

# park life

## Buckingham Park Church of England Primary School Newsletter

Volume 2 :: Issue 1 :: Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2013

### Happy New Year!

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Welcome back to a new term and academic year at Buckingham Park Church of England Primary School. I would particularly like to welcome all those new families who are joining us for the first time this September. We welcome you to our school family and we trust that you will feel part of the community very quickly indeed.



'Park Life' is the name of our school newsletter. 'Park Life' is the place where we will try to place all the important news and dates. Please take time to read each one carefully. Each copy will also be placed on our school website. We try to send a newsletter home every week on a Monday.

We want to be a school that pursues excellence in everything that we do. We want to fix our minds and our energy on everything which is true, noble, right, admirable, excellent and praiseworthy. As a school based on Christian values, we trust that God will help and strengthen us as we strive to be outstanding and remain outstanding. In short, our vision is to pursue, 'Excellence, through God who strengthens us'.

We aim to provide the highest quality all round education, for each and every child, in partnership with parents, and within the context of a Christian community.

Our Christian values are really important to us and we will take time at the beginning of this term to share them with all our children:

We are kind, helpful and polite  
We do our best  
We are honest  
We share

We are peacemakers  
We forgive others  
We take care of everything, and everyone

Whilst these are Christian values, we recognize these as being universal human values that all our families, whether Christian, from another faith background, or from no faith background, will want to support us in growing in our school, in our staff, and in each of the young people we have the privilege to teach and care for.

We are all looking forward to another enjoyable, hardworking and successful year at the school and would like to thank you for your continued support.

Very best wishes,

*Nick Waldron*

# The Morning Routine

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Thank you for your support with our routine for welcoming children at the beginning of the school day.



Children in Reception and Year 1 will continue to be brought into the classroom by their parents. Children in Years 2 and 3 should be dropped off at their main entry door (from the playground) where a member of staff will greet them.

All teachers will still bring children out to the playground at the end of the day. We have some cones temporarily placed to indicate where Year 2 and Year 3 parents should wait. Please do not be tempted to come right up to the door as this prevents us from ensuring that each child is safely handed over to a parent and will slow down the process at the end of the day.

## Staff News

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We are delighted to welcome some new faces to our staff team. Miss Lucy Waterhouse and Mrs Katherine Houghton are our two new teachers. Miss Naima Zafar joins our Nursery team as a Nursery Assistant and Mrs Jo Perry joins us as a teaching assistant. We also have three new additions to our lunchtime team; Mrs Italia De Vita, Mrs Afreen Sultana and Mrs Mandy Cooper. I am sure that you will join me in welcoming them to the Buckingham Park family.

We also congratulate Mrs Whyte-wood-Sitzberger who was married over the Summer.

## Labels, labels, labels...

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Please remember that everything that comes into school should be clearly labelled with your child's name - including all clothing, bags, PE Kit and lunchboxes. We recommend 'Stikins' - One easy name label with multiple uses for all kinds of school items.

# STIKINS<sup>®</sup>

Stikins can be ordered from <http://www.name-labels.com> If you add our school number to your order - we'll receive some commission and you won't pay anything extra! **Our school number is: 35421**

## School Uniform

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We expect the very highest standards of presentation from our pupils. Please help us to ensure that children are always neatly dressed in full school uniform.



We will ask children to dress at school and on their journey to and from school. This sends a very positive message to everyone who sees us. If your child is unable to wear the correct uniform for any reason, please write a note to his or her class teacher.



Please note that we do not allow any form of jewellery, except a simple wristwatch, to be worn in school. This includes any type of earring. No exception can be made for recently pierced ears.

Finally, please also remember that PE kit should be available at school for use every day. We sometimes have to rearrange lessons without notice due to our ever changing weather!

## Attendance – New Emphasis and New Rewards!

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Showing up for school has a huge impact on a child's academic success starting in Nursery and continuing through secondary school. Even as children grow older and more independent, families play a key role in making sure students get to school safely every day and understand why attendance is so important for success in school and in a job.



### DID YOU KNOW?

Children should miss no more than 9 days of school each year to stay engaged, successful and on track

#### Make school attendance a priority

- Talk about the importance of showing up to school, on time, every day, and make that the expectation
- Help your child maintain daily routines, such as getting up and dressed on time, and getting a good night's sleep
- Don't schedule dental and medical appointments during the school day
- Don't book holidays in term time
- Don't let your child stay home unless truly sick - complaints of headaches or stomach aches may be signs of anxiety rather than an illness – speak to us if you are at all worried



We really want to inspire our children and families to have an excellent attendance pattern so we are laying down a challenge. Each half term, any child who has an attendance rate of 96% or better will be awarded a '96 Challenge' certificate and will be entered into a special prize draw.

96% means no more than 1½ days of absence each half term.

## Have you got what it takes?

## Punctuality – Be On Time

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We are keen to ensure that we start the day on time – ready to learn. To this end, we will take the register promptly at 8.40am expecting all our children to be there. Throughout the term we will be operating a 'late gate' system. If a child arrives after 8.40am, his or her name will be recorded in our book and parents will be asked to give a reason for his or her late arrival. Arriving on time for school instils good habits and demonstrates reliability.

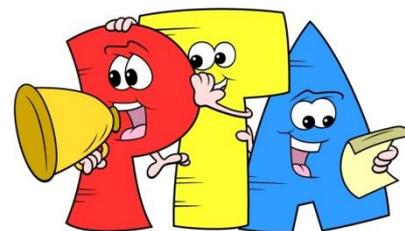
Being late for school may be embarrassing for your child and it may disrupt the class if your child arrives late. Additionally, your child may miss something important, for example some information about the day ahead or the start of a worship time.

# Parent Teacher Association – Supporting Our School

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We have a small group of Nursery and School Parents who have already organised a magnificent Summer Fete which was a fabulous day for the entire community, as well as raising funds for the school.

We have two events planned for this term, a Christmas Shopping and Pamper Evening on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November, and a Christmas Fayre on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December.



Our first meeting of the term is on **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm** in school. This will also be our very first Annual General Meeting at which we will elect officers and officially form as a group so that we can register as a charity and get our own bank account.

It would be great if many, many parents were able to come along and show support.

## Diary Dates

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Here are all the dates that we have booked in so far for this term:

### **Mon Sep 16, 2013**

Reception children staying for lunch

School Photographer - Individuals and Siblings

### **Thu Sep 19, 2013**

Reception staying all day

19:00 PTA Meeting and AGM

### **Wed Sep 25, 2013**

Family Learning - Teddy Bear's Picnic - Reception

### **Thu Sep 26, 2013**

19:00 Phonics and Reading Evening for Parents

### **Fri Sep 27, 2013**

17:15 Film Night (for Years 1 – 3)

### **Wed Oct 2, 2013**

Family Learning - Teddy Bear's Picnic - Year 1

### **Thu Oct 3, 2013**

09:30 Admission Info Meeting and Tour (Reception 2014)

### **Wed Oct 9, 2013**

09:00 - 11:00 & 13:00 – 15:00  
Nursery Open Session (for prospective parents)

### **Fri Oct 11, 2013**

09:00 Harvest Worship Time

### **Tue Oct 15, 2013**

13:30 Peter Pan – Theatre Production in School Hall

### **Wed Oct 23, 2013**

17:00 - 20:00 Parents Evening

### **Thu Oct 24, 2013**

15:30 - 18:30 Parents Evening

### **Fri Oct 25, 2013**

17:15 Film Night (Years 1 – 3)

### **Mon Oct 28 - Fri Nov 1, 2013**

Half Term

### **Fri Nov 8, 2013**

19:00 PTA Christmas Shopping and Pamper Evening

### **Wed Nov 13, 2013**

09:00 - 11:00 & 13:00 – 15:00  
Nursery Open Session (for prospective parents)

19:00 E-Safety Evening for Parents

### **Fri Nov 15, 2013**

Children in Need Day

### **Thu Nov 21, 2013**

09:30 Admission Info Meeting and Tour (Reception 2014)

### **Fri Nov 29, 2013**

17:15 Film Night (Years 1 – 3)

### **Sat Dec 7, 2013**

12:00 Christmas Fayre

### **Mon Dec 9, 2013**

18:00 New to Nursery Parents Meeting

### **Tue Dec 10, 2013**

16:30 New Nursery Children Settling in Session

### **Thu Dec 12, 2013**

16:30 New Nursery Children Settling in Session

### **Mon Dec 16, 2013**

14:00 KS1/2 Christmas Performance  
18:30 KS1/2 Christmas Performance

### **Tue Dec 17, 2013**

14:30 EYFS Christmas Performance

### **Wed Dec 18, 2013**

10:30 EYFS Christmas Performance

### **Thu Dec 19, 2013**

17:00 - 18:15 EYFS Disco  
18:30 - 19:45 KS1/2 Disco

### **Fri Dec 20, 2013**

13:30 Term Ends

### **Mon Dec 23, 2013 - Fri Jan 3, 2014**

Holiday