

# park life

Buckingham Park Church of England Primary School Newsletter

## Once Upon a Time...

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We're really looking forward to our special day tomorrow. Traditional tales are a really important writing structure for the children to learn. They help us to understand great stories – superb characters, amazing settings, conflict resolution, story structure and so on.

We hope that the children will really enjoy the day – dressing up, a theatrical performance and story activities. We'll take lots of photos to show on our website!

Thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes,

*Nick Waldron*



## Introducing...

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I am sure that you will join me in welcoming Hannah Gibbons to the staff team at Buckingham Park.

Miss Gibbons will be based in the school office, taking the role of receptionist, as well as supporting school administration in many other ways.

Additionally, we have now appointed four lunchtime supervisors to join Miss Puddefoot as part of our lunchtime team. They will be starting soon and we will introduce them to you as they start their role.

Furthermore, we are delighted to welcome Mr Will Jackson as he starts a long term training placement at the school. He will be working alongside our teaching staff in each of our classes.

I know that you will make our new staff members feel very welcome.



[www.buckinghampark.bucks.sch.uk](http://www.buckinghampark.bucks.sch.uk)

For all the latest news, information and updates



## Names, names, names...

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Everything that comes into school should be clearly labelled with your child's name - including all clothing, bags, PE Kit and lunchboxes. We found a number of clothing items last week which were not named and this does cause us great difficulty in getting things back to their owner. One school sweatshirt or PE T-Shirt does look very much like the next and it is frustrating if we cannot return items to their owner quickly.



You can name clothing and other belongings in a range of ways.

We recommend 'Stikins' - One easy name label with multiple uses for all kinds of school items. They are dead easy to use – they simply stick into clothing and onto all sorts of items. They're washproof, dishwasherproof and schoolproof!

If you want to order 'Stikins' simply follow the link on the 'uniform' page of our school website.

## A celebration of harvest

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Our special Worship Time for Harvest is on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October, starting at 9am, in the school hall.

Children are invited to bring along a gift for the Vale of Aylesbury Vineyard Church Storehouse from the list below.

If you would like to join us for our worship time, please return the slip below so that we can make sure that we have enough seats in the school hall.

Items we are collecting for Harvest:

Tea	Pasta sauces	Long-life milk
Coffee	Tinned vegetables	Cereals
Sugar	Baked Beans	Jam (not homemade)
Pasta	Tinned Fruit	

We are happy to receive items from the above list on Monday 15<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> or Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October. We will display our collection at our Worship Time on the 17<sup>th</sup>. Items should be brought into the school hall.



### Booking Form for the Harvest Worship Time

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class: Red  Blue  Green

Number of places required: One  Two

Please return to your child's classteacher or the school office by Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October.



# Buckingham Park Receives Top Rating '5' for Food Hygiene!

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Following a visit from Aylesbury Vale's Environmental Health Officer, we are delighted to report that we have been awarded the top rating for food hygiene.

The Food Hygiene scheme is run by local authorities in partnership with the Food Standards Agency. Each business or organisation serving food is given a 'hygiene rating' when it is inspected by a food safety officer from the local authority. The hygiene rating shows how closely the business or organisation is meeting the requirements of food hygiene law.

The food safety officer inspecting an organisation checks how well the business is meeting the law by looking at:

- how hygienically the food is handled – how it is prepared, cooked, re-heated, cooled and stored
- the condition of the structure of the buildings – the cleanliness, layout, lighting, ventilation and other facilities
- how the business or organisation manages and records what it does to make sure food is safe

At the end of the inspection, the business or organisation is given one of the six ratings. The top rating of '5' means that the school was found to have 'very good' hygiene standards. And this is the rating achieved by Buckingham Park!

We'd like to thank Hayley Jackson (School Business Manager), Jo Puddefoot (Catering Assistant) and Joe Lucas (Caretaker) who have taken the lead to ensure that we meet the very highest standards of food safety and hygiene.

## News in Brief...

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### Payment for School Meals

Thank you for your patience! We have decided to retain a cash payment system until half term and introduce the online system for November onwards. Please pay for your child's meals at the school office. Thanks.



### Parents Evening

We are hoping that every parent will be able to attend one of our parent evenings in the final week before the half term holiday. The sessions are on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 5pm – 8pm and Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> October 3.30pm – 6pm. Today, your child has brought home a letter giving you the opportunity to book a 10 minute appointment with your child's class teacher. The 10 minute consultation will be an opportunity for you to hear how your child has settled into school.

### Lunchtime Volunteers

This week we will be appointing additional lunchtime supervisors to start work soon. We will still appreciate volunteer helpers at lunchtimes because it really is a case of many hands making light work – and a better lunchtime for the children. If you can help out this week, please let us know. We will really appreciate your help.

### Badminton for all at Buckingham Park Community Centre

A number of new badminton sessions have now started at Buckingham Park Community Centre. The information can be downloaded from the 'blog' section of our school website. The sessions are full a wide range of groups including beginners, children, ladies and those seeking to get or keep fit.

### Can you help us?

We are busy creating many, many resources to support our teaching. Many of these resources have been created by the staff themselves. We would be very grateful for any volunteers who would be able to help to finish these resources. Some need laminating, others cutting out or sticking. Some of these jobs could be done at home, others will need the equipment in school. If you can help in any way, please speak to your child's class teacher. They will be most grateful.



## Governing Body

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Vacancies exist for two Parent Governors on the school's Governing Body. We are inviting nominations from parents who currently have a child in the school. Parents who are nominated for election must be proposed and seconded in writing, with nominations being signed by the proposer and seconder; the person nominated must also state in writing that he or she is willing to stand for election. Those eligible to stand are the parents or guardians of pupils who are currently registered pupils at this school. The proposer and seconder must also have a child currently in attendance at the school.

The term of office is 4 years – that is until November 2016. A parent governor whose child leaves the school before that date may continue as a parent governor for a full 4 year term of office.

A nomination form and further information is now available from the school website, on the 'Governing Body' page. If only two parents are nominated then they will of course be elected unopposed, but if there are more than two candidates, a parental ballot will be held. The ballot will be entirely secret and a further letter about the arrangements will be sent to you. All parents whose child/children attend this school will be entitled to vote in the postal ballot and voting will be on the basis of one vote per parent/legal guardian. Before the ballot takes place we will circulate information from the candidates to all parents. A full list of the names of the School Governors will be available as soon as all the appointments have been finalised.

If it proves impossible to fill all vacancies, the Governing Body has the right to make an appointment in order to fill the required number of Parent Governor places on the Governing Body. Please note that any appointed governor will be required to produce evidence of identity and make a formal declaration of any convictions incurred, including any that have become spent under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act. All governors will be required to have a full, enhanced CRB check.

Parents may be interested in the overall constitution of the Governing Body and this is as follows:-

- two parent governors
- one local authority governor
- two staff governors (including the Headteacher)
- seven foundation governors, appointed by the Oxford Anglican Diocese in collaboration with ST. James' Church. At least two foundation governors must also be parents.

If you wish to discuss the position of Governor more fully, please contact Nick Waldron or Revd. Mark Ackford (Chair of Governors) through the school office. We are inviting written nominations **by Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2012**.

We are also looking for a parent who would be keen to become one of our foundation governors. Foundation governors are important members of governing body teams in church schools with a specific responsibility in terms of monitoring and developing the Christian distinctiveness of the school as well as taking a full part in all aspects of the work of the governing body. Foundation Governors are normally expected to be active members of a local church and have the relevant skills, experience, energy, interest and commitment, to the schools distinctive ethos and values. A clear commitment to the schools distinctive ethos and values is essential. If you are interested in becoming a foundation governor, please get in touch with Revd. Mark Ackford through the school office.

**Not sure what the Governing Body is for? Take a look at the Governing Body page on our school website:**

<http://www.buckinghampark.bucks.sch.uk/governing-body.html>

