

# park life

Buckingham Park Church of England Primary School Newsletter

Volume 3 :: Issue 22 :: Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2015

## Acts of Kindness



Kindness is a virtue which, although underrated, can change one's outlook on life and help others. An unexpected act of kindness is a true gift. As a school, we take kindness seriously. One of our school values states that 'We are kind, helpful and polite'.

I challenge you all to perform a kind act this week. Our children have been challenged through our '20 Days' project for Lent.

A simple gift of an unexpected act of kindness will make someone's day!

## Bag2School – This Wednesday

Two weeks ago we sent home 'Bag2School' bags. Please fill these bags, if you are able, and return them to school this Wednesday 11th March.

Please do not drop them off before this date because we do not have the space to store lots of bags!



## Red Nose Day – This Friday



Red Nose Day is back and, once again, the nation is gearing up to put on their Noses, pull out all the stops, and get fundraising. The money raised for Red Nose Day is spent by Comic Relief to transform the lives of millions of people, both at home in the UK and across Africa.

We invite children to dress up in 'Red Nose' gear and red clothes for the day, in return for a donation to the charity of at least £1 (but more is just fine!). Red Noses are available to buy in Sainsbury's stores, Oxfam shops and from the online shop at [www.rednoseday.com](http://www.rednoseday.com)

## Year 3 and 4 Visit to College Lake

On Friday 20th March, children in Years 3 and 4 will be visiting College Lake. We are requesting a voluntary contribution of £6 per child to cover the cost of the visit.

If you have not yet had the opportunity to log into ParentPay and make the payment, we would really appreciate it if you could do this the end of this week. Thank you.



## History is buried...



Thank you to everyone who entered our Time Capsule competition.

The winners were invited to Buckingham Lodge on Friday 27th February to see the Time Capsule being buried and to take a look at the new care home, our newest community neighbours.

Alison Purkiss, Customer Relations Manager for Anchor, has been in contact with the school to say, "It was a great morning and the kids were all fabulous and extremely well behaved and polite – an absolute credit to the school."

## Cycles and Scooters – Please be careful!

We do not permit cycling or scootering on our school site because the beginning and end of the day tend to be very busy and we don't want to have any accidents. Please would you also be very mindful of the very busy pathways around school at the end of the school day – we have heard some reports of children riding into people on the pavements and pathways around school. At busy times, your child may need to walk their scooter or bike in the immediate vicinity of the school.



## Brief (but important) News



Our Year 3 and Year 4 children will be leading our **Easter celebrations** with a presentation to the rest of the school and also to their parents. Parents of Year 3 and 4 children are invited to the presentation on Wednesday 25th March at 9.00am.

Tomorrow, we have invited a **School Improvement** Consultant to join us for the day to support our evaluation as a school and to enable us to identify ways in which we can improve our school. She will be with us for the day and may speak to parents at the beginning and end of the school day – so please don't be too shocked if she asks you about your experience of Buckingham Park.

## Keeping Up Appearances

The School's Governing Body has recently reviewed our School Uniform Policy. We would like to thank all parents for helping us to maintain a well-presented community of children who look smart and ARE smart!

# School Uniform

The following reminders will help us to maintain this very high standard:

1. We do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school. No exception can be made for recently pierced ears.
2. Hair should be neatly presented. Long hair should be tied back with a simple bobble, scrunchy or alic band in school colours (navy blue or jade green).
3. The only footwear we permit are black school style shoes which are fastened with buckles, laces or Velcro fastening. We do not allow children to wear slip-on shoes, trainers, boots, open toe sandals, high heels or platform soled shoes.
4. A headscarf (hijab) may be worn but this should be navy or dark blue, plain and in the short fitted children's style (with no pins)

Our full uniform policy is available to download from the school website:

<http://www.buckinghampark.bucks.sch.uk/policies.html>

## School Attendance – Every Day Counts



We have recently updated our Attendance Policy to bring it fully in line with legislation.

Low school attendance can have a devastating affect on a child's chances of making good progress and, ultimately, on achieving well in school. We want each of our children to do really well and, to this end, we actively encourage high attendance.

Our '96 Challenge' is set to encourage every child to reach the national average attendance for children in Primary Schools. Any attendance below 95% overall is concerning, and attendance below 90% is very worrying indeed.

We will encourage good attendance from every child and family but where this fails to bring about an improvement in attendance, the School will notify the Buckinghamshire Education Welfare Service of the irregular attendance. This may lead to a parenting contract meeting, penalty notices or prosecution.

Whilst we want to avoid taking such drastic measures to secure good attendance, we do need to ensure that parents realise their own responsibilities in ensuring attendance at school and we will do everything that we can to help every child to make good progress – and this means being in school!

Our full Attendance Policy is available from our school website:

<http://www.buckinghampark.bucks.sch.uk/policies.html>