

Key Dates

1st May – 1/2S Class

Assembly

8th May – 1F Class Assembly

13th May – Year 6 SATS week

20th May – Year 2 SATS week

22nd May – 1D Class

Assembly

24th May – Sporty Theme Tag
Day

Term Dates 18/19

Term 5

Tuesday 23rd April

until

Friday 24th May

Term 6

Tuesday 4th June

until

Tuesday 23rd July

Term Dates 19/20

Term 1

Tuesday 3rd September

until

Friday 25th October

Term 2

Tuesday 5th November

until

Friday 20th December

Term 3

Tuesday 7th January

until

Friday 14th February

Term 4

Monday 24th February

Until

Friday 3rd April

Headline

This term is a very short but important one, with statutory testing in both Years 2 and 6. These tests are commonly known as SATS.

In Year 6, children are tested in reading, maths and grammar during the week beginning 13th May. These are formal tests completed in 'test' conditions. The papers are sent away to be marked, and the results are compared with all other Year 6 children in England. Children will receive their results in July. We are obliged to report these results as a collective year group at the end of the year too. We must also inform secondary schools of the results for the children they are expecting in September. Secondary schools use these results to inform groupings and support for children entering Year 7.

The Year 6 children have worked very hard at what can be a very stressful time. Mr Atkins and his team have planned a test timetable to ensure that all children get the support and TLC they need during the test week.

In addition to these tests, teachers must submit an assessment score for writing based on independent work the children complete in class. The children have been working on evidence for this all year, but June is very important as this evidence is pulled together and any identified gaps are focused on.

Children in Year 2 also take SATs. Children must sit reading and maths tests in May. At Byron, we will carry these out in the week beginning 20th May. We rarely use the word 'tests' with our Year 2 children and urge you to refrain from doing so too. The assessments children take in Year 2 are

marked by school staff and form a piece of evidence alongside all their class work. This helps teachers come to a judgement at the end of the year. These judgements on attainment will be reported to parents in July.

During both of these testing weeks, access to school leaders and Year 2 and 6 teachers may be limited as statutory requirements must be met around the administration and timing of tests.

Mr Carthy

News

Classes for 2019/20

At this school we have a standard number of 75 children which we can admit into each year group. This presents us with a challenge as classes are usually made up of around 30 children. Our solution to this, along with many schools across the country, is to have some split year group classes. School data shows that there is no positive or negative impact on being in a shared year group class. Each class has a 5 year spread of ability in it. This does not change by mixing year groups. Accurate assessment by staff ensures that children are taught what they need to be taught. In 2019/20, we will run the same system as we have done in recent years.

For the last 5 school years, there have been 5 classes in each of the national curriculum phases of the school. Each of these phases has had one mixed year group class. For example, in Key Stage 1 there have been two Year 1 classes, two Year 2 classes and one

Uniform

A navy blue jumper, sweatshirt or cardigan. Navy, black or grey trousers, tailored shorts, skirt or dress/navy and white checked dress. A white or blue polo shirt, shirt or blouse. Flat plain black shoes or trainers (no heels or open toes). www.myclothing.com

Key Staff

Mr Carthy *Headteacher*

Mrs Langthorne *Deputy Head*

Mr Chantler *Deputy Head*

Ms Gould *Chair of Governors*

Mrs Hill & Miss Knight *SENCO*

Miss Masters *FS Leader*

Miss Scudder *KS1 Leader*

Mr Chantler *LKS2 Leader*

Mr Atkins *UKS2 Leader*

Mrs Vella *Family Liason Officer*

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, achieving equal opportunities and combating discrimination.

We operate a very clear whistleblowing policy for staff.

mixed year group class. In addition, our youngest children (FS2) are split into 3 classes of 25.

As we must arrange classes in this way, it is not possible for children to stay together with the same group each year. Later this term, we will be asking all children to name 5 children in their year group who they would like to be in a class with next year. We will make sure that they are with at least one of these children.

School leaders will use lots of information about the children to help create the classes. We wish to make classes with an even spread of ability and gender and where possible, avoid any serious clashes of personality. It is important we spend a lot of time doing this, as once classes are set for the year, they will not be changed.

If you have a specific request regarding classes for 2019/20 which you would like us to consider, please see the relevant phase leader (see below) before the end of May. It will not be possible to request a specific teacher.

FS2 – Miss Masters

Y1 & Y2 – Miss Scudder

Y3 & Y4 – Mr Chantler

Y5 – Mr Atkins

Transition work to new year groups will begin in the summer term. Your child's class teacher and phase team will be confirmed in their end of year report. This is scheduled to be published on Friday 12th July.

Crossing Patrol Vacancy

Following Mr Bangs retirement, Medway Council are now advertising for his replacement. If you are interested in this

position please visit the link below:-

<https://ats->

medway.igpp.co.uk/vacancies/view/95610

All applications should be in by Friday 3rd May 2019. If you require any further info please contact Leanne Adams on 01634 331743

Reminders

Before School

A reminder that the play equipment on both playgrounds is not to be used in the mornings between when the gates are open and the bell goes for the start of the school day.

Rights Respecting Schools

This term our UNCRC focus article is Article 26:- *You have the right to help from the government if you are poor or in need. Every child has the right to benefit from social security.*

The children will be discussing what this means in school and we hope you will have conversations about this at home.

Pat On The Back

The class with the best attendance for the week beginning the 1st April 2019 was 1D and 6C with an amazing 98.7%! 1/2S had no late pupils during this week, and a fantastic 97.9% of children arrived on time.

Also Coming Home

- FS2BF Mrs French pregnancy announcement letter
- Year 1 Phonics Screening Check Parents Meeting Letter
- Year 5 and 6 ZooLab Minibeast workshop letter
- Year 6 Post SATs theatre permission letter