

park life

Buckingham Park Church of England Primary School Newsletter

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An Inspector Calls

On Tuesday afternoon I took a phonecall from Mr Michael Bartleman who informed me that he would be leading an inspection of the school for Ofsted on Wednesday and Thursday.

During the course of the two days the inspectors observed lessons, scrutinised children's work and teachers' planning, spoke with governors, parents and pupils, and looked at the progress that children were making in our school.

I would like to thank all those parents who contributed to the inspection process by completing an online questionnaire through 'Parent View', or by speaking with the inspection team. The inspectors were very impressed with the support of the parents and we were thrilled that all those who responded to the questionnaire would recommend the school to another parent.

We believe that the inspection report will accurately reflect the school's strengths and areas for development. We expect the report to be published in 2 – 3 weeks' time and I will ensure that all parents have access to a copy as soon as possible.

Thank you for your continued support.

Nick Waldron



Film Night

Our November film night takes place this Friday. This is for children in Years 1, 2 and 3. We'll be watching 'Brave' which has a PG Certificate. Our doors will open at 5.15pm and children should be collected at 7pm. There is a charge of £2 to cover refreshments.



Miss School = Miss Out!

There is a strong link between good school attendance and achieving good results for children.

Unwelcome Guests



Headlice is a problem that affects all of us. This troublesome pest is a widespread and sometimes unpleasant infection, especially among school-age children. A common misconception is that they are a symptom of poor hair hygiene - rest assured this is not true. Lice are equally likely to be found on clean or dirty hair!

Contrary to popular belief, head lice cannot jump, hop or fly. Children can get head lice from sustained head to head contact when playing together, whispering, hugging or when they are in close contact with an infected adult. The truth is that anyone can get head lice - not just children.

The perception by some adults may be that there is an 'outbreak' with many children infected - this is rarely the case. At any one time, most schools will have a few children with active living head lice. This can be between 2 - 5%. It is rarely higher than this.

The only way to eradicate the problem is if every single one of us is vigilant. **Please check your children's hair this week** with a fine toothed inspection comb. The recommended method is to 'wet-comb' conditioned hair. If you are concerned, please contact your local pharmacist who will be able to offer advice.

Please continue to check your children's hair regularly (at least weekly) and ensure that all long hair is tied back. You may also wish to brush your child's hair each afternoon when he or she returns from school – this will prevent any louse which has wandered onto your child's head during the day from laying eggs and becoming a more significant problem.

If you would like some further advice or information on this issue, please ask us.

Emergency School Closure Procedure

As the very cold weather draws in, and the threat of early snow, it is timely for me to inform you of our procedure for closing the school in the event of severe weather conditions, a loss of essential services (power, water or heating), insufficient staff numbers or another significant happening.



Firstly, it is important to say that we will always endeavour to keep our school open if it is safe to do so. If the decision to close a school is made, this decision is taken by the Headteacher in consultation with the school's Governing Body Chair and the Senior Area Advisor. These decisions are not taken lightly and are often made following a recommendation from the Local Authority or as a result of warnings from the police, transport authorities or met office.

In the event of school closure we will notify parents through the Bucks County Council Website. The Headteacher is the only person with the authority to list the school closure on this secure site so, if our school is listed as closed, we are closed – there is no need to ring the school.

The local radio stations (Mix 96 and Three Counties Radio) will also be informed if we are closed for any reason. We'll also try to get an update posted to our school website, and send an email to all our parent contacts.

Please do not ring the school. Always check the Bucks County Council website first. The volume of incoming calls can make it difficult for us to contact our staff or emergency services if every parent tries to call in.

www.buckscouncil.gov.uk **Always check this website first and follow the links to schools, and school closures.**