



## Upcoming Dates

20th September . . The duck hunt continues.....  
10th October—Harvest Festival  
16th/17th October—Year 6 cycling proficiency  
22nd October—Parent/teacher discussions  
23rd-31st October—Half Term

## FOBS—Duckhunt

Thank you to all those who have already taken part in our exciting, prize giving duck hunt around the village. There is still plenty of time to take part and if you haven't picked up the quiz sheets from the school you can do so from The Royal Oak.

## Introducing our new MFL Teacher

I would like to inform you of a new member of staff to Bishopstone Primary School. Mrs Anley will be teaching KS2 MFL (Modern Foreign Languages) from this point forward. This year we will be focusing on French, building on the learning that the children have done previously with the specialist teacher from Ridgeway School. There is a stronger emphasis on MFL within primary schools in the New Curriculum and we are focused on providing high quality, enriching and fun experiences for the children. We are also liaising with our Secondary feeder school to make sure that we are using a scheme of work that feeds into their own.

## Vicar

Unfortunately the Vicar is currently not working due to illness. We are in contact with the Diocese to enable a youth worker to come in and do some work with the children. We wish him a speedy recovery and once that is in place will return to the format of him taking assemblies and coming in fortnightly to work with groups of children.

## Wyvern Trip to see the Horrible Histories

All children in KS2 thoroughly enjoyed a wild journey through history with the stage performance. There was many a squeal with the 3d glasses on and lots of interaction with the cast, our school even got to hold teddy who 'lost his head'!!

Dear Parents/Carers

Some busy weeks have passed with some lovely events taking place such as the new election of the school council, election of prefects and lots of awards won in the local village show. The school councils first task is to draw up the list of events to participate in. The very exciting opportunity to take part in Young Voices for KS2 is the first of these. Reminder that slips need to be returned next week for a place . . and we hope to take a majority of KS2.

As a staff we are focusing our circle time on friendships, to have an impact on any children that are upsetting others on the playground. We have seen an improvement in the last two days, so well done to the children.  
Miss Lindsay

## Parent Evening—Monday 15th September

Thank you to all those who attended the introductory 'start of year' meeting and the positive feedback that we had from this. It allowed you that initial time with your child's teacher, an overview of the new aspects of the 'Big Pond' and also a look at our exciting new library system. If you were unable to attend and have any questions outstanding please let us know.

School lunches continue to go well, with the children beginning to have 'favourites' and others that they are not so keen on. We are feeding back to Cygnet the children's preferences for future meals as we have a daily communication book. It was exciting to see the children have an additional vegetable with their meal on Tuesday—one that confused some of our children which was delicious 'school grown' runner beans!

On another note as illness is beginning to have an impact, a reminder that if your child is absent please let us know in the morning, and if they are due to have a school dinner you need to follow the following procedure:

As their parent you need to call the **Cygnet customer care line - 0121 4575455** before 09:00 each day that the child is off ill. A credit note is given from the second day onwards.

## Childline for Year 5 and 6—assembly and workshop

We were lucky to invite in Childline last week for Year 5/6 with their new programme that they are rolling out. The new programme is all about keeping safe: helping children to recognise the signs of abuse, ensure they know how to protect themselves and make them aware of how and where to get help if they need it. The children responded well to the sensitive topic and asked questions that they wished to be clarified.

## Easy fundraising

The school is part of Easyfundraising—<http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/how-it-works/>. This is an easy way for us to raise money in school. So far we have raised £60 .. but with Christmas drawing near this could be a great opportunity to increase this. Money raised will go towards a trip for the children!!

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2014

## Governing Body Overview

Dear Parents,

I'm writing to update you regarding a number of changes to our Governing Body. Our Chair of Governors, Lucy Barratt, stood down at the end of the summer term. Lucy made a major contribution to the school over a number of years and the Governing Body thanked her for her work on behalf of the school.

An election for the role of Chair was undertaken and I'm delighted to announce that Gill May has been appointed as Chair. Gill was previously Vice Chair and has extensive experience as a governor. Mark Clitherow was elected as Vice Chair and Mark also has extensive governor experience. We are also joined by Mike Welsh as Local Authority (LA) Governor. Mike had been an Associate Member of the Governing Body and we are pleased that he has now been appointed to a full governor role, replacing Lucy as the LA Governor.

We have also seen one further departure. Alessandra Greenwood has stood down as parent governor after two years of service and we thank Alessandra for the work she has done for the school. Although Alessandra was a Parent Governor, it will not be necessary to hold a Parent Governor election as a change to the overall structure of the Governing Body means that it has reduced in size from 12 to 11 governors. This change links to a government requirement for all governing bodies to reconstitute.

The constitution, or structure, of the governing body determines how many and what type of posts govern the school. The Governing Body needed to review its size and skills. The revised constitution has been agreed by the Diocese and is planned to come into effect on 1 October 2014, once confirmation is received from the Local Authority.

The Governing Body has also been reviewing its committee structure and now has two main committees and a number of working groups linked to specific areas of work. Updated details of all governors will be posted on the school website, so it will be clear who is who should you wish to contact a governor. As a number of our governors are parents of children at the school and members of staff, most will be very familiar faces.

The Governors are listed below with their updated governor roles, reflecting the structure due to come into effect from 1 October 2014:

Gill May – Chair - Co-opted Governor

Mark Clitherow – Vice Chair - Co-opted Governor

Philip Anley – Co-opted Governor (Staff)

Emma Lindsay – Headteacher

Sue Tremlin – Staff Governor

Mike Welsh – LA Governor

Reverend Bill O'Connell – Foundation Governor (Ex-officio)

Jill Rankin – Foundation Governor

Karen English – Parent Governor

Lucille McGrath – Parent Governor

Charlotte McEvoy – Parent Governor

(Clerk to the Governing Body – Maggie Whitaker - [clerk@bishopstone.swindon.sch.uk](mailto:clerk@bishopstone.swindon.sch.uk))

Further information on the committee structures and terms of reference will be included on the school website and I'm sure governors will be able to tell you more if you have any queries.

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## Hillsborough Holiday Club

### October Half-term 2014

#### ❖ Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October

Forest Fun – Outdoor arts and Crafts (also Diwali, festival of light)

#### ❖ Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October

Forest Fun – Outdoor games, bug hunting, tree climbing

#### ❖ Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October

Forest Fun – Obstacle course building & Orienteering. Can you find the hidden treasure?

#### ❖ Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> October

Forest Fun – Building 'Habitats' (Insect hotels, frog ponds, den building, hibernation nests).

#### ❖ Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> October

Trip to Coate Water Country Park, Swindon for some outdoor antics.

[www.swindon.gov.uk/lc/lc-parks/lc-parks-list/lc-parks-list-coate/Pages/lc-parks-list-coate.aspx](http://www.swindon.gov.uk/lc/lc-parks/lc-parks-list/lc-parks-list-coate/Pages/lc-parks-list-coate.aspx)

#### ❖ Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> October

Forest Fun – Outdoor cinema (with soup and damper bread using the campfire)

#### ❖ Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October

Forest Fun – Fun in the forest in fancy dress (optional but no 'scary' costumes please)

Vegetable carving, apple bobbing, decorate your own apples, Sensory experiences.