



Banks Road Infants and Nursery School

"A Home for Learning, Laughing, Caring and Trying"

Spring Term Issue 3

April (2) 2014

SPRING TERM 2014 NEWSBULLETIN

UPCOMING RETIREMENT

After nearly 35 years as Banks Road's Nursery Teacher, Sue Horsfall has informed the governing body that she will be retiring at the end of this academic year.

Ms Horsfall, being Ms Horsfall, is working harder than ever to make the absolute most of her remaining time with us as enjoyable as possible for the children in her care and herself.



We will keep you all informed of our plans to give her a memorable farewell to celebrate her many happy and successful years at Banks Road.

PARENT EVENING

Our latest Parent consultation evening was extremely well attended. I would like to thank local services who gave up their time to provide information and activities for our parents and children in the main school hall.

CHANGES TO AUTHORISED ABSENCES FOR HOLIDAYS TAKEN DURING TERM TIME

Parents have a legal duty to make sure their child aged 5-16 attends school regularly.

Currently we may, in special circumstances, grant leave of absence of up to ten days for the purpose of a family holiday during term time. The application is made in advance and the head teacher must be satisfied that there are special circumstances which warrant the leave. This is granted on the head teacher's discretion and is not a parental right.

Following advice from the LA and the DfE 'Advice on School Attendance' document, the Governors have agreed that from September 2014 penalty notices may be issued to parents where a pupil's absence has not been authorised by the school. Penalty notices can be issued to each parent liable for the attendance offence or offences.

Penalty notices are fines of £60/£120 imposed on parents. They can only be issued by a head teacher or someone authorised by them. There is no right to appeal by parents against a penalty notice.

We will, however consider 'exceptional' circumstances before issuing Penalty Notice or commencing prosecution. These four points will be (as per guidance from NCC Attendance and Targeted Support):

- The likelihood that particular circumstances would recur
- That the circumstances mean that the holiday would significantly improve a child's health or wellbeing
- That the circumstances mean that the holiday would prevent a deterioration of a child's health or wellbeing
- That the circumstances mean that the child's educational development is unlikely to be impaired.

Attendance in school is a statutory requirement from the age of 5.

The school doors open at 8.45 am and registration is between 8.50 and 9.00 am. Arrival after 9.00 am is classed as late and is recorded as such on pupils' attendance records. It is important for children to arrive at school punctually every day, unless they are unwell. The school day ends at 3.15 pm for all pupils.

The school is required to track all pupils' attendance which will be investigated if it is below 80% when I will contact you. If you have any problems with your child attending school, it is important to discuss this with myself at the earliest point.

Equally, if your arrangements for collecting your child alter, it is important that the class teacher is made aware.

In this Bulletin:-

Retirement	1
Parent evening	1
Attendance	1
Website	2
Lunchtimes	2
Dates	2
Labelling	2
Looking Back/ Looking Ahead	2

UPDATE ON THE NEW SCHOOL WEBSITE

You may have had the opportunity during our recent parent interview evening to look at our new website.

The domain name is 'banksroadschool.co.uk' and you can access the website currently using this URL address and type it in the address box. Hopefully, soon, it will be easily accessed through the normal search engine route.

**LUNCHTIMES**

Don't forget that the new arrangements for lunchtime will begin after the Easter holidays.

The price of a school lunch is now set at £2.10 per day. If you wish to pay upfront for lunches for the half term the total will be £48.30 (£46.20 for our children in reception who have a planned off site visit.).

Please make cheques payable to 'Nottinghamshire County Council.'

**DATES**

Our final INSET day for this academic year will be on Monday 2nd June.

I am currently in consultation with Bispham Junior school to set the same days for 2014-2015.

Please find attached to this newsletter the most up to date 'Calendar of Events' for the Summer term.

**LABELLING**

As the warmer weather starts we are finding that many of our younger children in particular, are removing their coats during the lunchtime play. We have found discarded coats around the playground and in toilets with no name labels. Could you please ensure that all clothing items are named so we can reunite them with their owners quickly! Thank you.

**LOOKING BACK**

Wow! What a busy Spring term at Banks Road. All of the children have worked their socks off.

Well done to our Reception children for their outstanding 'Bedtime Stories Show'. Thank you to the staff team for all their hard work and to all our families who came along to watch the show. The children have all proved to be budding entrepreneurs by making and selling crafts. They decided that the money they made from the market stalls following the shows would be spent on an incubator for our chicks to hatch in. They have indeed made enough money and we will order it ASAP!



Alongside all of the hard work, we have made time to have a lot of fun as well with a whole range of trips and visits. We enrich our curriculum through our 'Welly Wednesdays', library visits, 'Flapjack Fridays', visits to the local churches, Cheerleading competitions, and so much more. We could not carry out these wonderful activities without the support of the parents and carers who accompany classes so a big thank you to you all. If you have some time and would like to volunteer, please ask! These areas of school life are really are a whole school community effort.

LOOKING AHEAD

One of the real strengths of our school is the range of clubs offered to the children. From French to 'Mad Science' to the range of Sports related activities we offer, there really is something for everyone. Next term promises to be even better with more new clubs, including a 'Lego' club for our reception children, a cooking club (led by our PGCE Students) and an Art club for our year 1 children. Please remember to sign up early for clubs as they work on a first come, first serve basis.

Next term we will be focussing on preparing all our children for transition towards their next phase in education, whether it be to Bispham Juniors, into year 2 from year 1, from reception into KS1 or from our nursery into reception.

Our year 2 children will be carrying out their SATs assessments (we make this an enjoyable experience and the children love the idea of 'special' work!). These take place over the first 3/4 weeks after the holiday. You can help your child by making sure they have plenty of sleep, a hearty breakfast and arrive to school on time every day! Thank you!

In year 1, children's phonics skills will be assessed through the national statutory Phonics Screening. These assessments take place mid June.

Thank you to you all for your continued support.

Have a wonderful Easter Break.

Tel: 0115 917 9881
Fax: 0115 917 9882
Banks Road, Toton, Beeston
Nottingham, NG9 6HE

Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter.
Carole Clemens
office@totonbanksroad.notts.sch.uk
head@totonbanksroad.notts.sch.uk