

## Bishop John Robinson Church of England Primary School

Dear Parents and Carers,

Merry Christmas to you! It has been a very busy term and we are all very excited about the upcoming Christmas holidays. All pupils have persevered in their learning this term and the hard work and determination of the pupils and staff shows how we strive to be the best we can be.

We began the second half of the autumn term with Year 5 and 6 zip-lining and hiking at PGL, helping children understand the importance of teamwork and adventure. Pupils and staff dressed up in spotted and / or colourful outfits to support children in need. Due to Miss Parr and School Parliament's dedication to this special cause, we raised over £300!

We celebrated another successful Africa Day where pupils learned about the different cultures in Africa through song, with Mr Elegbede, dance, stories and art. Our wonderful kitchen team prepared a variety of African dishes and we learned the days of the week in Fante, highlighting the continent's rich linguistic heritage.

Throughout the 4 weeks of Advent, we read through the story of the nativity, culminating in the exploration of the foreshadowing of the life of Christ through the old testament, and the mirrors within his life from birth to crucifixion. Our pupils truly are developing beautifully as theologians and have such an amazing understanding of the Bible and faith! We also enjoyed our Early Years carols and KS1 Nativity – well done to all!

This year's Snow Ball was a huge success. The pupils and staff had a brilliant time, and so we are very much looking forward to our KS2 Easter Ball in March – further details will be shared soon!

The spring term is already packed with exciting events, including our Freedom Week, in which pupils and staff will be championing the voiceless and raising awareness of modern day slavery. But in the meantime, we wish you all a restful and very happy Christmas, and we look forward to welcoming our pupils back on Wednesday 4th of January 2024.

Ms Sarah Biney

Assistant Headteacher and SENCO

# Autumn 2 Half Term Newsletter



Reception Applications for 2024 intake: Closing date for Greenwich and Bexley applications is 15th January 2024 Apply online: www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/admissions www.bexley.gov.uk/admissions

## Dates for your diary

Christmas Holidays
INSET (School Closed)
Children Return
Afterschool Clubs resume
Staggered start new FS1 pupils
Reception Admission deadline
Year 4 Leading Worship
Freedom & Anti-Slavery Week
February Half Term
INSET (School Closed)
Children Return

Our School Online www.bishopjohnrobinsonprimary.co.uk Please follow us @BJRSchool



The Diocese of Southwark

Contact the School Office 0208 310 9160 admin@bjr.greenwich.sch.uk



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

## **Our School Improvements**

Following discussion with the governing board, our school improvement priorities for the 2023-2024 academic year are:

- 1. Increase attainment in Writing for all children.
- 2. Increase opportunities for Greater Depth throughout the curriculum.
- 3. Reduce gaps between groups: focusing on Pupil Premium, SEAN and Summer Born.
- 4. Increase outcomes for Literacy and Maths in EYFS.
- 5. Embed our new Phonics scheme (Success for All).
- 6. Strengthen consistency and outcomes across foundation subjects; develop middle leaders to drive subjects forward and ensure clear cross-curricular links.

## **Conduct at the Gates**

Children waiting outside the school gates in the morning represent our school to our local community. Please ensure that if your child walks to school or waits unaccompanied, they behaviour appropriately.

#### Wrap Around Care

Our Sunrise, After School and Twilight clubs will continue in the Spring term, and begin on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

## **Pupil Progress Updates**

Our next parents' evenings are scheduled for Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2024. During these meetings, your child's teacher will be able to talk through their progress, as well as provide you with a copy of their updated assessment report. In the spring term, we will be two thirds of the way through our curriculum, and should have covered nearly all statements by the Easter holidays, so you should be able to see lots of progress since their last assessment report, which was provided during the autumn term parents' evening. If you'd like to discuss your child's progress before parents' evening, please speak to your child's class teacher or contact the school office.

#### **Birthdays and Party Bags**

To share and celebrate your child's birthday, we would love parents and carers to consider providing either a book or game for the class, which can be enjoyed again and again. If you would like to bring snacks for the children, please ensure these only include fruit, biscuit / cereal bars (no nuts) and/or a juice drink. As a Healthy School we want to encourage our pupils to develop healthy eating habits! Please note: Any unhealthy party bags will unfortunately be returned to parents.

#### 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.

#### **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 significantly reduced cost. Proceeds will go to the school fund and local charities.

## Christmas has come!

We are incredibly proud of the displays in our school hall – children have used their artistic flair and imagination to create beautiful displays depicting the nativity story, as well as their Christmas Hoops, hanging from the ceiling!





















Remembrance Pupils and staff learned about the different colour of poppies worn at Remembrance.



#### **Prayer Requests**

As a Church of England school, we are proud to launch our Prayer Request page within our school website (under the "Our Faith" tab). Parents, carers and members of our local community can submit prayer requests, which will be included in the prayers of the school staff, fellowship at St Paul's Thamesmead and the wider diocesan prayer team.

Parents and Carers are welcome to join our acts of collective worship, on Monday and Tuesday mornings, at 9:00am in the school hall. Please come to the office and the team will let you in.



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