



## Bowburn Primary School

Crowtrees Lane

Bowburn

Durham

DH65FP

Tel 0191 3770497

[www.bowburnprimary.co.uk](http://www.bowburnprimary.co.uk)

Email: [bowburnprimary@durhamlearning.net](mailto:bowburnprimary@durhamlearning.net)

Head Teacher: Mrs N Maughan

5<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

It has been lovely to meet some of you on the gate this morning. The children have already settled into their classrooms and are eager to get started. We have some exciting changes and events coming up this term that I would like to tell you a little bit more about.

### Newsletters

Whole school newsletters will be emailed to you fortnightly. This will include important upcoming dates along with news and events that have happened in school.

### Class Newsletters

Teachers are busy completing these and aim to have them to you by the Friday of the first week back each half term. These will include information about the topic and subject areas your child will be learning about each half term. It will also have important, class specific dates and helpful reminders such as PE dates and upcoming trips. These will also be emailed to you but a paper copy will come home with your child to keep handy.

### Class Assemblies

All classes from Reception to Year 6 will have a class assembly termly (three times a year). This will be a lovely opportunity for you to come along and find out what the children have been learning and see them in action! We do hope you will be able to attend and in order to help with this, we will ensure these dates are shared with you at the beginning of term and on both the class and whole school newsletters. They will always commence at 2.30pm and children (including siblings) can be taken home at the end of the assembly.

### Discos

School discos are an excellent way for the children to have fun together along with bringing some much-needed funding into the school. We aim to use any monies raised from events like this to subsidise buses on school trips to keep the cost down for parents and carers. Our first disco will be Halloween themed and we will have a further disco in the spring and summer term. The younger children in Nursery and Reception will attend from 3pm-4pm and can bring a costume to wear into school. Parents and carers DO NOT need to attend. If you would not like your child to attend you can collect them at the usual home time from



the classroom door. Years 1-6 will go home at home time as normal and return for the disco from 4.15pm-5.30pm, again parents and carers DO NOT need to attend this however, it will be dark so all children will need an adult to collect them at the end of the disco. Ticket prices and more information will be on the school newsletter next Friday.

### **Fairs**

We will be holding two school fairs a year: one at Christmas and one in the summer. We hope you will support these events and come along to have some fun. Again, more information will be shared with you nearer the time. In order to support these fairs, we will be holding two non-uniform days prior to each event. We ask that you send either a bottle (such as bubble bath, juice, water, etc.) in for one day and a chocolate donation in for the other, if you are able to do so. These donations will be used to create tombolas on the day.

### **Harvest Festival**

I'm told this is always a popular event and will be held at the local church as usual. We will be kindly asking for donations towards the school's and local foodbank if you are able and hope you will join us on the day to celebrate.

### **Christmas**

Christmas is always an exciting time in school and we are hoping to make this year more exciting than ever!

We will be holding Christmas parties and Christmas lunch/jumper day in school as well as Christmas parties for each class. Children will have a party tea, receive a gift from a special visitor and have the opportunity to have fun with their friends. Again, more information will be shared with you nearer the time. We would also like to give the children the experience of a pantomime and will be arranging for this to take place in the school hall.

Nursery, Reception, Y1 and Y2 will be holding their much-loved nativities and Christmas plays with you in December and the dates are already in place so you have plenty of time to ensure you don't miss them. Years 3-6 will be holding carol concerts at the local church. These dates are still in the process of being finalised but we hope to be able to share these with you on the upcoming newsletter.

### **Parents Evening,**

These will be held twice a year, once in the autumn term and another in the spring. This will take place in the school hall from 2pm-6pm and an online booking system will be shared with you in the next few weeks. This will allow you to book a time to see each teacher that is convenient to you.

In the summer term, parents and carers will receive a written end of year report.

## Trips and Visitors

Children always love going on school trips and we hope they will enjoy some of the exciting ones we have lined up for them this year. Each class will go on one trip per term (three times a year) and the alternate half term they will have a workshop or visitor in school. Parents and carers will have plenty of notice about when these will take place and any extras the children might need for the day. We hope to keep the cost of these down by paying for the buses with money raised from events such as fairs and discos. Workshops will also be funded from these events.

## Wrap Around Care

Before the holiday's parents and carers were asked if they would like to access our new after-school childcare provision. I understand not all the information surrounding this was very clear and apologise for any inconvenience caused. Further information including times, prices, etc. will be sent out within the next couple of days and we hope this will support parents and carers who need childcare before and after school.

## Uniform

It was lovely to see how smart all the children looked this morning! A reminder that logoed uniform can be purchased from Emblematic at <https://studentuniform.co.uk/bowj044>. However, please don't feel you have to purchase logoed uniform, any supermarket retailer uniform is fine. Just a quick reminder that the children wear red jumpers, white polo shirts, grey trousers/skirts/pinafores, black shoes (no trainers please) and checked red dresses in warmer weather. Our PE uniform is a red t-shirt and blue shorts. A school tracksuit can be purchased from our uniform supplier however, this is optional.

## Communication

Hopefully parents and carers will feel well-informed using the class and school newsletters. We use an emailing system called School Comms to send important messages and letters so please can you ensure you have access to this. Should you need a new login or any help with this, please don't hesitate to contact the school office.

Class Dojo is our more informal platform to communicate with parents and carers. Staff will be sharing two posts a week with you so you can see what the children have been busy with in class. They may also use this to send reminders such as 'Don't forget your PE kit tomorrow'. You can use this service to contact staff too but please be mindful they are teaching during the day so will likely only read messages at the end of the school day and do not access it at home.

Staff are always on hand at the classroom door, should you need to speak to them. This can be tricky on a morning as things are very busy and staff are keen to start lessons but you are very welcome to speak to staff after school. If your enquiry is urgent you can speak to Mrs Gates (Parent Support Advisor), Mrs Foster (Acting Deputy Head Teacher) or I on the school gate or pop into the school office to make an appointment for a meeting or phone call with your child's class teacher.



I hope you will find the information above useful. Attached you will find a school diary planner with all the important dates for this term. Please note that new things do crop up from time to time so an updated calendar will always be on the school newsletter. Please ensure you use the latest version for the most up to date information. Should you have any questions, comments or queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N Maughan', written in a cursive style.

Mrs N Maughan  
Head Teacher