

Welcome back! I hope you've all had a great Easter Break and are ready for an exciting Summer Term in School.

In Creativity, we will be studying our new topic: Sow, Grow and Farm, where your child will learn about allotments in the United Kingdom and how the UK Government encouraged people to have them to support food rationing during the Second World War.

In addition, pupils will learn about food webs and animal life cycles, including how living things are dependent on one another within a habitat. They will investigate the different ways that plants reproduce and will dissect flowering plants to identify the different structures. They will also have the opportunity to learn about farming in the United Kingdom and the techniques used in modern farming, including the challenges that farmers face, which is particularly pertinent here in the Peak District.

Pupils will also learn about the benefits of eating seasonally and about the pros and cons of importing food. They will also learn about world farming and how the different climate zones affect where different foods can be grown.

Snacks + Water

Key Stage 2 children can bring in their own fruit from home to eat at break time. Milk can also be purchased via the Cool Milk Scheme.

Please send your child in with a named bottle of water each day. No juice or squash please.

Classroom Organisation

Ruby Class will continue to be taught by me (Mr Downings) with support from our fantastic teaching assistants, both in class lessons and during interventions sessions (where necessary), which will give extra targeted support to pupils.

Power Maths will again be taught separately in discrete year groups. Please continue to support your child in developing their mental arithmetic skills at home – particularly their fluency in multiplication and division. All children have login details to access Times Table Rockstars, which will help with this.

At the end of the day, children will be dismissed from the main gate.

School Uniform

Please ensure that all clothes are labelled with your child's name, so that it can be identified easily and that appropriate black footwear is worn in school. Due to the cold weather, pupils should also wear a coat to school as outdoor learning is an integral part of our Curriculum.

PE

This term, PE sessions for Ruby Class will still be on Tuesday and Wednesday, and will take place outside where possible. Children should attend school in their PE kits on these days. Please ensure that they are dressed appropriately for the weather and that their footwear is suitable for physical activity outdoors. Children with long hair must also be able to tie it up for PE, and all earrings must be taped over.

Reading

Pupils need to have their reading book and Reading Diary in school every day. We recommend that children read their banded reading books at home for 15 minutes each day. Please encourage your child to sign or write in their diary after they have read. A member of staff will check their records each week. Their Reading Records also contain a list of the compulsory spelling words from the National Curriculum.

Children will also have a teacher-led Guided Reading session each day and will be heard reading regularly in school by an adult.

Need to chat?

Please don't hesitate to get in touch via email at: mark.downings@bishoppurglove.derbyshire.sch.uk if you have any questions or concerns.

Art Shirts

It would be very helpful if you could provide an old shirt or t-shirt (that your child could keep in school) to put over their uniform to help protect it when we are using paint and other messy stuff!

Homework

Pupils will continue to complete weekly homework tasks using CPG Revision Guides. Homework information will be sent via the school's app messaging system.

Year 6 SATS

Year 6 SATS will be held from Tuesday 9th May 2023 to Friday 12th May 2022. In order to help the children to prepare for these tests and to reduce their anxieties about them, we will continue doing Practice SAT papers as part of our weekly English and Maths lessons. Practising questions under timed conditions and reviewing them together, will help your child to develop their test technique and strategies to help them understand the question and respond fully. Questions and papers will be repeated regularly to embed these strategies and help develop a positive mindset to sitting these assessments in a few weeks time.

Parents and carers and Year 6 children are warmly invited to attend a KS2 SATs Workshop on Thursday 4th May at 3.50pm, where information about the forthcoming tests will be given and staff will be available to answer any questions you may still have.

Residential Visit

The Year 5 + 6 Residential Visits are always a massive highlight of the children's time here at Bishop Purglove. The Residential is booked for 19th- 21st June 2023. Once we have received information about the Residential from the Hollowford Centre, we will invite Parents to attend an information briefing a few weeks before the visit takes place.

Transition Days

This term sees the return of Secondary School Transition visits for Year 6 pupils. Lady Manners have arranged a transition visit for pupils at BPS on Friday 23rd June 2023. Our Whole School Transition Day where pupils will meet their new teachers will be on Tuesday 4th July 2023.

Pupils attending other schools in September will be contacted directly by their Secondary School regarding Transition Arrangements. If you have any questions regarding transition please contact Mrs Kilford or myself using the usual methods of communication.

Once again, I look forward to working with you and your child throughout their final term at Bishop Purglove School.

Kind Regards

Mr Downings – Year 6 Class Teacher