



Bethany CE Junior School

Newsletter: November 2023

God's hope in us to make a difference: For Ourselves, For Each Other, For the World.

Headteacher Welcome

Welcome to our November newsletter.

We will be holding our first parents and carers evening of the academic year on Monday 20th November and Tuesday 21st November. We hope this will be a great opportunity for you to find out about how your child is getting on at school and ask any questions. Each appointment is 10 minutes long, and if it goes over this, we may need to ask if the conversation could carry on another day.

Mrs Perez (Miss George) will be going on maternity leave any day now. Miss Gill will be covering as Parent Support Worker during this time. Miss Gill has been working closely with Mrs Perez for the last couple of weeks to ensure a smooth transition. Miss Gill will work every day except Friday.

As the weather is getting much colder and wetter, please could you make sure your child brings a coat with them for playtimes and walking home.

If you have any questions or worries, please don't hesitate to speak to us.

Parent Survey

Thank you so much to all the parents and carers who completed the Parent Questionnaire - it really is so useful to receive your feedback - although, as I am sure you know, you can chat and give us feedback at any time!

We had 132 responses out of 380 pupils.

Please find the results and any actions for the school below:

Question	Bethany % Agree or strongly agree	School Response and Actions
My child is happy at school	96%	
My child feels safe at school	96%	- Updated behaviour and anti-bullying policy to be published, taking into account findings of survey and conversations with parents and carers. This will be shared with parents/carers.
The school makes sure its pupil are well behaved	94%	- Review support for pupils struggling to regulate, including counselling, therapy and alternative provisions.



Compassion

Confidence

Creativity

Curiosity

If bullying has occurred, the school has dealt with it effectively and quickly	93%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regular circle time in class focusing on kindness. - Headteachers across Coastal Learning Partnership discussing and considering actions for dealing with bullying and pupils who struggle to regulate their behaviour. - As above regarding reviewing support for pupils struggling to regulate.
The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year	92%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Curriculum newsletters to be introduced from January. This will let you know what the children are learning. - We have made the curriculum section of the policy easier to find and navigate. The link for this is: https://www.bethanyjunior.co.uk/bethany-school-curriculum/
When I have raised concerns with the school, they have been dealt with properly	97%	
My child has SEND and the school gives my child the support they need to succeed	98%	
The school has high expectations for my child	90%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reviewed several policies for uniform and writing expectations. - New rewards for pupils showing good progress in their writing. - Support for children / families wanting to take the 11+ entrance exams for Grammar School. This includes working closely alongside the local grammar schools.
My child does well at school	95%	
The school lets me know how my child is doing	89%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We will be having parents evening on 20th and 21st November and again in March. You can also book an appointment to speak to your child's teacher if you are worried, or just want to find out more. - We will inform you of your child's attainment and progress in their end of academic year report. - We are a very open school, please get in touch if you have any questions or concerns about your child's education.
There is a good range of subjects available to my child at school	94%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We teach the full national curriculum and avoid narrowing the curriculum. - We strive to ensure children have access to high quality trips and visitors. We will continually review this.
My child can take part in clubs and activities	91%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We would love to offer more clubs. We aim to support families by ensuring all clubs are free (which is rare in schools). However, space and personnel are our main barrier.



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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Currently, we offer: Monday: Girls football club Tuesday: Boys football club and choir Wednesday: Dance and homework club Thursday: Netball and homework club - We have a range of fee-paying music tuition available including guitar, violin and piano. - We will advertise more external clubs and events from the local area in our communication emails.
The school supports my child's wider personal development (more than the curriculum)	86%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pupil leadership opportunities include: School Council, Spirituality Group, Worship Leaders, School Band, Head Girl/boy and deputies and Prefects. - We have regular visitors (although we always want more!) for our Family Worship every Tuesday - remember everyone is invited. - Regular Circle time for pupils to explore being a positive member of society.
I would recommend this school to another parent	98%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thank you very much - this means a lot to us.
For new starters: The school has enabled my child to have a positive and confident start	97%	

Parent Arbor Portal

PLEASE access the Arbor Parent app on:

<https://bethany-coe-junior.uk.arbor.sc/?/home-ui/index>

Or

download it on either the Play Store for Android or use the app store for iPhone.

Currently, we send a lot of text messages to communicate with you. However, these are not free and we are running out. If we wish to buy more text messages it costs the school 48p per text message and for a bundle that lasts a month it costs us £480.

We can send free messages to you using the Arbor app if you have notifications switched on. Please ask if you are unsure.

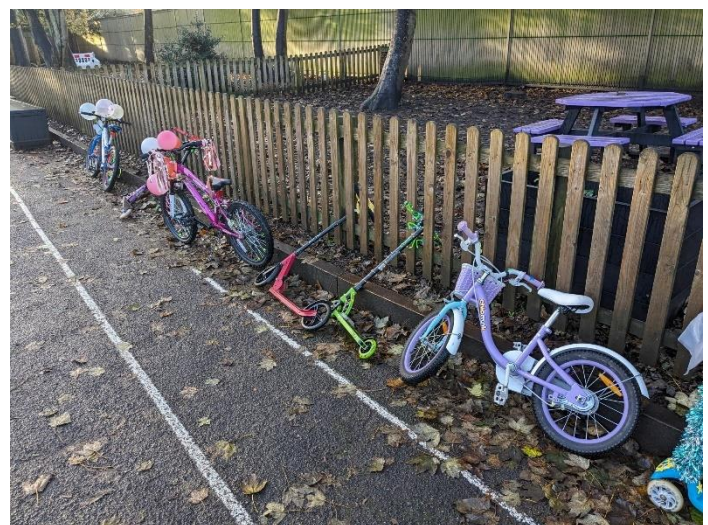


Dr Bike

It's been an exciting time for anyone who travels to school by bike or scooter this week! On Tuesday and Wednesday, Dr Bike and his Sustrans team were in school to carry out free bike checks. Over the two days they managed to service over 50 bikes. It was great to see so many of our community taking advantage of this service - hopefully there are now many safer bikes on the road. Feedback from Dr Bike was that our children were incredibly polite and grateful. One pupil even made him a thank you card!

In addition, Friday was "Bling your Bike" day. Children were encouraged to decorate their bike or scooter to make them as bright as possible. We had a great response to this event - please see the pictures below. All entrants were given a prize for their efforts and the bikes were displayed in the playground for all to see. Well done to everyone who participated.


Finally, many thanks to Dr Bike - we look forward to welcoming you back at some point next term.





Attendance

Each month, we will update you with the attendance figures for each class from 1st September. We aim to have attendance above 96%.

Class	Attendance
3AH	95.8%
3SD	96.4%
3RH 	96.7%
4KW	93.3%
4EW	94.7%
4SW	94.7%
5SB	96.0%
5BD	90.6%
5AB	94.6%
6PM	95.5%
6KR	95.4%
6JW	95.2%

Coffee Mornings



On Tuesday 5th December, we will be holding a coffee morning in the SEAL room from 9am (just so we can get all the children in and settled first). All welcome!

Due to popular demand - we will now hold a monthly coffee morning from January!



Safeguarding

ParentLine confidential text messaging service

ParentLine is a confidential text messaging service providing parents and carers of 5-19-year-olds in Dorset a way to seek advice from our school nursing team about their child's health and development via text message.

Parents and carers can get advice about a range of issues, including toileting, sleep, development, behaviour, healthy eating, mental health, bullying, school refusal and exam stress.

Parents and carers can seek advice via the 5-19 ParentLine service from 9am-4pm, Monday to Friday (excluding weekends, bank holidays and school holidays), with a member of the School Nursing team responding to messages within one working day.

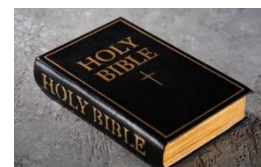
If you send text outside these hours, you will receive an automated message with advice on where to get help if you need it urgently.

Text [07312 263131](tel:07312263131) for confidential advice and support from a member of the school nursing team.

ParentLine is not an emergency service, for urgent medical attention contact your GP, 111 or 999.



Bible Quote



"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." ~ 1 Thessalonians 5:18



Diary Dates

Friday 17th November: 4SW Swimming 7/8

Friday 17th November: Children in Need

Friday 17th November: Bling your Bike!

Monday 20th November: Parents Evening

Tuesday 21st November: Parents Evening

Tuesday 21st November: Samaritans Purse Shoebox collection

Wednesday 22nd November: Pavilion Rehearsal

Wednesday 22nd November: Pavilion Carol Concert

Thursday 23rd November: Y3 cinema trip Puss in Boots

Friday 24th November: iCATS Y5

Friday 24th November: 4SW Swimming 8/8

Monday 27th November: Y3 Christmas Part at Marsham Court Hotel

W/C Monday 27th November: Dog Trust Worships

Tuesday 5th December: Coffee Morning 9am

Thursday 14th December: Y3/4 Pantomime in Ferndown

Friday 15th December: Last day of term. Children finish at 1:30pm

Wednesday 3rd January: Children first day back

