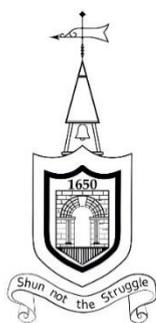


Bispham Endowed Church of England Primary School

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HEADLINES

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Christmas Fair - A huge thank you to everyone who supported the Bispham Buddies' Fair last Friday evening. It was great to see so many people attending the event and we raised very nearly £2,700!! The money raised will go towards funding all those extras that we need to provide our children with the best possible education that we can. Some of the money raised will be spent later this month as the Buddies will be buying gifts for every classroom in school and for crackers and prizes for all the children's parties. Any outstanding raffle prize winners are being notified this week. An enormous thank you to the Bispham Buddies Committee (and their families!!) for all their hard work in organising and running the fair and thanks also to the members of staff, governors, parents and carers, past pupils and other volunteers who helped to get the fair ready, manned the stalls during the evening and then helped clear away afterwards.



Basketball Festival - Mrs Woodcock, our Specialist PE Teacher, writes, "Last week Mrs Cox and I took a team of Year 5 and 6 children to a Basketball Festival at Blackpool 6th Form College.



The Festival started with a carousel of skills and drills led by students from the 6th Form Basketball Academy. The children then played a mini tournament against other schools. We did really well, winning two games, drawing one and losing one. The team really enjoyed the afternoon and were excellent in their game play, teamwork and enthusiasm to make the most of the opportunity they were given. They listened carefully to the students during the event, showing them the greatest respect. Their manners and behaviour were impeccable throughout. Well done."

Indoor Athletics - Mrs Dow, our Lead PE Co-ordinator, writes, "'Cloud nine' - that's how Mrs Woodcock and I are feeling after a fantastic performance at the Indoor Athletics Competition on Tuesday evening! Our team of Year 6 children were fast, agile, competitive and determined from start to finish. The children participated in numerous team relays and individual field events; the points scored in each event were then combined to give a grand total.

Out of all the competing schools in the North of Blackpool we came a very honourable 2nd and, as a result, go through to the finals where we meet the schools from the South of Blackpool. Year 6 children - you were a credit to our school and deserved the super result. Many thanks to Alan Williams for helping to train the children and all the wonderful family members who showed their commitment by being part of the happy and cheering crowd. The finals are due to take place on **Tuesday, 29th January** (time to work off all the Christmas pud!)."



Fairtrade Stall - Mrs Henrys, our Fairtrade Co-ordinator, writes, "Thank you to everyone who bought the Fairtrade gingerbread at the Christmas Fair on Friday. We raised £40 which we will be sending to the Fairtrade Foundation. A big thank you to the children in the Fairtrade Group in school for their help".



Christmas Productions - Due to the generosity of our parents and carers, the Bispham Buddies have had enough donations of raffle prizes to be able to hold a small raffle at the start of each of the Christmas performances led by Nursery & Reception children and Year 1 and Year 4 classes. Tickets will be 50p a strip and will be available in the main entrance as you arrive at school.

Christmas Parties - A separate letter will be sent home about the children's class parties which are being held in school time during the last week of this term.

School Library Books - The last day for borrowing books from the school library is Friday, 7th December. **All books** should be returned to the library by **Friday, 14th December**. Thank you for your help with this.

All Hallows Church 'Messy Church' - The next event is on **Saturday, 8th December** in The Barn from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. There will be crafts, cooking, games, a quiz, a café, fellowship, worship and fun for all the family and there is no charge for this event! For more information, call 01253 274172 or email: secbah@googlemail.com



Parent Governors - Nominations for the Parent Governor vacancy closed on Friday, 16th November. There were **no** nominations for the vacancy and so the Governing Board are now seeking to **appoint** a parent governor as soon as possible. If you are interested in this vacancy please contact Mrs Hirst, Headteacher, as soon as possible.



Carol Services - This year our Carol Services will take place on **Tuesday, 18th December (Nursery and Infant)** in **School** and on **Wednesday, 19th December (Juniors)** at our Parish Church of All Hallows. More information will be sent home next week.

School Meals Grants - Parents and carers may not all be aware that quite a significant amount of the money coming from central government directly into our school budget each April is based on the number of school meals grants applied for by families in our school. **Next year for every child registered for Free School Meals, Bispham Endowed Church of England Primary School will receive an extra £1,320 in their budget.** May we respectfully ask that families who think they are entitled to the school meals grants **do apply** for them, even if they do not actually want their child to have a school meal, as this means we can increase our income considerably? This includes infant children who are all provided with a school meal free of charge by the Government. The system is totally confidential and your child would not be identified in school. The School Office Team is very happy to assist parents and carers if they need any help or further information about school meals grants.

Armed Forces Families - In mid-January our school will be taking part in the government's Spring School Census. If your family has a parent or carer currently serving as part of the regular Armed Forces or a parent or carer who served in the regular armed forces since 2011, please could you let us know immediately and in the **strictest confidence**. School is able to claim additional funding for their school budget for all children from families of service personnel and we need to make sure that we have up to date data for all our children. Thank you for your support in this matter.

BECCs Session Fees - Please could all outstanding fees for Breakfast and After School Club sessions be paid as soon as possible and before the Christmas holidays. Your child's place is at risk for the spring term if there are any fees owing.

Please can you help? - Our School Council are supporting the Blue Skies Hospitals Fund this Christmas by helping with their 'Can You Give A Gift This Christmas?' appeal. The Appeal aims to ensure that every adult patient waking up on Christmas morning in a hospital in Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre receives a gift. We have a collecting



box for gift donations in school. If you are able to help please could you drop off an unwrapped gift for a male or female at the School Office. (Please do not send alcohol or food items). **'Thank you' from the School Council for helping us to support our local hospitals.**

Attendance and Punctuality News - Each week in assembly our % for attendance and the number of late marks given out in the previous week are shared with the staff and children and our class awards are presented. These are the figures for last week.

School Target for Attendance: 97% **School Target for Punctuality: 0 late marks**

Week ending 30th November: 95.9% attendance 54 late marks (39 children)
 (30 children had 1 late mark each)
 (6 children had 2 late marks each)
 (3 children had 4 late marks each)

Classes with over 97% attendance: 1M, 2J, 2K, 6B

Classes with over 98% attendance: 1M, 2K

Classes with over 99% attendance: -

Classes with late marks	Class RN	4 lates	Class RP	1 late	
Class 1L	2 lates	Class 1M	2 lates	Class 2J	6 lates
Class 2K	2 lates	Class 3G	2 lates	Class 3H	9 lates
Class 4E	3 lates	Class 4F	6 lates	Class 5C	lates
Class 5D	1 late	Class 6A	8 lates	Class 6B	4 lates

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Best Class for attendance: 1M

Classes with no late marks: None

Last week there were **399 minutes (nearly 7 hours) of learning time lost due to lateness** but **0 children** had an unauthorised absence mark as they were so late in coming to school. There were **15 days** unauthorised absence due to holidays in school time.

Christmas Holidays

School will close for the Christmas holidays at **3:15 p.m.** on
FRIDAY, 21ST DECEMBER 2018.

BECC's After School Club will finish as normal on this afternoon.

School will re-open at **8:45 a.m.** on **MONDAY, 7TH JANUARY 2019**

Keep up to date with letters sent home, school meals menus and school news on our school website at www.bispham-endowed.blackpool.sch.uk.

