



FAMILY NEWSLETTER

9th November 2021



SHORT OF TIME? HERE'S A SUMMARY

Message from Nikki Burroughs, Executive Head - See across. Friday 19th November is Children In Need day! If possible, please could pupils bring in a donation. Thank you.

Term Dates 2022-2023 - Attached.

Pupil Absence - Please report any absence ideally by 8 am each day. You can email the school, leave a message on the ansaphone or email covid19@learntolivefederation.co.uk if the absence is related to Covid-19 or you wish to advise of a test result.

Competition Winners - Three FE students were recently awarded Highly Commended in a Totnes story writing competition. See page 2 for a video of their presentation ceremony. Well done!

Enabling - A polite reminder that enabling is an agreement between the family and the enabler and must not involve the school. Families to check their enabler has a DBS check for enabling and public liability insurance in place.

The Trainline - Link on page 2 for family tickets.

Digital Magazine - Download an online copy of this magazine on page 2.

Using BB's hydropool - If your child wears incontinence pads, they must use incontinence swimwear or swimming nappies when in the pool. Info on page 3.

Flu Vaccinations - If you live with or look after a child with SEND, it would be beneficial to get a flu jab. Attached is a letter to present to your GP if you need support booking an appointment.

Covid-19 Vaccinations - See page 3 to click on a link to a letter from the Education Secretary.

Work Uniform - If you have any spare work uniform at home, or work tools, please could you send these into school FAO Shane Baker, Deputy Head. Thank you.

Magnifier - If you have a child with a Visual Impairment who is able to use a computer, the attached guide on Using Magnifier on Windows 10 might help.

MESSAGE FROM NIKKI BURROUGHS, EXECUTIVE HEAD



Welcome back to the second half of the Autumn Term! I hope you had a great half term holiday.

Since returning to school, we have been learning about and celebrating Multi-Faith Week. In our next newsletter, we will be able to share with you some wonderful photos of work from around the classes.

Celebrations such as this help our students to engage with the "Knowledge around the World" curriculum. Topics for Multi-Faith week included Light Festivals, Diwali and Hanukkah.

Friday 19th November is **CHILDREN IN NEED** day - something we always look forward to across our Federation! The Student Council have had some ideas for this year and we'll let you know their plans!

There will be fun activities happening and we hope your child will be able to bring in a donation towards this worthwhile appeal.



TERM DATES 2022-2023

Attached is a copy of our Term Dates from September 2022 to July 2023.

This information is also on our school website.



DATES 2021

Friday 12th November:	Children In Need day
<i>Postponed until the New Year:</i>	<i>Tempest Photography</i>
Monday 29th November:	Occasional Day (school closed)
Tuesday 30th November/ Wednesday 1st December:	Theatre Alibi due to visit BB
Friday 17th December:	Term end





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REPORTING A PUPIL ABSENCE

If your child is going to be absent, there are various ways you can let us know:

- Email the school:
admin@bidwellbrook.devon.sch.uk
- Leave a phone message on Reception's ansaphone
- If the absence relates to Covid-19, you can email our dedicated address:
covid19@learntolivefederation.co.uk
You can also use this email address to report a test result.

It would be very helpful if any pupil absences could be reported by 8 am daily, as this will help us to allocate staffing within "bubbles". Thank you for your support.

ENABLING

A polite reminder that although the school holds a list of staff who are willing to provide an enabling service, school is not responsible for these staff or any arrangements that are made. Enabling is a private and separate agreement between families and whoever is carrying out the enabling.

Please also note that the DBS checks we undertake as a school cover the staff for the work carried out whilst in our employment only. Families will also need to consider Public Liability insurance for enabling work. Thank you.

COMPETITION WINNERS

Message from

Ruth, Chris and Nat (Upper School Teachers):

We are incredibly proud of our three FE students who recently achieved a Highly Commended Award in the Totnes story writing competition.

If you click on the visual below, you can see Kallum, Jessie and Freddie receiving their prizes at St Marys Church in Totnes.

It was lovely to share the occasion with them and their families.



Well done and keep up your story writing!

THE TRAINLINE

There are some deals available for family tickets on The Trainline. Click [here](#) to explore!

DIGITAL MAGAZINE

Across the Federation, we take E-safety very seriously. Keeping our pupils safe and teaching them how to access websites safely, including social media apps, is an important part of our curriculum, particularly for Upper School students.

To help support our families, attached is an online copy of the "Digital Parenting" magazine. It takes a couple of seconds to download and open the magazine, and to click through the pages but it is worth it!

A hard copy of the magazine will be sent home when stock arrives with us in school.

Click on the visual below to open the magazine:



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



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USING THE HYDROPOOL AT BIDWELL BROOK

Important = Please note that if your child wears incontinence pads whilst at school, they are required to wear incontinence swimwear in our hydro pool as part of the school's Hydrotherapy Pool policy.

You can purchase incontinence swimwear from a company called HighLine Swimwear which can be found on two websites: [Fledglings](#) and [Respond](#). There are also other brands of incontinence swimwear available - just type in "incontinence swimwear" into your online search engine.

Students can wear swim nappies as an alternative, but swim nappies are not required if your child is already wearing incontinence swimwear. Any queries, please contact your teacher. Thank you for your continued support.

FLU VACCINATIONS FOR FAMILIES AND CARERS

Studies have shown it is beneficial for close family members and carers who live with and look after children with SEND, to receive a flu vaccination.



If you have yet to receive your flu vaccination, we recommend you approach your GP in the first instance and request an appointment. If there is some hesitancy by your surgery to book an appointment, we suggest you share a copy of the attached letter as support for your request.

COVID-19 VACCINATIONS

Click [here](#) for a letter from the Rt Hon Nadhim Zahawi MP, the new Education Secretary, regarding Covid-19 vaccinations.



REQUEST FOR WORK UNIFORM

Do you have any old and spare work uniform you could send into school? We would like to talk to our Upper School students about various workplace roles and to have uniform or specific tools would be really useful to help our students learn and engage.

We would be grateful if any uniform you send us is in a reasonably clean condition! Any tools need to be safe for our students to hold and use eg a spirit level not a hammer! Please send donations into Shane Baker, Deputy Head. Many thanks.

USE MAGNIFIER TO MAKE THINGS ON THE SCREEN EASIER TO SEE



Microsoft

For those of you who have a child with a Visual Impairment who is able to use a computer, the attached guide on **Using Magnifier on Windows 10** might help them to use the computer a bit more comfortably.

ATTACHMENTS : SNIPPETS, FLU VACCINATION LETTER, TERM DATES 2022-2023, MAGNIFIER GUIDE

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