

# Boorley Park News and Updates

8th September 2023



Boorley Park School

## Welcome Back

We are delighted to welcome all of our families back to Boorley Park, and welcome our new Year R starters. This week has been a busy week with Years 1, 2, 3 and 4 settling in to their new classrooms and new routines. Everyone has been so impressed at how well they have settled and how hard they have been working already.

All of the staff have been focusing on making sure that the children are really clear in what our expectations of them are, both in terms of behaviour and their work, so they know exactly what they should be doing.

Our new Year R children have had some really positive days in school and have worked together brilliantly to get over the nerves of their first few days at school.

Our newsletter will continue to be sent out every Friday to keep you updated on things going on in school.

We do try our best to make sure that we do not fill your inboxes with too much information but please do take the time to read anything we send you as it will be a useful reminder of what is going on and what you need to know.



## RAAC Concrete in Schools

Just to reassure you all, as Boorley Park School was only built in 2019, we do not have any of the RAAC concrete in our school. Our buildings are inspected regularly to ensure that they are safe for everyone in them and Andy (our site manager) has an extensive schedule of inspection and maintenance.

## Summer Reading Challenge

Well done to everyone who has completed the Summer Reading Challenge and who has registered their completion with the library to receive their medal and be entered into the prize draw.

We were delighted to see that we are currently top of the leaderboard for Hedge End library for the school with the highest percentage of its' pupils who have completed the challenge.

There's still time to finish if you haven't already—the challenge runs until Saturday 16th September.



# Dates for Your Diaries—Autumn Term 2023

## Whole School

### Autumn Term 2023

- Monday 11th September—Year R children all start full time
- Wednesday 20th September—Individual Photographs
- Friday 22nd September—Jeans for Genes (see details below)
- Friday 29th September—Bag-2-School for the PTA (non uniform day)
- Monday 2nd October—Flu Vaccines (consent forms to follow)
- Friday 13th October—INSET Day (school closed to pupils)
- Monday 16th October—Parents' Evening
- Thursday 19th October—Parents' Evening
- Friday 20th October—Last Day of Autumn 1 Half Term
- Monday 30th October—First Day of Autumn 2 Half Term



## Individual Photographs

Individual Photographs are booked for Wednesday 20th September. All children will have their photograph taken on the day by our photographer Alex Guy. You will then receive a proof of the photograph and can order them directly from him via his website using the unique code he provides you with.

Siblings in school will also have their photographs taken together.

## Jeans for Genes Day

Friday 22nd September is Jeans for Genes Day where we are inviting all children to come to school wearing something denim—this could be jeans, shorts, dungarees, a denim shirt or top or a dress. They do not need to wear the rest of the school uniform on the day (it is a non-uniform day).

If you can, we would like to support the work of the Jeans for Genes charity so if you are able to send your child in with a donation (suggested donation is £1 but please give whatever you can), it would be much appreciated. Teachers will have pots to collect donations with them on the classroom doors in the morning.



# Upcoming Events and Reminders

## Diary Dates

Next week's News and Updates will be a 'Diary Dates' newsletter with all of the important dates you need for the rest of the academic year.

## Safeguarding

Keeping children safe is our priority at school and we work hard to make sure there is a strong culture of safeguarding in school.

There are identified adults, known as Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) who have the special responsibility of focusing on safeguarding.

At Boorley Park, the safeguarding lead is Mrs Sillars and Mrs Carpenter. Miss Ozanne, Mrs Darnley, Mrs Batchelor, Mr Mann and Mrs Hayles have also had the same training and support Mrs Sillars and Mrs Carpenter in her work.

If you ever have any concerns about a child, please do call the school office and ask to speak to a Designated Safeguarding Lead who will be able to help you.

## Our Assembly Theme This Week

Assemblies (often known as Collective Worship) are a statutory part of every school day and all of the children take part in some form of collective worship every day.

On a Monday, this is together in the hall as a whole school. On Tuesdays we have a singing assembly and on Friday we have a celebration assembly where we celebrate our achievements for the week. On Wednesday and Thursday, collective worship takes place in the classroom and either links to the theme of the week or focuses on something the class needs to work on.

As a non-religious school, the statutory expectation is that our assemblies have 'a broadly Christian ethos' and so we do often share Bible stories or celebrate links to Christian festivals. Reverend Gregg also visits school each half term and takes an assembly for us. As a diverse school, we also focus on celebrations and key figures/events from other faiths.

Our assemblies always include a time for reflection where the children are asked to reflect on what the message of the assembly means to them—this could be as simple as thinking about how they will try to show courage this week, or what part of a Diwali celebration they most like the sound of.

This week we focused on what it felt like to come back to school. The children suggested lots of ideas about how they felt with some suggesting 'nervous', 'worried' or even 'disappointed' while others said 'excited' or 'happy'. We came to the conclusion that most of us (including the staff) felt a mixture of nerves and excitement.

We then read the book 'The I'm Not Scared Book' which explored ideas such as "Sometimes I'm scared of the dark but I'm not scared if I have a night-light". We talked about sharing worries and fears makes them manageable and there are lots of people who can help us to feel better.

