



Newsletter – Friday 15th September 2023

That's the end of the first full week back after the summer break, and it's been another busy but productive week! This year we have committed to conducting some form of monitoring activity every week - from informal drop-ins, to book-looks, chats with students to full lesson observations. This week we collected in a sample of English books to make sure we were happy with the standard of presentation throughout school early on. From Year 3 upwards we have introduced handwriting books as English books which has had a striking impact on the neatness of the work the children are producing. From Year 1 up to Year 6 the Senior Leadership Team was genuinely thrilled with what we saw in the books – a great start to the year where writing is our number one priority (along with phonics).

After-School Clubs

We're looking forward to the after-school clubs starting up from next week; it's a bit front-loaded with football this half-term so we can make the most of the lighter evenings, but after half term we are hoping to be able to run a choir, table-tennis club and a Y1-3 games club. All the clubs are now available to book on the School Gateway under the payments section.

Sports Events

Our inter-school sports events are starting next week too, with a multi-skills / kick-rounders event at Horizon on Thursday afternoon and a Y5/6 football event on Friday at Reds in the Community. Last year 100% of KS2 children took part in a competition out of school, along with a large number of KS1 pupils taking part in at events at Horizon and Reds. We are committed to keeping up the same level of sports participation this year, along with more in-school inter-house competitions for every year group through the year.

School Milk

We have secured a new school milk supplier, Cool Milk, and a letter will be sent out next week with more information and all the details of how to register your child with the new company and how to pay for milk will be included.

Shawlands Community Fundraiser – Friday 29th September

A letter from Miss Bailey was sent out earlier in the week about how school would like to raise money for a new portacabin to convert into a sensory space for our pupils who have significant sensory needs/Autism. We have attached the letter again, as it includes details about one of the major fundraising events we are running this year at Gulliver's Valley in Rotherham, 6-8pm on Friday 29th September. Gulliver's Valley has kindly given our Shawlands Families exclusive use of their theme park and agreed to let us use part of their park free of charge and that all proceeds for tickets will go towards our Sensory Room Fund. Their normal price is £27 per person. We will be offering tickets at £10 per adult and £5 per



child and hope as many families will attend as possible. Please see the letter for all the details.

Also, from the first week in October until mid-January 2024, our Shawlands Sensory Room project will be one of the projects customers in-store at Tesco can vote for to receive funding. After making a purchase you will receive a token and be able to vote for Shawlands. Please see the letter for more information and a list of the stores taking part in the voting on this project.

Flu vaccine – Reception to Year 6 – Tuesday 17th October

The Immunisation Team will be visiting school on Tuesday 17th October 2023. Please follow the link below to complete a consent form for your child, and you will need to use our unique school code: **BN106564** when completing it.

www.barnsleysais.co.uk/Forms/Flu

Please complete a form, even if your child is not having the vaccine.

Assemblies

Next week we are also looking forward to inviting parents of EYFS/KS1 children in who have been chosen for the first Special Mention certificates of the year. If your child has been chosen by their teacher, you will get a message on Wednesday inviting you to come along on the Friday at the usual time of 3.00pm.

Finally, I'd like to say a huge thank-you to Nigel, from Imagination Gaming, who has donated a massive pile of board games to school for wet-playtimes / games club. We used to have Imagination Gaming in 6 times a year to work with every year group, which we had to reduce down to 3 times a year last year.

Sadly, due to budget restrictions we haven't been able to book him this year, but he still wanted to support the work we do helping children develop social skills through gaming by gifting us these games.