



Bean News



Term 1, Issue 1

9th September 2016

Welcome back to a new year. I trust you and your family enjoyed the break and are looking forward to getting back into school routines. Teachers will be sending out letters in the next few days explaining the topics that will be covered this year and class routines.



Homework

It has been lovely to see such a wide range of creative responses to the homework set over the holidays. You have obviously been very busy. Please ensure that you support your child in completing his/her homework each week as we find this really helps to develop those key skills. Thursday lunchtimes will again be set aside for those who have forgotten.



Parking

It has been pleasing to see fewer parents parking on the yellow zig-zag lines outside of the school during drop off and collection times. Please continue to avoid this area as a drop off zone. Being held up for five minutes is a small price to pay compared with endangering small children.



Nut Free School

At Bean, we are a Nut Free School, meaning that we encourage parents not to pack their children's lunches with any products containing nuts as there are a number of children in the school that have severe nut allergies. Thank you for your support.



Uneaten Lunch

We would like to remind children to take their uneaten packed lunch home with them so that parents can see how much their children have eaten during the day.



Holidays During Term Time

As you know, schools are instructed to issue fines if children are removed from school during term time. I appreciate that this poses both financial and social issues for parents and to try to offer a helpful alternative, the school will be holding two training days on 26th May 16 and 5th June 16. These dates are either side of the May break. This will allow parents to take advantage of cheaper rates and book a 10 day holiday. I appreciate that this arrangement won't work for everyone, but I trust many of our families will be able to take advantage of this arrangement.



Multi-Use Games Area

We are undergoing an exciting new project on our school field which will be used as a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA). You will see work progressing over the coming weeks and whilst contractors may be on site during the school day, there will be no impact on the day to day routines for the children. The work is expected to be completed in the near future.



Dartford FC

As a reward for supporting Dartford FC's community outreach programme, which engages with local communities and attracts the next generation of fans to support Dartford FC, we have been given a free match day ticket for each student to go and watch a match during the month of October at Dartford FC. There is a discounted price of £5 for one guardian that accompanies the child. Tickets will be given to each student in class today.



General Reminders



If your child needs to take medication of some form, please contact the office staff who will be happy to help. Forms will need to be signed and please check that medication is in date. Pupils should arrive to school in a school uniform, **including sensible shoes** which must be black/brown and **not** trainers. If your child wears earrings, plain studs are permitted. If they can't be removed, tape should be brought in to cover the earrings on PE days. Coats are now also needed. PE kits should be brought in, along with a book bag. Lunchboxes will now be stored on pupil's pegs. If your child's lunchbox doesn't have a handle, it will need to either be placed in the school bag, or if it's too big, be brought in in a separate carrier bag.

Punctuality

Due to our Read Write Inc. groups, assemblies are now from 10:05 from Monday to Thursday. Friday's assembly remains at 9am. As a result, pupils come straight into school and begin work. If your child is late, he/she is missing out on key learning. Please ensure KS1 children are ready to enter the school at 8:45. KS 2 children should be in the top playground, ready to line up, by 8:40 when the whistle is blown.



Social Networking

Please remind children that social networking and gaming must be used sensibly. This includes Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Xbox and PlayStation.

Parent Governors Vote

A letter will be sent with information in regards to the Parent Governor election. There is one vacancy available and if you, or anyone you know is interested, then the relevant forms will be sent with the letter. If you require more information in the time being, please contact Mrs Brightwell, the clerk to the governors via clerkatbean@gmail.com or School Governance via leadershipgovernancecentral@kent.gov.uk.

Key Dates *(more details to follow for each)*

Monday 19th September —Year 5 Parents Sayers Croft meeting 2.30pm
Tuesday 20th September — School Photographs
Tuesday 27th September—Year 6 Parents School Journey meeting 9am
Monday 3rd October—E-safety meeting for KS2 Parents at 2.30pm
Thursday 6th October — Harvest Festival Assembly
Wednesday 12th October—Parents' Evening
Thursday 13th October—Parents' Evening
Thursday 20th October—Open day for new Reception intake, 9.30am

Open Day

Please be aware that our Open Day is the Thursday 20th October 2016 at 9.30am for parents considering sending their children to us next year. I'd be grateful if you could help advertise this amongst neighbours and friends.

After School Clubs

Letters regarding school clubs will be sent home today. Please note that clubs will start the week commencing Monday 12th September.



More information will inevitably follow, but if you have any queries, please speak to a member of staff and we shall be glad to help.

I look forward to working with you this year.

Mr Reilly