



NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2024

GLAD WE TOOK THE PLUNGE!



Thank you to everyone who has helped make our first trial at having a swimming pool on site such a success. The feedback we have had from the children is overwhelmingly positive and we have already secured a return booking for pre-Easter next year.

INTRODUCING BERRY HILL'S NEWEST ADDITION

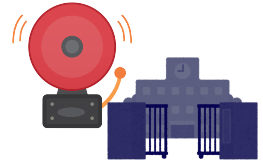


We are very excited to introduce the latest member of the Berry Hill team. This is Daisy who is a therapy and reading dog through 'Pets as Therapy'. Daisy, along with her owner Linda, will be regularly visiting Berry Hill.

Daisy has completed all of her necessary training including passing a temperament assessment with flying colours. Research shows that therapy dogs can help children, especially reluctant readers, make great progress with their reading as well as helping children to feel calm and regulated - especially if it's a tricky day. We are hoping that Daisy will become a huge part of our school.



GATES AND SCHOOL BELLS



When we return after Easter, we will be having the old school bell system back up and running. It will be on a timer and will help us make sure that all classes are running to the same time. As part of this, we will be slightly tweaking our how we manage the gates. When the bell sounds at 8:55, we will be locking our gates - if any parents are still on site that's not a problem at all, but you will need to exit school through the main hall and out through the main entrance - unless you'd like to stay and listen to children read - which would of course be lovely!

PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCY



Once we return from the Easter hols, we will start the process of parent governor elections. If this is something that you may be interested in, or if you have any questions about what this involves, please get in touch with us.

OPAL OPEN MORNING: THURS 18th APRIL @ 8:50

Please come and join Miss Hedges, the OPAL team and the children for our OPAL parents' open morning. Find out about our latest developments are but most importantly, come and experience the fun alongside your child!

APPRENTICE TEACHING ASSISTANTS VACANCIES

Following the successful completion of their course by our current apprentice teaching assistants, we are in the position to be able to offer 2 more opportunities for someone who would like to become a qualified Level 3 TA through the apprenticeship route. The course is approximately 20 months long and is an opportunity for someone to gain their qualification whilst earning a wage. The job advert, which is on the government's apprenticeship portal has just gone live at: <https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeship/1000240787>
If you, or someone you know, might be perfect for this, please come and have a chat.

TESCO COMMUNITY VOTE



From the beginning of April Berry Hill's nursery will be one of the 3 projects shoppers can vote for at the Oak Tree store. To vote, you will need to make a purchase within a store, of any value. You will receive one blue token per transaction – although sometimes the Tesco staff will give you more, especially if you ask! Place that token in the Berry Hill Primary School slot and we can hopefully be awarded funds to help by outside play equipment for our nursery children.

RECENT EVENTS

It has been an amazing term of events and competitions, capped recently by school winning the local 3/4 dodgeball and 3/4 indoor athletics tournaments. To summarise, events include:

- 5/6 girls' football (including a tremendous victory against Python Hill!!)
- 5/6 mixed rugby
- 5/6 boys' football
- 3/4 boys' football
- 5/6 dance festival
- 5/6 indoor athletics



A FEW DIARY DATES

Doughnut Friday 17th May after school (TBC)

F2 - Y5 Summer Discos: Thursday 27th June (times TBC)

Collaboration Concert @ The Palace Theatre: Tuesday 2nd July

KS2 Sports Day: 4th July AM

Summer Fair: Sunday 7th July

F1 & F2 Sports Day: Tuesday 9th July AM

KS1 Sports Day: Thursday 11th July AM

Berry Hill's Got Talent: Friday 12th July

Y6 Leavers' Disco: Thursday 25th July 5pm - 7pm

Dates can sometimes be subject to change - we'll try to tell you as early as possible if any of them do.

