



FAMILY NEWSLETTER

19th November 2021



MESSAGE FROM NIKKI BURROUGHS, EXECUTIVE HEAD



Today has been **CHILDREN IN NEED** day across our Federation. It was wonderful to see our learners arriving in their pyjamas and fancy dress! S3 had a cake sale and our school community gathered online this afternoon for a fun, virtual assembly.

I really enjoyed the Taiko drumming session this morning and blowing bubbles in Blue Class! It has been wonderful to see children and young people enjoying sharing and spending time with peers from other key stages with the relaxing of the "bubbles" this week. Please be assured we are continually monitoring the Covid-19 situation in our schools.



Our Student Council will be totting up the kind donations that have been received today for **CHILDREN IN NEED** and we'll let you know the total amount Bidwell Brook School has raised. As always, thank you for your support. Charities like **CHILDREN IN NEED** provide fantastic opportunities for those who need it and over the years, have been able to change the lives of many children and young people. The Hollow Lane Club in particular, has been fortunate enough to have benefited from their support.

In other news, Senior Leaders have seen some great teaching & learning taking place over the past few weeks both in the classroom and outside. Last week, some of the older students were learning about climate change which was particularly pertinent with COP 26 taking place. This week, there has been den building with marshmallows and hot chocolate and some of the students have even been Caving! The Rural Skills area is really taking shape and we are looking forward to seeing how the workshop project develops over the next few months. With that in mind, the weather is still being kind to us, but please ensure your child has a named, warm, waterproof coat in school to be able to comfortably enjoy their outdoor learning. Have a good weekend.

SHORT OF TIME? HERE'S A SUMMARY

Message from Nikki Burroughs, Executive Head - See across.

FOBBS (PTFA) Annual General Meeting - Wednesday 24th November at 1.30 pm online. We need you to attend! Please contact Daisy Binnie at school for details.

Contact Numbers and Messages - Please let school know of any mobile number/email changes. Also, please do not give Transport Drivers and Escorts messages to pass into school - we don't always receive them unfortunately. Thank you.

Allergen Info - Attached.

Healthy Eating - Click on the link on page 2 to reach the NHS Change4Life website for seasonal health recipes etc.

Wheelchair Clinic - Taking place at school on Wednesday 1st December. Contact Raegan Hunt, Therapy Asst at school, to book an appointment for your child.

Hollow Lane Club - See attachment. You can win ALL THE PRIZES!

E-Safety - Learn how to permanently delete photos from mobiles and ipads. Deleted photos can be restored!

Christmas Lunch - Tony and his team will be serving the festive feast on Wednesday 15th December.

Multi-faith Week - Photos on page 3.

Being Kind Online - Flyer on page 4.

DATES 2021

- Wednesday 24th NovemberFOBBS AGM at 1.30 pm (online)
- Monday 29th November.....Occasional Day (school closed)
- Tuesday 30th November/Wednesday 1st December.....Theatre Alibi due to visit BB
- Wednesday 1st DecemberWheelchair Clinic
- Wednesday 15th DecemberChristmas Dinner
- Friday 17th December.....Term end



EVERYONE WILL BE THE BEST THAT THEY CAN BE; EVERYONE HAS A VOICE; NO-ONE IS EXCLUDED



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FOBBS (FRIENDS OF BIDWELL BROOK SCHOOL) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING = Wednesday 24th November 2021 = 1.30 pm start = Online via Teams

We really need your support and just a little bit of your time please.

The aims for FOBBS is to raise money that is spent on your children. In the past, FOBBS has held events that raise funds for the school and bring the community together. Before the pandemic, we had a regular cycle of teas, mince pies and raffles at Christmas Shows, a Plant Sale at Easter and a wonderful Summer Fayre in July.

This fundraising has purchased many great things for our school across the years, from the soft surfacing in the Early Years playground, to Christmas Presents and Easter Eggs for your children. **We want to bring back the MAGIC OF FOBBS for this to continue - we need you!!**



Please seriously consider attending the AGM next Wednesday. The more "hands" we have, the more fun it is! FOBBS is a great way for you to come into school, be part of your child's education and meet like-minded families. Contact Daisy Binnie at school if you would like to be part of the team or have a relative, friend or neighbour who could join.

CHANGE OF CONTACT DETAILS/MESSAGES TO SCHOOL

Please could you pop a note into the Home:School Diary or let the School Office know if you have a change of mobile number or email address? We can then update our School Database accordingly.



PHONE NUMBER

Also, please do not pass messages to Transport Escorts or Drivers to pass on to school. Unfortunately, we do not always receive them.

Thank you!

ALLERGENS & HEALTHY EATING

Attached is a handy allergen guide, should you ever need it.



The NHS website is full of information to help everyone, adults and children, lead a healthy lifestyle.

Change4Life features food ideas and healthy seasonal recipes as well as games and activities to keep everyone moving! Click [here](#) to reach the website.

WHEELCHAIR CLINIC



EMC will be holding a Wheelchair Clinic at Bidwell Brook on Wednesday 1st December.

Jaime Mountcastle and Mark Dyroff will be attending.

If you feel your child needs an appointment, please contact Raegan Hunt, Therapy Assistant on 01803 864120 (option 4) or call EMC direct on 01392 547400. Thank you.

HOLLOW LANE CLUB

Exciting news from the Hollow Lane Club attached!





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E-SAFETY ADVICE = DELETING IMAGES FROM DEVICES

Did you know that if you delete a photo from a device such as a mobile phone or iPad, the photo is not deleted but transferred into a Recycling Folder? You physically have to click into the Folder to delete the image permanently, otherwise it can be “re-stored” at a later date.

On Android devices, the Recycling Folder is called the “Bin” and on Apple iPads/iPhone etc, it’s called “Recently Deleted”.



CHRISTMAS DINNER



Tony and the team will be serving our legendary Christmas Dinner on

WEDNESDAY 15TH DECEMBER 2021

MULTI-FAITH WEEK

We been celebrating Diwali, the festival of light. We have engaged in many exciting and creative activities, including making Rangoli paintings, lanterns and salt dough Diya Lamps. We are so proud of our creations that we displayed our artwork on classroom walls, for all to admire. The pupils have been participating in Diwali dance sessions in the hall for PE, we have loved this dance so much that we have continued to build on the dance routine every week.



ATTACHMENTS : HOLLOW LANE CLUB FLYER, SNIPPETS, ALLERGEN INFO

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USEFUL INFO FROM OUR ICT TEAM

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one issue of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

10 Ways You Can SHARE KINDNESS ONLINE

Last year, around one in five young people aged 10–15 in England and Wales admitted experiencing online bullying; most commonly being insulted or sworn at, or having hurtful messages sent about them. To someone who's being bullied, the world can seem like a bleak, negative place – but just one kind word can be a ray of hope: a turning point that brightens their day and refreshes their perspective. That's why 'One Kind Word' is the theme of Anti-Bullying Week 2021. We're supporting this year's event by bringing you ten top tips for beating online bullying by replacing it with kindness.

1 PRAISE WHERE IT'S DUE

Sometimes a friend or relative might post online about something they're proud to have achieved: maybe an exam they've passed, a new skill they've learned or a task they've completed. Celebrate their hard work and determination by being kind enough to praise them for it publicly.

2 REACH OUT

It's not always easy to tell what kind of mood someone is in just from what they post online. Simply dropping somebody a message to say 'hi', to ask if they're OK or to tell them that you're thinking of them could totally make their day.

3 RECOMMEND FUN THINGS

If there's something you enjoy doing online – perhaps you play a particular game, or you've found a really cool site – share it with someone you think will enjoy it. Even recommending a film or TV show you think they'll like can bring a little happiness to someone who really needs it.

4 OFFER TO HELP

Sometimes you might see a friend or family member posting a question online or asking for help with something they can't do themselves. Don't just ignore it – if you can help, get in touch. Something that's difficult for them might be no trouble for you!

5 POST POSITIVELY

Lots of people seem to go online purely to complain about things or be negative. Just because you're communicating online (and not face to face) doesn't mean you can't be positive, though! Post about things that make you happy and that you're thankful for. It could brighten someone else's day.

6 SHOW YOUR APPRECIATION

If somebody that you know has done something positive or shown kindness themselves, go online and thank them with a message or a post. Expressing your gratitude costs nothing and showing someone that you appreciate them will really make them feel good.

7 BE UNDERSTANDING

Showing empathy towards others is an act of online kindness which often gets overlooked. If you notice that someone you know is upset, drop them a message. Sometimes people just need someone else to listen to them and understand their situation.

8 SHARE INSPIRATIONAL POSTS

When you see something online that inspires you or makes you feel happy, share it with people you know. A spot-on quotation, a beautiful photo or an uplifting video can lift someone's spirits and help them to feel better about life.

9 THINK BEFORE COMMENTING

Thinking before we act can be just as important as acting in the first place. Taking a second to consider what you're saying in advance could stop you from posting something negative, hurtful or offensive – even if you don't mean to. It's better to post positively or not post at all.

10 LIKE, LOVE AND ENGAGE

If somebody posts something that you like on social media, don't just scroll past – take the time to like it, love it or leave an appreciative comment! Reacting positively to other people's posts might seem like a small gesture but could mean a lot to them.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with more than 10 years of experience in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid *The Inquirer*, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.

