



"Learning that lasts a lifetime"

Newsletter



★ Welcome back to a new academic year! It seems that children have all had a lovely summer and they have come back full
 ★ of smiles, settling back in to their learning well. Our Reception children in particular have made a fantastic start—they
 ★ seem very much at home and are enjoying their first few days of school life. We were treated to the delicious aroma of
 ★ cooking pasties on Wednesday, as year 3 & 4 children began immersing themselves in all things Cornish for their Autumn
 ★ term topic. They looked and smelled fantastic!

★ Thank you for ensuring your children arrived back at school looking so smart in their
 ★ uniform and correct footwear. Please support us in maintaining this high standard
 ★ of presentation. Please remember that girls' hair should be neatly tied back (no
 ★ outlandish alic bands please!) and skirts should not be too short—touching the
 ★ knee is a good rule of thumb! Children should wear black, 'polishable' shoes (no
 ★ trainers please!) and jewellery should not be worn (although stud earrings are
 ★ permitted).



★ We want to ensure that this positive start continues and good attendance at school is so important to ensure progress in all
 ★ areas. We have therefore included information and guidance about statutory expectations at the end of this newsletter.
 ★ Please take the time to read this important information!

★ This newsletter is an important part of our communication with you. It will contain dates, advice, updates as well as news
 ★ about what goes on at school. Please note that we do not usually print and send home paper copies (for many reasons, not
 ★ least in an attempt to save some trees!) but we email it out every Friday. If you are not signed up to this service, please
 ★ provide an up-to-date email address via our School Office staff. You will find this is a vital way of keeping abreast of
 ★ everything going on in school.

★ In addition, we text reminders and urgent news to parents so please ensure the mobile numbers we hold are current!
 ★ Class teachers will also contact you via Class Dojo so if you find you are not linked to your child's class teacher via Dojo,
 ★ please let them know! Last, but not least, our website provides a huge bank of information about our school as well as a
 ★ weekly class blog—a great way of prompting conversations about the week with your child! Have a great weekend!

Mrs Carmichael



Roads and Parking Update

As you will have seen, Cormac have done a great job of completing Phase 1 of our access and parking plan over the summer. The whole area has been widened to ensure traffic can flow more freely and it is safer for pedestrians. Can we ask that the designated 'drop-off zone' next to the railings is ONLY used to 'stop and drop'; please DO NOT park or wait in this space. This should allow more of you to drop off children quickly and will therefore not need to park up at all!

Stage 2 of the plan is to create more parking spaces up the lane to the park. This is planned for October half-term. Until this happens, please park considerately in the local area. Some cars were parked on both sides of the lane this week and blocked access for visitors and residents of houses in the local area. This is potentially dangerous as could prevent emergency vehicle access. In addition, some local residents' driveways have been blocked for 30 minutes or more! We do want to keep good relationships with our neighbours and we ask that you support us in ensuring they can access their properties. Thank you.

ATTENDANCE

We're happy to report our continued attempts at raising the importance of positive attendance with pupils and have put the following in place:

For the class achieving the highest attendance each week, a Friday 'Popcorn Pass' will be granted. This involves an hours treat of a film and popcorn to munch on! Here are the winners from this week..... **Pelicans Class**

For the individual children achieving 100% attendance throughout the week, their names will be put into a draw. Two names will be drawn and a small prize will be given to the winners.

Our current whole school attendance for this academic year stands at **97.28%** a percentage that is above the government expectations. Thank you for all your support in ensuring the positive attendance of your child and keeping school informed of any illness or absence.

Classes	%	No of lates
Little Doves	97.93%	0
Little Fish	98.67%	1
Little Lambs	96%	0
Peacocks	96%	1
Phoenix	98%	1
Pelicans	99.33%	0
Angels	97.9%	0
Faith	98.68%	0
Hope	99.31%	0
Weekly Total	97.28%	3

2018 Autumn Term Diary Dates:

Wednesday 26th September—Individual/Siblings photographs

Wednesday 26th September— PTA (BBFriends) meeting @ 2pm

Thursday 27th September—Open Day/Evening at Penrice

Wednesday 3rd October—Year 1 Hearing screening

Tuesday 9th October—Book Fair

22nd—26th October—Half term

Friday 2nd November—Yr R—5 Nasal Flu immunisations



School Admissions

The online application process for Starting School, Transfer to Junior School and Transfer to Secondary School for September 2019 has now started. Detailed information about the admissions process is available online or on request from the School Admissions Team.

Please ensure you name **more than one preference** . It will not mean less chance of securing a place at your preferred school. Please also stress that if you do not apply on time your preferred school/s may already be full.

If you need support with your application process, please contact the office or contact the Family Information Service (0800 587 8191) or School Admissions Team (0300 1234 101).

Before school

There will be a member of staff on duty at 8.30am in the playground, please ensure you do not drop your children off any earlier than this, as there will be no supervision in place.

BBKIDS TELEPHONE NUMBER IS 01726 65471—THIS IS FOR EMERGENCIES ONLY

General Attendance Expectations

Bishop Bronescombe School's gates open at 8.30am and children can enter classes from 8.45am for Early Morning Maths. Your child should arrive in the classroom no later than 9.00am as a register will be taken at this time. Absences and late marks will be recorded on the register and entries of this kind will be closely monitored to ensure that poor punctuality and attendance percentages are kept to a minimum.

Reporting Absences

If your child will not be attending school, please inform us by phone on the day of illness by calling 01726 64322. A message can be left before 8.30am, or you may wish to speak to the school receptionist from 8.30am onwards. We expect a phone call for any and each day of absence, unless a medical professional has recommended a specific number of days off. If a reason isn't given for your child's absence, the absence will be marked as unauthorised.

Appointments

If you need to take your child to the doctor or dentist, please try to arrange an appointment before or after school. We understand that this isn't always possible, so, if they are attending an appointment, please ensure they return to school promptly. We ask, if possible, that you provide appointment letters/cards to the school receptionist as this will support the recording of the absence as a valid medical appointment.

Going Away?

Due to government legislation, holidays can no longer be authorised when taken in term time across England. From 2013, schools have been unable to authorise requests for a child to be taken out of school, except when circumstances are deemed exceptional (see below). We expect parents to support us in scheduling holidays in the 175 days of the school holidays. In very exceptional circumstances, requests may be authorised but your child must be in receipt of an excellent attendance record (96% or over) before the request will be considered.

Exceptional circumstances could include:

1. Service personnel returning from a tour of duty abroad where it is evidenced that the individual will not be in receipt of any leave in the near future that coincides with school holidays.
2. Where an absence from school is recommended by a health professional as part of a parent or child's rehabilitation from a medical or emotional issue.
3. The death or terminal illness of a person close to the family.
4. To attend a funeral of a person close to the family.

Please note: Evidence may be requested to support your reasons for leave.

To request an authorised absence, please obtain a form from reception or print a copy from the school website where it can be found under the 'parents' tab.

Any student in Bishop Bronescombe School identified as having **attendance below 93%** will have all further absence **unauthorised** on the school's register. However, should parent(s) provide evidence from a medical practitioner advising that the period of absence was necessary, the absence for the evidenced period will be authorised.

The Educational Welfare Officer (EWO)

Regular meetings with our EWO are held with the school's attendance lead and the Head of School. If there is a concern regarding your child's attendance, it will be discussed and you may be referred to the EWO. A family can be referred to the Education Welfare Service at any time but we do try to use this as a last resort. If a referral is sent, the EWO will meet with the family to discuss your legal responsibility as a parent to ensure regular attendance. Together, an action plan will be put in place and legal proceedings may follow if rapid improvements aren't seen in your child's attendance and/or punctuality.

Most importantly, we share with you the concern and duty of care for your child's wellbeing whilst they are in school. We will contact you if your child becomes ill during the school day and it is, therefore, very important that personal, and work phone numbers, are kept up to date. We encourage you to send your child into school if they are feeling 'under the weather' or are suffering from a cough or a cold. In our experience, we find that immersion in the school day helps to perk them up. Please let our staff know if you are concerned your child is unwell and we will monitor them closely; we will not hesitate to call if we feel they need to go home.

Further information can be found on our attendance policy on the school website. If at any point throughout the year you would like to discuss the attendance of your child, please do not hesitate to contact Hayley Armour (PSA) or Mrs Carmichael.

We thank you for your cooperation and support in ensuring your child's good attendance which we know will positively impact on their wellbeing and progress at school.



With Mrs Parry now teaching in Phoenix class, please welcome our new PSA.

Parent Support Advisor– Hayley Armour

What is a Parent Support Advisor?

As a Parent Support Advisor (PSA), I am here to help, support and advise parents and carers who have any worries or concerns about their children, school life or personal circumstances. I offer the promise of a listening ear, appropriate support and signposting for those in need.

What could a PSA help me with?

- Children moving to another school
- Supporting parents in meetings at school
- Providing advice and supporting parents with children's behavioural/additional needs
- Signposting and supporting parents engaging with external agencies
- Liaising with parents and children to resolve attendance issues
- Any other issue you may have that requires additional support

Why might you need to use the PSA?

My child is having difficulties settling in at school... My child is anxious about school... My child's behaviour is difficult to control... I am worried about my child starting school... I just need someone I can talk to... I'm really worried about my son/daughter's self-esteem... I would like to know who else I could talk to about my situation...

How do I contact the PSA?

Call the school to make an appointment

Call the PSA mobile phone directly– 07903 613 074

Pop in for an informal chat; my usual working days are Monday, Tuesday and Thursday



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LITTLE
EDEN

Thursdays

Book your
6 week block
of **FREE**
1½ hour sessions

**Playful, outdoor sessions for
grandparents and under-fives**
in Eden Project's magical wild perimeters

Games and stories • Quests and hunts
Making and creating • Campfire cooking

edenproject.com/little-eden-grandparents