



The Botwell Bulletin

Friday 8th September 2023

Let me take this opportunity to welcome you and your family back to school this autumn term. The extreme hot weather that we have seen has contributed to the children's tiredness which is typical for the first week back but they have all coped admirably.

Over the summer, there were many things happening again here at Botwell: new fire alarm; new toilets for year 5 and 6 and classes being redecorated. The building is really beginning to shine due to the hard work of our premises and cleaning teams.

Today, we were in church as a whole school, which was a joy to see. Our Year 6 children on the Alter seem to have grown in height but also in maturity since they left us as Year 5s in July.

I'm really looking forward to this year and working with you all to continue to prove a superb education for your children.

Kind Regards,

Uniform

We introduced our new uniform policy in May 2022 and had a year of transition where we were flexible to support families. Over a year later, as we start a new school year, we should all be conforming accurately to the school's policy please. This means that the children should now be wearing white polo shirts for PE and not the navy blue t-shirts.

Summer uniform can continue until the October half term.

Please remember that the only thing you need to get from our official supplier is the V-necked sweatshirt/cardigan that have the school badge embroidered on it. Everything else you can get from a local supplier of your choice for simplicity and economy.

Just a reminder:

-No earrings

-No flashing shoes please, plain black ones. Not trainer shoes.

Meet the teacher

Our Meet the Teacher sessions will be taking place over the next couple of weeks. During this session, your child's teacher will be explaining their daily routine and topics for this year. You will also have the opportunity to ask any questions. We strongly recommend that parents/carers attend this session. Please see the timetable below and note which day is relevant to you. With the exception of Reception, who will be in the hall, the Meet the Teacher sessions will take place in the children's classrooms.

Upcoming

- Tue 12th Sept – Zoo Lab visit for Y1/2
- Wed 13th Sept – Y3 Stone Age Workshop
- Wed 13th Sept – Y6 WW2 Workshop
- WB 11th Sept and WB 18th Sept – Y5 swimming
- Fri 29th Sept – Photograph Day (KS2 & KS2)
- Fri 6th Oct – Harvest Mass
- Wed 11th Oct – Photograph Day (Rec and Nurs)
- Fri 13th Oct – Hobglobin theatre to visit Y5
- 18th/19th October – Parents' Evening
- 23rd – 27th Oct – Half term

Meet the teacher timings

Date	Year Group	Time
Friday 15 th Sept	Reception	1:30pm - 1:45pm
Monday 18 th Sept	Year 3	5.00pm-5:45pm
Wednesday 20 th	Years 1&2	5.00pm-5:45pm
Thursday 21 st Sept	Years 4&5	5.00pm-5:45pm
Monday 25 th Sept	Year 6	5.00pm-5:45pm

Lunch time

As of September, all of our junior children are now entitled to a free school meal and we are pleased to have seen a huge uptake in the number of children taking up this offer. We would encourage those parents who are still providing a packed lunch to switch to school dinners. Think of all those hours saved not having to prepare a packed lunch!!

If your child is receiving a school meal, you do not need to provide additional snacks for lunch time.

Please speak with your children so that they know what has been ordered for them. All orders need to go through The Pantry.

Pick up/collection

This week has seen the change of times for our school day. Now that we are used to the school timings, can we please remind parents to ensure you drop off and collect your children on time. Children who arrive late in the morning will miss valuable learning time and at the end of the day they can be upset if they are collected late. The school day timings are shown on our school website at the following link.

<https://www.botwellhouseschool.co.uk/page/?title=The+school+day&pid=79>

We have also included the timings below:

Nursery:

Morning sessions: 8:30am-11:30am.

Afternoon sessions: 12:15pm-3:15pm.

(Parents can collect from 3:00pm onwards to coincide with siblings if they wish).

Reception:

8:35am - 3:05pm

Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2):

8:35am - 3:05pm

Key Stage Two (Years 3 – 6):

8:40am - 3:10pm

Please note that Year 3- Year 6 Classes have a soft start from 8:35am to reduce congestion in the area and to support families with younger children.

If your child is late, they must come to the main office with a parent/carer and sign in. Lateness impacts on your child's well-being as it can be overwhelming to join a class that has already started learning. Please avoid this at all costs.

Please note: Children under the age of 16 years old are not permitted to collect children from school.

Prayer and Reflection

Today the Church celebrates the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Roman Martyrology states Mary was "of the lineage of Abraham, born of the tribe of Judah and of the progeny of King David, from whom the Son of God was born, made man by the work of the Holy Spirit, to free humanity from the ancient bondage of sin."

Mary was born to be the mother of the Saviour of the world, the spiritual mother of all people, and the holiest of God's creatures. Because of her Son's infinite merits, she was conceived and born immaculate and full of grace. Through her, Queen of heaven and of Earth, all grace is given to men. Through her, by the will of the Trinity, the unbelieving receive the gift of faith; the afflicted are tendered the works of mercy; and the members of Christ grow in likeness of their Head. In Mary, all human nature is exalted. We rejoice in her birthday, as the Church has done from the earliest times.

Prayer:

*Impart to your servants, we pray,
O Lord, the gift of heavenly grace,
that the feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin
may bring deeper peace to those for whom
the birth of her Son was the dawning of salvation.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
Amen*

(Source: Catholic Culture)

