

Bryn Offa Newsletter

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Staff Changes at Bryn Offa

In this end of half term Newsletter I would like to outline some of the changes coming up in the staffing at Bryn Offa.

Two weeks after the half term break, Miss Owen will be leaving us to start her maternity leave. I am delighted to inform you all that we have concluded the recruitment process for this role and have appointed Mrs Lambourn, who many of you will know as the parent of two of our children in school. We will all miss Miss Owen for the year she isn't with us, but know she will be having the most wonderful time as a new parent.

I've previously mentioned that Mrs Prior will be leaving us at the end of this term, and her role has been filled with Mrs Woodfine. Mrs Woodfine is a very experienced teacher and we are all delighted to welcome her to the team. She will have a slightly unusual contract with her working on Monday in Class 2 as the job share with Mrs Maxfield (who is reducing her days from five days to four) and on Thursday and Friday as the job share with Mrs Machin in Class 1 (Mrs Machin is increasing her days from two to three).

In addition to a teacher and teaching assistant we are also losing one of our lunch staff as well. Miss Gauge will be leaving us at the end of her Summer Term to start her teacher training. It has been wonderful to employ an ex-pupil in order to give her the experience she needed to start her teaching career and we really wish her well.

One of the things we do in Bryn Offa is to give our lunch staff some experience as teaching assistants when we have sickness or need cover. This can be a nice route into a teaching assistant career. Losing Miss Gauge at the end of the Summer means we will have a vacancy for a lunch supervisor that we need to fill by September. If anyone reading this is interested please keep an eye out for the job advertised on our website and the local authority website just after half term.

Attendance and Late

I would like to finish with a request to parents to make sure children are brought to school and picked up on time. I was quite shocked this week to see how many warning letters were being sent out by the Education Welfare Officer to parents for poor attendance and for the number of occasions of lateness. The local authority and the Education Welfare Officer take attendance and punctuality very seriously and the warning letters can ultimately be a precursor to fines or prosecution. I urge parents to take attendance and punctuality very seriously.

Important Dates for your Diary!

Monday 5 th June	-	Year 3 Climbing and Caving Experience
Tuesday 6 th June	-	Year 4 Canoe and Bushcraft Experience
Friday 9 th June	-	Queensway Athletics
Saturday 10 th June	-	BOPTA Treasure Hunt and BBQ
Tuesday 13 th June	-	Year 5 John Muir session
Tuesday 4 th July	-	Whole school moving up morning
Week commencing Monday 10 th July	-	Reports coming out to parents
Tuesday 11 th July	-	Class 5 Leavers' Performance (pm)
Thursday 13 th July	-	BOPTA Summer Disco
Friday 14 th July	-	Sports Day
Tuesday 18 th July	-	Class 5 End of Year Trip
Friday 21 st July	-	Last day of Summer Term and Optional Teacher/Parent Meetings

Sun Safety

As the weather has taken a turn for the better, I thought it may be worth reminding parents what the systems for sun safety are.

For sun safety, the three important considerations are to cover up (with a hat for example), to wear sun screen and to drink plenty of water. Lots of children come to school in baseball caps, but the guidance is always to wear a wide brimmed hat if possible that provides cover for face and neck. Not all sun screens are the same, so parents need to make sure that the sun cream used is one that can be applied before school and does not need to be reapplied during the school day and that it also provides a high enough level of protection. Children should always come to school with a full water bottle, which can be refilled during the day. As there is shade on the playground and field, it is very rare for us to keep the children inside when it is sunny but we have very occasionally done this when the chances of sunburn are very high. Please also remember to avoid sending your child in with sunglasses as these can be a danger on a field where children are playing football.

