



Weekly Benson Bulletin

15th September 2017 No. 2

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Arch Benson



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PUPIL WELFARE GROUP

We pride ourselves on being approachable and are happy to discuss any concern with parents, no matter how big or small.		
Hrs Giblett	Designated Safeguarding Lead	
Mr Galler	Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead	
Mrs Truen	Family Support Coordinator	
Mrs J Williams	Special Educational	
Mrs B Morris	Needs Coordinators	

Ofsted Attendance Grades

96.5% + High	96.1% - 96.4% Above national average	95.5% - 95.9% In line with national average
94.0% or below Low	90% or below Cause for concern	85% or below Persistent Absence

Message from Mrs Giblett

We are in the process of finalising dates for this term and hopefully should have the key dates to share with you next week. In the meantime we can confirm the dates for our Autumn Parents Evenings.

- Parents Evenings for YR – Y1 will be on Monday, November 13 - Wednesday, November 15th (with Tuesday, November 14th as the late evening)
- Parents Evening for Y6 will be on Tuesday, November 14th – Thursday, November 16th (with Tuesday, November 14th as the late evening)

Information on times and booking up appointments will be shared after half-term

Settling into school

It is hard to believe that our first full week back has come and gone. It is a shame that the weather has not been kinder to us, but I hope the children have settled back well and are enjoying their new classes. Teachers & TAs. I have noticed lots of smiling faces around the school which is lovely to see.

We do know that starting a new school year can be a worrying time for some children for a variety of reasons. If your child has a worry of any kind, I just wanted to make you aware of our class pebbles system, as this can be a quick & easy way to help your children to solve a problem or worry.

Every child in the school will have been given a pebble (or possibly a peg or a lolly stick) to decorate and to write their name on. The pebbles (or pegs or sticks) are then placed on a table or counter along with 3 coloured mats/containers – red, amber and green. The mats work a little like a traffic light system.

- If your child is very happy coming to school or is feeling good in school, then they are free to put their pebble on the green mat as a sign to the adults in the class that they are feeling good. This is always lovely to see.
- If your child has a small worry coming to school, or something small happens at school which is bothering them a little, then they can put their pebble on the amber mat as a sign to the adults in the class that they are feeling a little worried and would like to chat to someone.
- If your child has a slightly bigger worry coming to school, or something is upsetting them in school, then they can put their pebble on the red mat as a sign to the adults in the class that they are feeling worried and would like some help.

Most children will start their day not putting their pebble on any mat and it often continues like that across the day but staff will keep an eye on the mats during the day and respond accordingly.

Some children prefer to speak directly to their class teachers and that is absolutely fine but the pebble system is there for any child who might prefer to communicate in a quieter way. You might like to discuss the pebble system with your child.

Pupil Premium

You will all be aware that all public services are experiencing reduced funding year on year. Therefore, we

are asking parents and guardians to take just a few minutes to read the Pupil Premium letter at the end of this week's newsletter as you might be able to help us with additional funding for the school. We know we have new and existing parents who are probably officially eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) because they are currently in receipt of certain benefits.

The problem is that because all Infant children now automatically receive Universal Free School Meals, many parents have forgotten to register their eligibility and are not aware that if they do so, this brings an **additional £1,300** (Pupil Premium Funding) per registered child per year to the school. This is money that the school benefits greatly from and which is used in lots of invaluable ways, as outlined in the Pupil Premium letter at the end of the newsletter. Even if you are only eligible for Free School Meals for a short period of time and then your circumstances change, as long as you have registered your child will continue to benefit from Pupil Premium Funding for their entire school education. Some of this Pupil Premium Funding is also directly available to registered parents to pay towards the costs of residential trips and music tuition. Just one new child registered in each of our 14 classes would be an additional £18,200 for the school to use.

Even if you do not want your child to receive a free meal, we would urge you to register for free school meals so that Archbishop Benson receives as much funding as possible. To register for your child to receive free school meals, all you have to do is to complete the application form at the end of this newsletter or ask for an application form from the office or access the form on the school website.

It is really important that you complete all the information asked for on this form, if you feel you are eligible, to help make sure schools, in these financially-straitened times, receive all the funding that they are entitled to. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Mrs Giblett

Meet & Greet sessions

In the week beginning September 18th, we will be holding our 'Meet The Teacher' meetings for parents and carers of children in Years 1 – 6. Teachers are very much looking forward to meeting with you and getting to know you, and your children, better. This will be an opportunity for staff to share basic expectations and routines with you, covering areas such as homework, reading, P.E., spellings, etc. It is also your opportunity to ask about anything to do with the day-to-day routine of the class your child is in.

If you have more specific questions that are relevant to your child as an individual, please feel free to speak to your teacher more privately at the end of the session.

We have timed the sessions to take place at the start of the school day. The children will be brought into their classrooms at 8.45 and once the class teachers have arranged with the TAs to supervise them, they will meet parents in the school hall. We appreciate that it may be difficult for some parents to attend these sessions, so please don't worry if you can't make it on the day. Staff are always happy to see you at the end of any day when you are collecting your child or if you wish to arrange an appointment

Date	Year Group	Time
Monday 18 th September	Year 1	9.00
Tuesday 19 th September	Year 4	9.00
Wednesday 20 th September	Year 5	9.00
Thursday 21 st September	Year 6	9.00
Friday 22 nd September	Year 2	9.00
	Year 3	9.00

Medicines in School

Children who are diagnosed with asthma, anaphylaxis, diabetes, epilepsy, etc need to have their medicines available to them in school.

Please can we remind parents and carers to send in **2** inhalers or epipens, along with their individual careplan/protocol (if provided by their health professional). It would also be helpful if you could keep a note of your child's medicine expiry date so that you can replenish medicines when necessary, as this is ultimately your responsibility, not the school's.

We would like to remind you that we can only administer prescribed medications, which need to be handed to the office staff and the relevant paperwork completed.

If you have any queries regarding how we manage medicines in school please do come and speak to Mrs Williams (SENCO).

Sick Bug



Unfortunately, we already have a sick bug going around again. In order to try and contain it we would remind parents that children need to be kept away from school for **48 hours** following the final bout of sickness or diarrhoea. Thank you.

School Uniform

Mrs Carter has been very busy in the office with the orders ready for children starting back this term. If you require further items please order via our school website and your order will be sent home via your child. Unfortunately, we did run out of jumpers. These have now arrived and we are dealing with the backlog of orders. Apologies for the delay.

School Meals

New school menus were sent home via the children at the end of last term. The menus are also available on the school website and Parentpay.



We would remind parents to book their children's meals on Parentpay. Any children in KS1 whose meals haven't been ordered will be served the meat option unless they are vegetarian.

Water and milk are always available to all the children. Cartons of milkshakes and juice may be purchased for 50p.

CLUBS

The new clubs list for this term has been sent home via your child today.

As well as clubs run by staff, we also have clubs run by outside agencies – French, Yoga, Capoeira, Dance, Archery and Football (see Clubs List for details). A reminder that forms for these clubs are held in the school office and must be returned with payment enclosed for children to be allocated a space.

FABB News

We are looking forward to our first meeting which will be our AGM on Monday 25 September 7pm at school in the year 5 and 6 work area. We will be reviewing the year, updating our constitution and re-electing our core team as well as sharing some drinks and nibbles.

Everyone is welcome to attend and anyone is welcome to stand for each of the posts. The existing Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Treasurer are happy to continue. We also have someone interested in taking on the Secretarial role.

If you are interested in one of the roles or would like to nominate someone, please get in touch with us by email: friendsofarchbishopson@gmail.com. Alternatively you can complete the slip below and drop it into the school office FAO Emma Potter (FABB Chairperson).

FAO Emma Potter (FABB Chairperson)

Name:

I would like to nominate

Name:

For the post of:

At the FABB AGM on Monday 25 September 2017

FABB Christmas Fayre

We know it is only September, but we are already planning our Christmas Fayre this year which will be on Friday 1st December 2017. We would love to hear from any local companies or small businesses who would be willing to sponsor an element of the fayre. We would also like to hear from anyone who would be interested in ordering a homemade Christmas pudding. Please contact us via email: friendsofarchbishopson@gmail.com. Many thanks FABB"

Music Lessons



Brass lessons will start next week. Mrs Carter still has spaces. Please contact the office if any KS2 children are interested in learning a brass instrument.

Please note, Mrs Sibley is not in on Tuesday morning next week. This will affect some of the Year 5/6 pupils. She ensure they receive the correct number of lessons this term.

Request for Children's Dressing Up Clothes

We would be grateful for any donations of dressing up clothes for our KS1 children. Thank you.

Year 3 & 4 French Clubs

There are still a couple of spaces in the Year 3 French club which starts on Weds 20th Sept. French Club follows a structured course and learning involves lots of fun games and activities - it's great for boosting confidence and gaining valuable language skills for the future. Please collect a sign up sheet from the office or email me on sharon@letsdolanguages.co.uk There are also a few places available for the year 4 Friday group.

French for all ages.

I also run lots of French classes outside of school for 3-11 year olds, as well as conversation classes for all ages.

If you are interested, please look at my website www.letsdolanguages.co.uk for class times and information.

Blues Club Before/After School & October Half Term

We are open every day for Breakfast and After School. Our team of qualified staff will ensure that your child is cared for in a safe and stimulating environment. Healthy breakfast and snacks are provided every session.

We are now taking bookings and guarantee to be open for half term holiday. We are offering a special discount rate of £20 for a full day. A full programme of activities will be sent out in September but we welcome you to make bookings now if you will need childcare.

Our staff are fully qualified and DBS checked. Blues Club is rated Outstanding by Ofsted.

For more information or to book please call us on 01637 877073 or email us at

info@firststepscornwall.co.uk

Parenting Group

Have you ever wished that you were not such a "push over"? Would you like to be able to say "no" without causing offence? Do you wish your children would listen to you? Would you like to be able to explain how you feel, even to a person in authority? Would you like your family to realise that you have feelings too? Then an assertiveness course is what you need.

The next course starts on *Thursday 14th September at 9.00 am*, in the Truro Baptist Church. A crèche will be provided. £1.50 per session to pay for the books. Each session starts with a cup of tea or coffee which is free.

Contact Polly Smyth on 07971 254 096 or Ali Stephens on 07973 452 780 if you would like more details.

Dates for Your Diary 2017:

September

Wed 27th Individual Pupil Photos

November

Fri 17th 6FT Class Assembly

December

Fri 1st 4T Class Assembly

Fri 1st Christmas Fayre

Mon 4th KS2 cross country finals and Santa Hat Charity Fun Run.

Wed 6th Reserve day for the above

Is your child eligible for Free School Meals and Pupil Premium?

What is Pupil Premium?

Pupil premium is a government initiative that was introduced in April 2011. It is designed to ensure that additional funding to tackle disadvantaged children reaches the pupils who need it most. Research shows that pupils from deprived backgrounds underachieve compared to their non-deprived peers. The Pupil premium is provided to enable these pupils to be supported to reach their potential. The Government has used pupils entitled to free school meals (FSM), looked after children and service children as indicators of deprivation, and have provided a fixed amount of money for schools per pupil based on these indicators.

In the 2017 to 2018 financial year, schools will receive the following funding for each child registered as eligible for free school meals at any point in the last 6 years:

- £1,320 for primary-aged pupils

Schools also receive £1,900 for each pupil who:

- has been looked after for 1 day or more
- has been adopted from care
- has left care under:
 - a special guardianship order
 - a residence order
 - a child arrangement order

And finally:

- £300 for services children.

How Is Pupil Premium Funding Being Spent at Archbishop Benson?

The funding is allocated to a range of initiatives aimed at supporting more disadvantaged pupils, to ensure they benefit from the same opportunities as all other children and to ensure that they reach their full potential.

The initiatives that are in place and are paid for entirely or in part by the Pupil Premium funding are as follows:

- Social Skills Groups (Time for Talk)
- Small Group Intervention
- Speech & Language Support
- Draw and Talk Therapy
- Drama Therapy
- Breakfast Club
- Nurture Group
- Lunch Time Club
- Phonics Support
- TA support

- Fun fit
- Precision Teaching
- Thrive Support
- Better Reading Partnership
- Curriculum Engagement Enrichment (Swimming, Music, Trips)
- Highly skilled intervention

Is my Child entitled to Pupil Premium Funding?

Your child may be eligible for free school meals – and accordingly pupil premium – if you receive any of the following benefits:

- Income support
- Income-based jobseekers' allowance
- Income-related employment and support allowance
- Support under Part IV of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of state pension credit

Application Form for Free School Meals and Pupil Premium

If you are in receipt of one or more of the benefits listed (see right) and you **do not** receive Working Tax Credits, please complete the application form below. If unsure, please contact the School Meals Team on 01872 323298 or email schoolmeals@cornwall.gov.uk – the team will be able to check your entitlement to claim.

From September 2014, all Key Stage 1 children (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) are eligible to receive free school meals. However, if you are in receipt of one or more of the benefits listed (see right) and you do not receive Working Tax Credits, your child's school could benefit from Pupil Premium funding to support your child just by filling in this application form. For more information, please speak to your child's school.

Parent/Carer Details

Title	
Legal Forename(s)	
Legal Surname	
National Insurance Number	<input type="text"/>
Date of Birth	<input type="text"/>
Home Telephone Number	<input type="text"/>
Mobile Telephone Number	<input type="text"/>
Please tick to confirm that your annual income is less than £16,190, that you are in receipt of at least one of the qualifying benefits (see right) and that you are NOT in receipt of Working Tax Credits.	

Qualifying Benefits
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Income Support
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Income-Based Jobseeker's Allowance (not Contribution Based)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Income-Related Employment & Support Allowance (not Contribution Based)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Child Tax Credit (CTC) with an annual income (as shown on your award letter from the Inland Revenue – TC602) of no more than £16,190.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support via Part VI of the Immigration & Asylum Act 1999 (IAA)
Please note, if you are in receipt of Working Tax Credit, you do not qualify for Free School Meals, even if your annual income is below £16,190

Child/Pupil Details

Legal Surname	Legal Forename(s)	Date of Birth	School Attending <small>Add start date if not yet attending the school specified.</small>	Home Address

Declaration

I certify that the above information is correct and I agree to inform the Free School Meals Service immediately of any changes to these details. I also agree that the Benefits Agency can reveal computer-held information for verification purposes as and when the Council is required to check new or continued eligibility. Please also note your information will be stored electronically on password protected and access controlled computer systems, and will be used in accordance with the principles set out in the Data Protection Act (DPA) 1998 and Cornwall Council's Data Protection Policy, which can be viewed at www.cornwall.gov.uk.

Claimant Signature	<input type="text"/>
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Please return your completed form to
School Meals Team, County Hall,
Treyew Road, East 0, Truro, TR1 3AY

