



## PARENTS' OPEN MORNINGS

We have been delighted with the turnout for our Christmas Crafts Open Morning this week. We plan to bring in further opportunities to invite parents into classrooms to learn alongside their children and will write to you in the new term. Some of the children (and parents) also took part in my hopefully fiendishly tricky Christmas Numbers Quiz. I am delighted to say that the winning entries were: Hudson in Year 1, Willow in Year 4, George and Darcy, both in Year 5. Thank you to everyone who took part. It was eye-opening seeing quite how competitive some of our parents can be!



## SPRING 1 SPORTS CLUBS

Our PE Lead, Miss Shaw, has just completed organising next half-term's after-school sports clubs. Details of how to express an interest in places will be shared shortly. Extra-curricular opportunities are something I place a lot of value on and whilst ever the budget allows, these will be something that we try to provide free of charge.

Day	Club	Led by
Monday	Year 4/5 Tri-Golf	Mr Wells
Monday	Year 1/2 Dance	Hayley (Dance coach)
Tuesday	Year 3/4 Gymnastics	Mr Wells
Wednesday	Year 2/3 Basketball	Mr Wells
Thursday	Year 5/6 Sports hall Athletics	Mr Wells
Friday	Year 1/2 Invasion Games	Mr Wells

## STAFFING

It is with sadness that we say goodbye to Mrs Woods in F2 at the end of this week. Mrs Woods has been a fantastic member of the Berry Hill team for nearly 7 years and we wish her luck and happiness as she moves back

to London to begin a new adventure. Mrs Ireland will become sole Early Years Leader and Miss Gore will be job-sharing with Mrs Ireland in F2. I am sure that she will become a great addition to the team.

I would also like to add my congratulations to Miss Fullwood in Year 1 and Mrs Edwards in Year 4 who have both successfully passed their Teaching Assistant Apprenticeships this last week with flying colours. The course, in conjunction with Nottingham College, is over 2 years, meaning they have both gained such a breadth of knowledge and experience. We are hoping to be in the position to take on 2 new apprentices in September – if you know of anyone for whom this could be an ideal opportunity, please ask them to get in touch.



## MONITORING & FILTERING

As part of 'Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023' updates, when it comes to IT networks, schools are charged with increased responsibilities in ensuring that sufficient filtering systems block out harmful content and that regular monitoring takes place of any attempts to access anything we would consider unsuitable. We also do spot checks as part of our fortnightly safeguarding meetings to check that certain searches are suitably blocked. If you have any concerns about monitoring or filtering, or would like support with how to restrict content accessible at home, please get in touch.

## SITE DEVELOPMENTS & OPAL

As I type, 'Caledonian Play' are installing the next phase of our outside play site development plan.



Before Christmas, we will be the proud owners of a sandpit, complete with canopy, a slide and a climbing ramp to get back up the slope. Thank you to everyone who helped organise or attend our PTFA events over the past year – this fundraising is a large part of why we have been able to make these improvements. Our PTFA are always on the lookout for new members – please get in touch if this is something you are interested in.

# PE KIT REMINDER

I just wanted to send a polite reminder about school's PE kit uniform as we have seen an increase in football kits and sparkly unicorn tops again! The uniform is:

- Plain white or plain blue T-shirt (a small manufacturer's logo is fine)
- Black or navy shorts / tracksuit bottoms / leggings
- Plain black or navy tracksuit top / hoodie / sweatshirt
- Suitable PE footwear (e.g. PE plimsols or laced / Velcro non-high-top trainers)
- No earrings\* (ideally these are not worn at all on PE days)
- Long hair needs to be tied up please.

\*Regarding earrings – if there is a medical reason why earrings cannot be removed, please speak to me and I will consider if an exception can be made to our no tape policy. If a pupil does wear tape, it is the responsibility of the professional leading the session to continually check that it is safe so I hope everyone can understand why tape will only be allowed in exceptional circumstances so as not to slow down and disrupt everyone's PE lessons.

## RECENT TRIPS & EVENTS

This has been an incredibly busy end to a term, but we have had some fantastic trips and events to look back on. Both KS1 and EYFS successfully put on their respective nativity plays and it was wonderful to see so many parents, carers and family members attend.



In November we took 60 children down to watch England play at Wembley



Our F2 – Y6 visit to Mansfield Palace Theatre was a great success. Some of our pupils even ending up on the stage!





Our Southwell Minster carol concert was a beautifully uplifting event, as was our lovely performance to grandparents beforehand.



On December 13<sup>th</sup>, we took 25 members of school's Drama Club down to the West End to watch the amazing performance of Matilda, in preparation for our drama club putting on their own version later this school year.

## 'SEE IT TO BE IT'

See it to be it is our approach to inspire Berry Hill children by showcasing local people who have achieved something fantastic or do something interesting. I am still very much on the hunt for people who would be prepared to come in and talk for a few minutes in an assembly about what they do and how they got to where they are now. If you, or someone you know, has set up their own company or works for a successful local firm or does something that would be really interesting for the children to hear about, we'd love to hear from you.



## AND FINALLY...

Each year group will be producing their own termly newsletters at the start of the next term which will detail the curriculum content your child will cover and also organisational details such as PE days and what homework expectations there are.

May I just take this opportunity to thank you all for your support during this year and wish each and every one of you a merry Christmas and a very happy new year. See you all next term on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January.

As a final note, although school will be closed until 4<sup>th</sup> January, should you require any support, we will still be monitoring the [support@berryhill.sch.uk](mailto:support@berryhill.sch.uk) inbox and will replay to you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Berryhill', written in a cursive style.