

Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Newsletter

Botley C of E Primary School



Upcoming dates

Friday 9th June

Parent/Carer coffee
morning

At Botley All Saints Church
9.30-10.30am



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Welcome to Botley C of E Primary School's newsletter dedicated specifically for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

We're nearly at half term and I'm sure many of the children are ready for a well-deserved break. The weather is looking good for the week so I hope everyone manages to get out and enjoy it. It's amazing what it can do for your mental health.

Family support worker

It has been another busy few weeks! Mrs Thomson was appointed the new Family Support Worker at the end of the spring term and has started to reach out to families over the last half term. She is a fantastic resource available to families for support in a range of different areas either at home and/or at school so please let her know if you think she could help. Her email address is: h.thomson@botley.hants.sch.uk. Mrs Thomson will also be at the next coffee morning and will be looking forward to meeting some of you there.

Parent/Carer coffee morning

Hopefully you will have seen the date for the next coffee morning is after half term on Friday 9th June at 9.30am. In school, we have started doing some work on Emotional Coaching and we would love to share some of this with parents. It's a method of dealing with children's emotions, setting boundaries and guiding them when things get tough. We are also going to look at some of the science behind emotions and building resilience in children. We are aiming to use it as a method in school and we hope it can also be another strategy to help parents at home with their children.

The coffee morning is a great opportunity to meet staff and gain extra support but also to meet parents who may be facing similar challenges. There will be tea, coffee, biscuits and an area for younger siblings to play. Everyone is welcome so please come along!



School Transition

Many of you will be thinking about school transition whether that is from year 6 to secondary school, children moving into reception or the children moving from one year group to another. This time of year is very busy in school and behind the scenes, we spend a lot of time trying to ensure all children get a smooth transition wherever they are moving on to. We know that this can be particularly difficult time for children with additional needs and they can struggle with the uncertainty of moving from one place to another with new adults and surroundings.

Here are some of the things we do at Botley to make this process as smooth as possible:

- Transition days to meet the class teacher and the children in their classes.
- Extra transition time in the area they are going.
- Time with the new adults they will be with in September. This may be having extra story time with the new adults or new adults coming into their classroom or meeting them out on the playground.
- Social stories with pictures of their new classroom and adults.
- SENDCo meetings with current or new settlings and/or parents.
- Transition meetings between teachers in school.

How can you help at home?

- Be honest and supportive of the process.
- Make the most of your holiday time to relax.
- Make some time to walk around and see the new classroom you will be collecting from.
- Be aware that your child may become anxious towards the start of term and this may come out in their behaviour. Try to highlight the positives like reuniting with friends, building new friendships and learning new topics.
- If there is a new walk or bus ride to school, have a practise run before term starts.
- Try not to ask lots of questions during the process but listen to their worries and reassure them.
- Have school items organised and a planned routine for the mornings.



There will be more information after half term but if you do have any concerns come and see myself or the class teacher.

Have a wonderful half term and we look forward to seeing everyone soon!

Best wishes

Mrs Kate Roberts

Email address k.roberts@botley.hants.sch.uk