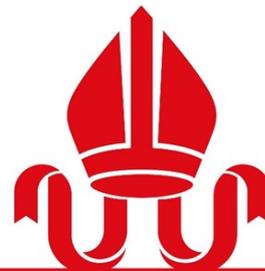


Bishops Itchington Primary School and Ladybirds' Nursery

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**BISHOPS ITCHINGTON
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

PART OF STOWE VALLEY MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

NEWSLETTER 2nd March 2021

New Toilets for Juniors

After some false starts due to the Corona Virus, the Junior toilets have been fully refurbished.

When the Juniors return on Monday, they will be amazed by the wonderful improvement!



Dear Parents,

We are delighted to welcome all of your children back into school next Monday 8th March. Please look out for the email I will be sending on Wednesday giving all the procedures and details of how the school will work from 8th March. I would be grateful if you could read this carefully.

We realise that lockdown will have impacted on our families and our children negatively, especially emotionally. When the children come back to school, our teachers will be working hard to ensure that all families are supported. If there is any event or circumstances that you feel we should know about to support your child in school, then please would you let us know in confidence.

Last week, our school had a thorough safeguarding inspection by our MAT (Stowe Valley Multi-Academy Trust). I am delighted to tell you that we got a GREEN-rating, which is the highest level. This is because our fabulous staff, children and parents work together to follow rules and speak out if something does not 'feel right'. It is no accident that Safeguarding is a strength at our school.

The government has cancelled all statutory tests this summer, so this means that Year 6 SATs and Year 2 SATs tests will not take place. Our Year 6 teachers will be providing feedback information to the relevant secondary schools.

Many children have entered a Bake-Off competition and the winners and their spectacular bakes can be seen inside this newsletter. Also, there is news from FoBIPS who continue to invent and put on wonderful events to support our community socially, and to support our school financially.

Our school is welcoming and nurturing. Parents and relatives are welcome to make an appointment to see me to discuss any matter.

Jacky Sykes

Head of School

Explore. Achieve. Celebrate.

Together we grow happy, responsible and adaptable individuals who are ready to continue their life-journey.

GYMNASTIC FANTASTIC!

Our very talented Year-5 gymnast, Ellis, has been selected for the 2021 East Midlands Squad.



The Squad places were selected by a technical panel. Now a member of the Midlands Squad, Ellis will be considered to represent our region in national competitions.

Congratulations, Ellis. We are extremely proud of you for your preserverance, dedication and achievement.



Children do not know if they can't see properly.

With the lockdown caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, many children will have missed their annual appointments to have their eyes tested.

Eye appointments at opticians are free of charge for children and so are glasses.

Every year we have about three children in our school who need glasses to see and learn properly and their parents did not realise. Please make an appointment for an eye check for your child so the experts can confirm that your child can see properly. If you wish to discuss this or need support, please contact us.

Registering for Free-School Meals

For families who are on lower income, the Government gives their children's school extra money and it also gives the children free school meals. This is called Pupil Premium Status. This money makes a real difference to our school. It helps us pay for a Teaching Assistant in every class every morning of the week. It also helps us to run catch-up learning groups for children who need it.

Children in Reception, Year One and Year Two receive free school meals but this alone does not trigger the Government to give us Pupil Premium money. For this to be paid, parents must register on-line using the link below. It is quick, confidential and benefits your child and other children in the school enormously.

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/education-learning/apply-free-school-meals>



Those children registered for Free School Meals (Pupil Premium) school can contribute towards school for trips, uniform and after-school activities and food vouchers when school has been in lock-down.

Please, please take a few moments and see if you can register your child to help our school community, and Mrs. Shippey in our office can assist you in confidence.



THE GREAT BISHOP'S BAKE OFF!

Sadly, due to COVID and lockdown, one of our favourite elements of Design and Technology - cookery— has not been able to go ahead so I felt it was important to keep our skills developing in a fun way and you did not disappoint! Every entry showed such care, skill and flare (and made me very hungry!) and you all did such a great job at recognising the design and imagining the taste when voting for your class winner.

I am proud to be able to share your first, second and third place winners in each class. I think you will all agree that they are simply incredible!

The first-place winner each received a 'Star Baker' mixing bowl, cupcake baking tray and cooking utensils. Second and third places each got a certificate.

Again, thank you to every single entry; you are all Star Bakers in my eyes!

Mrs Hobbins



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Spring is in the air – time for the FoBIPS Team to update you on the planned events for the remainder of the Spring Term.

We've had to think outside the box this term and bring you some of our usual events in a different way and some new events that meet with Government guidelines/restrictions around COVID-19.

AGM (Rearranged from September 2020)

Wednesday 17th March 2021 7:30pm on Zoom

Please email fobips@gmail.com to request the zoom link

Please note this will be a brief meeting but we do need at least 10 parents to attend online to make it a valid meeting.

Gift Room with a difference!

Mother's Day is a time of year where we think about and thank all the females that support us through life. That might be mum, nana, aunt or a special friend – whoever that maybe it's a great opportunity to thank them with a little gift.

This year to maintain COVID-19 compliance we have had to think differently about our gifts and how pupils can access them.

FoBIPS have prepared a gift in a bag for each child in school and Ladybirds to take home for a special female relative or friend.

The bags have been prepared for each class in advance and will be quarantined in school from Friday this week. They will then be taken into classrooms and remain there until the class teacher sends them home (likely to be Friday 12th March) ready for Mothering Sunday. The bags will be sealed, and the children will be able to personalise them by writing/drawing on the white sticker on the front of the bag.

We are asking parents that if they feel able to donate £1 in exchange for a bag then that would be greatly appreciated. *please note your child will be given a bag regardless of whether you choose to donate £1 or not.

Money can be donated in any of the following ways:

Cash or Cheque Payments	Electronic Payments
*via school – this must be in a sealed envelope labelled FoBIPS	*via PayPal using fobips@gmail.com Reference – MDGR
*via our red post box in the reception area of school – this must be in a sealed envelope labelled FoBIPS	*via BACS Account Name: FoBIPS Sort Code: 30-98-97 Account No: 43736268 Reference – MDGR



REMINDER!!

To try and reduce the impact our activities have on the school staff and to reduce the amount of cash handling, we have installed a new red post box in the reception area for any FoBIPS donations or reply slips to be posted in. This will be emptied daily.

Events Coming Soon!

FoBIPS Big Curry Night In Friday 2nd April

What better way to celebrate the start of the Easter holidays than with a delicious curry, specially made for you by Taste Events in partnership with FoBIPS?

We have teamed up with Taste Events to offer everyone in the village the opportunity to enjoy a curry on **Friday 2nd April**.

Look out for the menu and prices which will be on our FoBIPS noticeboards and village noticeboards and Facebook page later this week.

How does it work?

- Review the menu choices
- Place your order with Taste Events by **4pm on Tuesday 30th March**
- Make your payment to Taste Events when ordering your meal
- Make sure someone is home between 4pm and 7pm on **Thursday 1st April (this is no April fool!)** as Taste will doorstep deliver free of charge
- Pop your chosen meal in the oven for 20 minutes on the evening of **Friday 2nd April**
- Enjoy your delicious meal knowing you have supported FoBIPS in the process

Orders must be placed directly with Taste Events on 01926 493030 before 4pm on Tuesday 30th March 2021.

FoBIPS will then receive a % of profits for the above event. We are hoping to raise in the region of £250 from this event and if successful we will look at running a second event later in the year. Please share this event with all your village friends and help us to raise funds for the school in a new and tasty way!

Please note that we have the full support of both The Butchers Arms and The Bishop's Fryer for this event. We are extremely grateful that they have both supported us once again.

Easter Extravaganza!

We are delighted to be able to team up with The Butchers Arms to bring you our next village hunt which will be available to complete during the whole of the Easter Holidays.

As usual we are offering local businesses the opportunity to sponsor a clue/letter in the hunt for a minimum of £20 per clue/letter, however you can choose to donate more if you wish.

Sponsorship includes exposure from 3rd April – 12th April in the village of Bishops Itchington only, together with one post on the FoBIPS Facebook page. You can provide us with your post, or we can prepare one for you.

To reserve a sponsorship space (only 20 available) then please email FoBIPS@gmail.com and add Easter Extravaganza to your subject header. We will need your name/company name, invoice address, logo and contact details and will issue an invoice for payment prior to the event.