school and share a story in Yoruba, Igbo, Akan, Twi, Hausa or any other west African languages or dialects, we would love to hear from you! I have already begun discussions with the kitchen and catering company about having a more authentic African menu for the day. Mr Elegbede, Mr O'Leary and pupils will be planning a rich celebration of African drumming throughout the day as well. Naturally, there will also be a non-uniform day; with children encouraged to wear clothing that reflects their heritage or clothing that celebrates our school's rich community heritage.

Parents' Evening

Meetings for Parents and Carers with teachers will be held on Thursday 23rd and Tuesday 28th November.

The school office will be in touch to arrange appointments. Parents' Evening will be in school and in person with class teachers.

Uniform Bank

Please continue to bring in your donations of good quality spare school clothes. These will be washed and sorted, and then available for parents to purchase at the start of the Spring Term.

Proceeds will go to the school fund and local charities.



Bishop John Robinson C of E Primary School

Be the best we can. Join in learning, play and prayer. Remember God's word.