



The BERRY HILL PROPHET

BE KIND * WORK HARD * BE BRAVE



PUNCTUALITY * THE KING'S CORONATION * STAFFING CHANGES * UNIFORM * OPAL
SPORTING SUCCESSES * LITTLE WANDLE BOOKS * COMMUNICATION * DATES

PUNCTUALITY

Can I please pass on my sincere thanks to all of our families for supporting our new approach to lates in the mornings. We have seen a significant drop in the number of children and the frequency of lates in the mornings and have noticed a real difference in classrooms with pupils being able to arrive and settle in a much calmer way.

THE KING'S CORONATION

On Friday 5th May, we would love to celebrate the King's Coronation by inviting parents to join us for a 'family picnic on the park' in the afternoon (time to be confirmed). We will be congregating on Berry Hill Park through the small gate at the back of our playground. All you'll need is a small picnic and ideally a picnic blanket. More details will follow but we just wanted to give you some notice so that you can make yourselves available should you wish to join us.

STAFFING CHANGES

Miss Senior in Year 1 has decided to embark upon a new and exciting career outside of teaching. From looking after and educating our Year 1 pupils, to leading whole-school computing and all things digital, we are very thankful for all that she has contributed and we wish her a happy and successful new adventure. Miss Senior will be leaving us on 28th April and we will be welcoming Miss King, supported by Mrs Price, who will ensure that the class have a successful end to their summer term.

UNIFORM

We have received notification that Crystal Knitwear, who currently produce and sell embroidered Berry Hill uniform, are ceasing the school uniform side of their business. We will update you as soon as we have secured an alternative provider.

V.I.P. ASSEMBLIES

We have rebranded our Friday reward assemblies to be V.I.P. themed (Very Impressive Pupils) complete with red carpet! We look forward to celebrating our many fantastic young people.

OPAL

(Outdoor Play and Learning). We are delighted to be beginning the next phase in our redevelopment of our outdoor spaces and provision. You will no-doubt have noticed some significantly large storage sheds appearing around the grounds – these are to house resources as we create new outside zones. Our 'Play Co-ordinator' Miss Hedges has been finalising our vision for the site. We will be developing a number of play zones which will meet multiple outdoor play and learning needs. At present, the plan will involve:

- Sports zone; Music zone; Drama zone; Art zone; Role play / Messy Play Zone (mud kitchen); A den-building nature area zone; Small-world play zone

We are also looking to build a sandpit and introduce a scooter area in due course. As many of you will have noticed, the sheds are complete and the letter from Miss Hedges asking for donations has already gone out. Watch this space!

SPORTING SUCCESSES

A huge congratulations to our Year 6 girls' football team who won the Mansfield Town Ulyett Landscapes Cup and went through to the regional round at Burton Albion. This is an incredibly impressive feat, and this is reflected in the obscenely large trophy which now resides in our reception area!

LITTLE WANDLE BOOKS (PHONICS)

Can we please be extra careful to look after our Little Wandle phonics scheme books. So far in the 3 half terms it has been running, we have 45 books which have either been torn or water damaged. Whilst we hugely appreciate the value of a physical book, we are monitoring this to see whether it is sustainable to send books home as this would cost school £450 a year just to replace these. If we can be mindful not to put the books in with water bottles hopefully the number of unusable books will decrease and we can continue to send physical books home, rather than revert to an online system.

COMMUNICATION

Earlier this year we held an informal drop in session for parents to join us for a drink, some cake and to give us some feedback. Overall this was a hugely helpful event and has supported us in reflecting on our current tools for communication. We hope that you are all finding our invitation to use ClassDojo helpful (for families of pupils in Years 1 to 6). Our vision is that this will enhance communication greatly. If you haven't yet signed up for this, please speak to the office or your child's teacher. We want this to be a really good positive communication tool and will be sending out a usage policy shortly.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Year 3&4 performances – 21st & 22nd March
- Parent's Evening – w/c Monday 27th March
- Easter Holidays 3rd – 14th April
- King's Coronation Picnic on the Park – 5th May
- Year 6 SATs Week – 9th – 12th May
- KS1 SATS – completed throughout May
- Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check – within a fortnight starting 5th June
- Year 1 Phonics Screening Check w/c 12th June
- Year 6 Residential -12th- 14th June

PTFA EVENTS

- The PTFA will be hosting their annual Easter Egg Tombola, Cake & Gift Sale on Thursday 30th March from 3.20pm – 4.20pm in the school hall.
- The PTFA will be hosting Doughnut Friday on Friday 28th April on Year 3 & year 4 playground from 3pm.
- The PTFA will be hosting a school Disco for all the children in F2 right through to Year 5. This will take place on Thursday 22nd June from 3.30pm onwards in the school hall.
- The PTFA are really excited to be hosting our very first summer fair! This will take place during the month of July and it would be great to have the support of the school and local community. We will be opening the fair up to external stall holders, so if you have a business and would like to get involved, please email berryhillptfa@outlook.com
- The PTFA will be hosting the Year 6 leavers fest on Thursday 20th July from 5pm-7pm in the school hall.

Many thanks, Berry Hill Primary School Senior Leadership Team