**Biggin C of E Primary School**

Newsletter for the first Spring Term (7/01/19 – 15/02/19)

Published Monday 21st January 2019

It’s lovely to be writing this from school where it is so warm and toasty inside. We are really happy with the new leak-free, well-insulated roof which has been unveiled this week as the scaffolding has finally been removed. The workmen did a fantastic job keeping things safe and minimising the disruption, but I especially want to say thank you to all parents and children who were sensible moving around school. We’re having a bit of a sweep up now but everyone agrees it looks really smart and we’re delighted that we will also be redecorating the Key Stage 2 classroom at Easter.

We had our first taste of proper winter weather at the end of last week. Please familiarise yourselves with the procedure for announcing that the school is closed in the unfortunate event that we may have to do this. Children are outside at playtimes unless it is raining and we do other activities outside including the Daily Mile and Science work. Please ensure your child has a warm coat and appropriate footwear.

One occasion last week when we were working outside was to hang up our environmentally-friendly bird feeders to attract the birds and look after them during the cold spell. This is in preparation for the RSPB Big Schools Birdwatch which the whole school will be completing over the next couple of weeks. We’ll be submitting our results to their national survey and we’ll post the details on our website so you can compare them with your own if you wish to have a go at home!

Well done to our Key Stage 1 children who attended a Gymnastics event last Monday. They worked hard and impressed us all with their skills and learning. They represented the school beautifully!

The new format Show and Tell is working well. Last week the Year 5 children presented their plan for ‘Change 4 Life’ – a healthy lifestyle programme they attended the previous week. The Year 5s are going to start running a lunchtime club with lots of fun activities after half term for the whole school to join in. The week before that our Year 6 children presented some thoughtful drama on the Respect PSHE work we completed last term. It is early days but is definitely improving children’s participation, listening and questioning skills.

A big thank you also to Mrs Hewgill who celebrated Collective Act of Worship with us on Friday in school (unfortunately it was too cold in church!). This is a lovely occasion for the children to worship with and explore their understanding of Christianity with one of our Governors and is very much appreciated.

We have had a number of visitors over the last couple of weeks and it is very pleasing to hear their comments about the friendly and positive atmosphere in school and the hard work that is going on in both classrooms.

Finally, please can I ask for your support in minimising any disruption to the Key Stage classroom by using the side entrance after 9.00am. It makes a huge difference. Thank you.

**FOBS**

**Important** – please note that the Beetle Drive pencilled in for Friday 1st February has been moved to Wednesday 13th February 6.00pm. The committee will be providing refreshments for a small cost therefore they would like an idea of who would like to attend – it is a fun event, no pressure just light entertainment. All players will need a card at £1.00 each, please return slip at the bottom of this week’s letter – or call in and let us know how many you would like.

**PE/games kit and wellies** - please ensure these are kept in school at all times – and that all items need to be named

**FOBS Fundraiser**

Please join us in Biggin Village Hall on Friday 10th May for RACENIGHT!

**School meals**

Dinner money is £10.50 per week or £39.90 (January)/£23.10 (February) or £63.00 for Spring Term One in cash or by cheque made payable to DCC.

If you receive Universal Credit,

**Volunteers are needed** to join the Friends Of Biggin School, it means attending up to four meetings a year, having a chat while you drink a cuppa and help raise funds for the extras that we like to provide for all our pupils. Please let us know if you think you can help in any way. P.S. the post of treasurer is vacant at the moment, training and help available.

**And for this week: 21st – 27th January**

Tuesday Drama Club

Wednesday After-school Music club

Thursday Violin lessons for those in year 3

**More Spring term dates**

January

24th Sportshall athletics at Q.E.G.S. for years 5 & 6 in the afternoon

25th MAST ‘David and the shepherd boy’

31st Sportshall athletics at Q.E.G.S. for years 3 & 4 after-school (slip sent home)

February

4th Safer Internet Day / Finance committee meeting

7th Splashdown for years 3 & 4

8th Rhema Theatre morning

11th Gymnastics at Q.E.G.S. for years 3 & 4

13th meeting of the full governing body / 6.00pm Beetle Drive

15th Christingle and break up for half-term holiday

25th Return to school

Under 5’s - the money tin is still here! Is anyone interested in reforming the group for parents/carers, babies and/or toddlers? 50p per session to pay for drinks, snacks and equipment. Use of pre-school room and equipment. Please contact school if you or anyone you know would be interested in regularly popping along to get out of the house and have a chatty Friday afternoon.

Pre-school – there are a few spaces available if you know of any children that would like a session or six? Drinks and a mid-morning snack provided, lunch is available at an additional cost of £2.50. Please call 01298 687453 for more information.

KS1 would like: -

1. Boxes for model making please – all shapes and sizes.
2. Bug hotel items e.g. canes, air bricks, raw sheep wool, slices of log with holes, pine cones, stones/pebbles in various sizes etc
3. Someone to install our new bird box please. There will be some drilling into the wall required and if you are available during the day, Mrs Eaton can help to set it up.

Congratulations!

to Mrs J Bonsall on winning the Bonus Ball draw for Saturday 19th January with number 45

Numbers 7, 34, 53, 57, 58 and 59 are free if anyone would like to join in?

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| ⚠ Yellow warning for West Midlands ICE – between 00:00 and 12:00 Tuesday 22nd January Headline - ice will form on some surfaces overnight into Tuesday morning across much of the UK. |

### What to expect

* Some injuries from slips and falls on icy surfaces
* Ice on some roads, pavements and cycle paths
* Some roads and railways affected with longer journey times by road, bus and train services

### Further details - a band of rain and hill snow will move southeastwards across the UK during Monday evening and overnight. A brief spell of wet snow is possible on high ground of southern Scotland, northern England and north Wales, with some small accumulations possible. Behind this surface, temperatures will rapidly fall away with some ice forming on some surfaces. Once the rain has cleared, some hail, sleet and snow showers will follow from the northwest, with 1-3 cm above 200 metres and some small accumulations expected at lower levels.

Inclement weather - if you **think school may be closed**, it is your responsibility to telephone 01298 84279 or 84642 and find out. The decision will have been made by 08:15am. If the decision is to close the school, High Peak Radio on 106.4, 103.3, and 106.6 FM and Ashbourne Radio on 96.7 FM and

101.8 FM will be informed and we will send you a text message but: –

* *if your details are not up to date, you obviously won’t get the message*
* *it is dependent on signal*
* *it is not a reliable way for you to contact us*
* *and … please reply (a simple OK is sufficient)*

Also - please remember: –

1. *‘if in doubt, don’t set out’*
2. *do not leave a child at school unless a member of the teaching staff has arrived* ***and*** *they are staying!*
3. *wellies, hats, gloves and scarves needed in school by* ***all*** *children at* ***all*** *times*

***High Peak Radio 106.4, 103.3, and 106.6 FM / Ashbourne Radio 96.7 FM and 101.8 FM.***

Name/s of child/ren \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Beetle Drive we would like to reserve \_\_\_\_\_ Beetle cards at £1.00 each for the fun session on Wednesday 13th February. We understand that refreshments will be available at a small charge and that each person who wishes to play will need a card.

After-school Sportshall Athletics for years 3 & 4 Thursday 31st January Oker Transport will leave school at 3.20pm and return to school around 5.30pm

Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_to confirm permission for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to attend

*Please complete, sign and return the form to school by Wednesday of this week, thank you*

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