



FAMILY NEWSLETTER

Issue No 9

24th January 2020



Message From Jacqui Warne —Executive Head

Dates For Your Diary

Dear Parents & Carers,

A couple of notices this week:

Parents' Evening – Thank you for booking your appointment with your child's teacher at Parents' Evening this week. I hope you found the session informative and have a clear understanding of your child's targets for this term. If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to pop a note in the Home:School diary.

Parents' Evening usually takes place during the second full week of a new term, so the dates of future Parents' Evenings are as follows:

- Summer Term 2020 = Wednesday 29th April
- Autumn Term 2020 = Wednesday 23rd September
- Spring Term 2021 = Wednesday 20th January
- Summer Term 2021 = Wednesday 5th May

Education and School Hours – Please could I remind all families that Bidwell Brook's teaching hours are from 8.50 am until 3.10 pm. I appreciate it is difficult if there are a few children in the family attending different schools, however all children are entitled to a full time school placement and it is very important pupils arrive and leave school on time. Late arrivals and early leavers disrupt both a child's day and learning opportunities as well as have an impact on the whole class. If you are finding it difficult for your child to be at school during the core hours, please contact Stella Taylor who will be happy to speak with you. Thank you.

Jacqui Warne
Executive Head

w/c Monday 17th February - Half Term

27th March—Last day of term

Wednesday 15th April—Pupils return to school

Friday 8th May—Spring Bank Holiday—School Closed

w/c Monday 25th May—Half Term

Wednesday 22nd July—Last Day of Term

Tuesday 8th September—Pupils return to school

w/c Monday 26th October—Half Term

Friday 18th December—Last Day of Term

Respite Bags

Please could we ask parents and carers to ensure that any respite bags sent into school are marked clearly with your child's name.

Many thanks

Snippets

Don't forget there is lots of interesting information to be found at :
<https://childrenandfamilyhealthdevon.nhs.uk/signpostplus/>



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Hollow Lane Club/Siblings Group

Our new Siblings Group at Dartington started last Saturday and we had great fun. The day started with Chris teaching us Taiko drumming. We then had a little tour of the school to see where our brothers/sisters spend their day.

We enjoyed cooking and baked a French Epiphany cake filled with chocolate which was very yummy! and decorated a crown to sit on top.

We designed our own T-shirts which we were able to take home.

We also chatted about future sessions and made a list of what we would all like to do for trips out and activities based at school.

If you have a Sibling that would like to join in the fun and make some new friends, please do let us know. Our next session is on Saturday, 29th February.

Please contact Deb Ward on 01392 463823 or email admin@hollowlane.org.uk for more information.

Short Breaks Survey

Devon County Council would like to know your experience of using 'Short Breaks' - the funding many of you get is to provide you with a carers' break and your children with activities with other adults. Other names we all use are the 'RAS' assessment, enabling money, clubs money, respite money.

You can fill in an online survey: <https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/shortbreakscodesign> or there is a workshop in Totnes tomorrow and Kingbridge next week tomorrow. Follow the link above to see more details.

Please tell them all your experiences of accessing Short Breaks from the assessments, to finding and paying enablers / clubs, to support from the workers, the payment system, and anything else you'd like to say. If we don't tell them, they won't know!

Learners that Brunch

Phonics is not just about reading. We are enclosing an invitation to our brunch event on **Monday 03rd February @ 10.30 a.m.** to find out how the way we teach your child helps with their communication and understanding and giving ideas for some fun activities to do at home.

If you would like to come, please email support@bidwellbrook.devon.sch.uk, put a note in your home/school book or contact Daisy Binnie in her office.

See you there!

Shelby and Marie B.

Save the date: Safer Internet Day is on the 11th February 2020!

Safer Internet Day 2020 will be celebrated globally with the theme: Together for a better internet.

Visit the Safer Internet 'Parents & Carers' page using the link below to access free resources: Use these free resources to talk to your child about online safety this Safer Internet Day. This pack includes activities, conversation starters and information to help parents and carers talk to their children about how to navigate the issue of online identity in a digital age in a safe, responsible and respectful way.

Download the resources: <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2020/i-am-parent-or-carer>