

CASTLE BROMWICH JUNIOR SCHOOL

September 2018
NEWSLETTER

www.cbjs.co.uk
office@cbjs.solihull.sch.uk

Parent Champions This group of parents is a very effective group of parents who help to keep the school informed of parent's views as well as providing an opportunity for us to discuss potential new ideas and seek parent's opinions. Your opinions are important to us and these sessions provide opportunities for you to support how the school develops. They meet once a half term and we would love to increase the size of this group, even if you can't commit to each date, just come to the sessions that are suitable for you. Meetings start at 4.15pm, the dates for this term are 2nd October and the 14th November. Please contact Mrs Timms s10ttimms@cbjs.solihull.sch.uk if you would like to attend or to find further information.

A very warm welcome back to school, especially to those pupils and parents joining CBJS for the first time. As teachers we do all love our summer holidays, but it is genuinely lovely to be back looking forward to a new and exciting year.

The dates listed on the reverse show what an exciting and busy year lies ahead. Some dates may be subject to unavoidable change, but parents will be informed. Further details about the events listed will be sent in due course. Some dates had previously been placed on the website due to dates automatically rolling forward- these are inaccurate and will be updated. Please refer to the attached document for this year's dates.

Volunteering in School

We really value and appreciate any support that parents and grandparents can offer in school. This may simply be listening to pupils read or using a specific skill or talent you have alongside our staff i.e. art, sport etc. We will support any parent or grandparent in their role in school and no one will be asked to do anything they feel uncomfortable with.

In order to safeguard our pupils any parent or family member who wishes to volunteer in school must attend a school-based introduction session. We shall be holding a meeting on Thursday 27th September at 1.45 to introduce volunteers to our key policies and clarify expectations. Can I remind all parents that if you think you might want to volunteer in school at any point in the year i.e. school trips/helping in school you must have completed the relevant forms and attend a meeting. Please contact Mrs Hobden for further details and to inform her if you are attending the meeting s10shobden@cbjs.solihull.sch.uk. Any parent who has previously completed the forms and attended a meeting does not need to attend again.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLANNING

Schools are required to produce an improvement plan detailing the key areas they are going to address. This year our overarching aim is to continue to develop a culture of high achievement for all pupils. All pupils have the ability to succeed at CBJS and go on to achieve even greater things in life – we all believe in this and know this from pupils who return to us to share their successes. We want to work to instil that belief in our pupils and families and will be addressing this further- particularly through targets 1 and 3.

Our top priorities this year are:

- SIP 1- To support our most vulnerable pupils and families in particular. To build a growth mindset in all pupils that anything is possible with a positive attitude and a bank of strategies. We will continue to ensure all pupils and families have the opportunities to engage in school life
- SIP 2- To improve the key skills that pupils need in order to flourish. We will be building on the successes of last year's reading drive as well as ensuring pupils have the ability to write in an engaging manner, can reason in maths and that all pupils know all of their timetables. This is soon to be a national expectation for y4 pupils.
- SIP 3- In the busy and at times challenging lives we lead there are pressures that can affect our mental well-being. At CBJS we have always had a focus on our pupils' physical health and whilst we will continue to do that, we want to further support their mental health. Opportunities throughout our curriculum and wider opportunities will be provided to support the well being of our pupils and staff.
- SIP 4- Many parents will be aware of the financial challenges that schools are facing. Some schools have faced dramatic changes in staffing and others have reduced the length of their school day/week to accommodate this pressure. This target is about ensuring the financial stability and long-term success of the school.

A full copy of our SIP is available by contacting the school office.

Asthma and Medicine To remind all parents that if any child needs an inhaler in school we must have a consent form completed by a parent. Our asthma policy and forms to be completed are available on the letter carousel in the school office area or from a member of the office team. Before we can administer any medicine to pupils we must have a consent letter signed. We are only able to give prescribed medicines.

Attendance and Punctuality

Parents will know the high importance we place on attendance. Any child's attendance that falls below 90% is classed as a persistent absence and becomes a serious concern. It is vitally important that children arrive by 8.50 to enter the school from the playground with all the other children. Lessons start promptly at 8.55.

If you have any concerns about attendance or punctuality please contact our Learning Mentor-Mrs Campbell via the main office or directly by email s10ccampbell@cbjs.solihull.sch.uk