



Bernards Heath Junior School

Newsletter 5

22nd June 2015

PTA Summer Fair 2015

Thank you to all of you who came and supported us at The Summer Fair. For the third year running the weather was rather unkind, however, £5000 was raised to be shared between both schools. Particular thanks go to Lucy Simpson who organised the fair this year. Lucy was supported particularly by Sam Gardner, who organised and ran the food hall, Helen Searle who ran and organised the raffle, and Angela Shrewsbury Aldridge who with two BHISchool parents ran the finances for the day.

It was lovely to see so many families, old and new. Thanks too to Sandringham Show Choir, Hayley Gilbert's Zumba group and David Utting's Brass Quintet. Thank you for coming.

- **Annual report to parents:** Reports to parents will be issued on **Friday 3rd July**. We have developed a new format for this year, which reflects the fact that the DfE scrapped national curriculum levels in September 2014. Please see my recent letter (March 2015- archived) explaining the new terminology for reporting attainment and progress in each subject. Please note the following:
- ***'The higher expectations, and pitch, of the new curriculum are significant, most notably in Maths, English and Computing. In Maths and English some topics which used to be the expectation for Yr 6 are now expected in Yrs 5 and 4. Therefore, for a child to meet age related expectations in the first year of a new curriculum is a tall order. A child who in the old curriculum might have been above average, may now be assessed as meeting age related expectations, rather than exceeding. Bear this in mind when looking at your child's assessments in their report this year. We expect this situation to resolve itself during the next academic year.'***
- **Office extension:** You will have noticed contractors are on site. We are having a small extension built at the front of the school, followed by internal works to the school office. The front entrance and office will not be affected until Tuesday 7th July. At this point the current front entrance will close and the office will be partitioned off. I will write to you nearer the time about the temporary arrangements for parents/visitors coming into school during the school day. The usual entrances and exits through the playground, for the children, should not be affected. May I remind parents to closely supervise their children when collecting from after school clubs and using the school car park. Keep children right away from the contractor's compound, which is clearly demarcated.
- **Phone calls/e-mails to school office:** The staff in the office are always very busy but they will do their best to help you with any query. However, increasingly we have parents asking office staff to pass social or after school arrangements, e - mailed homework tasks and individual messages which teachers need to see before the start of the school day. Office staff can only pass messages onto teachers; they cannot answer individual questions about teaching and learning or social issues that may be affecting your child. If it is important information that the teacher needs to see before the start of the school day, please write a note for your child to give the teacher at registration. E- mail messages for teachers pertaining to that day cannot be passed on before registration. If you would like to speak to a teacher, office staff will pass the message to the teacher, who will try to contact you as soon as possible. Teachers are always willing to speak to you, (in person or by phone) but please bear in mind they will be teaching the children all day and running after school/lunchtime clubs. Teachers will do their best to phone you as soon as they can. All letters are archived on the

website; please look here for information about individual events, as this will save phone calls to the office. Thanks for helping us with this but please be assured that teachers and I are always happy to talk to you if you have any concerns.

- **Yr 6 Play.** ‘Friday night at the (Bernards Heath) Palladium’ Friday 17th July 7.00pm. Tickets are available from the office. Please note that **Fire Safety Regulations** limit the number of tickets we can offer. This is strictly limited to **2 tickets per family**. We cannot allow additional children to sit on laps as this would exceed the number of people in the hall. Thank you for understanding this situation and saving embarrassment and distress on the door.
- **Date List: until the end of term.**

• Tuesday 30 th June	• Young Carers trip to Whipsnade Zoo
• Wednesday 1 st July	• Mrs Baker + 15 Yr 6 pupils
	• STEM morning at Verulam School
• Friday 3 rd July	• Annual reports to parents
• Monday 6 th July 7pm	• Open evening for Yr 2 parents
• Tuesday 7 th July	• Front entrance temporary closure
• Wednesday 8 th July	• Summer Concert 7pm
• Thursday 9 th July	• Transition Day St Albans
• Friday 10 th July	• RNLI Assembly
• Tuesday 14 th July	• Music Assembly 2.30pm
• Thursday 16 th July	• Yr 4 Trip to Kew Gardens
• Friday 17 th July	• Yr 6 Play 7pm
• Monday 20 th July	• Leavers Tea Yr 6 +parents. 2.15pm
• Tuesday 21 st July	• School ends for holiday 1.30pm
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Yours sincerely

Sian Kilpatrick
Headteacher

All newsletters are archived on the school website for future reference