



Bognor Regis Nursery School

Monday 23rd September 2019

Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,

Welcome to the new school year at Bognor Regis Nursery School! I am writing to share with you some useful information for the coming term.

Dates for your diary

Half term (term time only children): Monday 28th October- Friday 1st November 2019

We have a few remaining holiday places available for this week, please speak with our team in the School Office for more details.

Last day of Autumn term (term time only children): Friday 20th December 2019

Christmas closure (all year round children):

Wednesday 25th December- Monday 6th January 2020

First day of Spring term (all children): Tuesday 7th January 2020

INSET (School closed to all children):

Our next INSET (staff training) day is **Friday 25th October**. We will be using this day to develop our practice around Peer Observation and Peer Coaching.

We have also set our last two INSET days for the school year. These will be on **Monday 6th January** and **Thursday 7th May 2020**.

NB each year we try to spread our INSET days across the week, so that the impact is equal for all children, families and staff. This year our 5 INSETs are on two Mondays, a Tuesday, a Thursday and a Friday.

New children and families

A warm welcome to the children and families who are starting with us this month. We look forward to getting to know you and working with you to support your child's development. You are invited to attend a 6 weeks in meeting with your child's keyworker and paired keyworker (see dates below). This is an opportunity to ask any questions you may have about our provision and to find out more about how we work to support the children at Nursery School.

6 weeks in meetings for new families:

Monday 11th November at 11.30am: Liz, Cathryn & Paula's new parents/carers

Tuesday 12th November at 11.30am: Alison & Joy's new parents/carers

Tuesday 12th November at 3.30pm: Angela & Christine's new parents/carers

Wednesday 13 November at 11.30am and 3.30pm: Trish & Jane's new parents/carers

Friday 15th November at 3.30pm: Ashleigh, Cathryn & Ellie's new parents/carers

Welcome to new staff

We are delighted to welcome Louise Balsdon to our Orchard Room team as a Keyworker.

We also welcome Paula Burch, Ellie Billingham and Ashleigh Funnell to their new roles as Keyworkers in Nursery School.

Karen Gibson returns to the School in a Teaching Assistant role.

Maternity

Rachel Cripps, one of our Teachers in Nursery School, has recently gone on maternity leave as she is expecting her second child shortly. Megan Mead, a member of our Orchard Room team, will also shortly be going on maternity leave with her second child. We would like to wish them both well with the new arrivals and look forward to welcoming them back to the School next year.

Shannen Campbell, also from Orchard Room, will be leaving us to go on maternity leave shortly. Shannen has decided to remain at home with her young family following her maternity leave. We thank Shannen for her work during her time at the nursery and wish her well for this exciting new chapter.

Parent Governor position

We have one vacancy for a parent or carer to join the School's Governing Body this term. In this role you would work with the rest of the Governing Body team to oversee the work we do as a School and help to ensure that we provide the best possible early education for our children over the coming years. Please email me at head@brns.org by Monday 7th October to express interest, or to find out more about the role.

Friends of the Nursery School

If you are interested in supporting the School but want something less formal, we are looking for parents, carers or members of the local community to join our Friends of Bognor Nursery School group. The focus of our Friends is to arrange social events for our families and to raise money for special events for the children.

Fundraising

There are several other ways that you can help the School to raise money for resources and activities for the children. Firstly, any clothes or shoes that you no longer use can be donated to charity through the clothing bank in the School car park. As well as supporting local charities, this raises a small amount of money each month for the School. We are also signed up to School Angel, an organisation that raises money for schools through online shopping (see [here](#) for more details).

Makaton training course

This Autumn Noriko, our SSC keyworker and Regional Makaton Tutor, will be running Makaton training here at the nursery. Makaton is a form of sign language which greatly supports children's communication as they are developing spoken language skills. We are significantly subsidising the course for family members of children who attend the nursery, keep an eye out for the flyer which we will be sharing very soon.

School Facebook page

We have recently launched a Facebook page for the School. The purpose of this is to share information with families and to celebrate some of the special moments and events at the nursery. We will occasionally post photos on the page, but only of those children for whom we have parental permission to do so. facebook.com/bognor.nursery

Collecting

Following an inspirational INSET training day from [Pete Moorhouse](#), we are hoping to reinvigorate our woodwork activities with the children this year. As part of this we will be collecting various resources, please keep an eye out for the collection buckets which will soon be appearing in the atrium.

We are also going to be collecting objects of cultural significance this term, to support us to develop children's awareness of different cultures and ways of life. If you have anything along these lines that you would be prepared to donate they would be much appreciated.

Names in coats

I know it is a boring job, but if you can put your child's initials onto coat labels (and other clothing) it makes a big difference in ensuring that the right clothing ends up with the right child each day!

Maintained Nursery Schools petition

As you may be aware, funding for maintained nursery schools is under threat. If you would like the work we do supporting children, families and the local community to continue, please sign the petition [here](#).

Finally, I would like to wish you all a wonderful year at Bognor Regis Nursery School. The Early Years are such a rich, exciting stage of development for children and it is a privilege for us to work with you to support them on their journey.

From time to time on this journey challenges can arise- we always aim to work together with families to resolve any difficulties. Please do raise any concerns with your child's keyworker. You are also welcome email me at head@brns.org if I can be of assistance.

Best wishes,

Joe Knutson
Head teacher