16 May 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: **New Intake Children September 2023**

Firstly, we are delighted that you have accepted the place for your child at Bathford Church School and we would like to warmly welcome you to our wonderful Bathford Church School Community. As you may know, our school is part of the Bath and Wells Multi Academy Trust and together we aim to provide an excellent education for every child, enhanced by our distinctively Christian ethos. We put the child at the heart of all we do with caring relationships built on kindness and respect, including strong partnerships with families. We hope that this letter will form the beginning of what becomes a brilliant partnership over the coming 7 years of your child’s primary education.

We now have a list of children whose parents have been offered places at our school. All admissions are organised by the Local Authority and, as the list stands at present, there will be 18 children in Reception Year 2022-23.

The **Reception Class teacher** is **Miss Katie Fairclough**, who is a wonderful and very experienced Early Years teacher. **Mrs Joanna Bice** is our incredibly supportive and nurturing **teaching assistant** in Reception class.

Next term we would like to invite you to **two induction events**. **On Thursday 6th July** at **9.15am** we would love for you and your child to join us for a welcome meeting to meet Miss Fairclough and other key members of the team. **This event will finish at 10.15am.** On **Wednesday 12th July** we would love for **your child** to join us for story time in the Reception classroom from **9.15am to 9.45am**. During this time there will be tea and coffee available for parents in the school hall.

Further useful information

Number line

* School begins for our **new Reception Class on Tuesday, 5th September at 9.15 am.** This is a slightly later time than the normal start time as many parents like to take photographs. Children need to be collected at 11:45am from the number line. **For the first two and a half weeks of school the children will attend for the mornings only.**
* Children will begin at the normal time of 8.50am from **Wednesday, 6thth September** and need to be collected at 11.45am from the number line.
* Children begin to come in for free hot **school lunches** (all infants receive free school meals) from **Wednesday, September 13th and are collected at 1:20pm** from the ‘number line’. Our meals are delicious and cooked by our chefs on site.
* **Full days start from Wednesday, September 20th from 8.50am to 3:20 pm** (for very young children, there is always some flexibility around this).
* Please ensure that you park safely and respectfully. You are not able to park near the school entrances or on the bend, as this is not safe for our children.
* Please let the school office know before 9am by phone or email if your child is going to be absent.
* Please let the teacher know if somebody different to usual is collecting your child.

Miss Fairclough will make home visits during the period before the children are in full-time (5th –19th September), where you can share information that is important for us to know (everything from likes, dislikes, to favourite toys and interests.) During the first week in September, sign-up sheets will be available for you to book a home-visit slot.

**School Uniform:** our uniform supplier is Michael Hope. The company has advised us that parents need to order uniform for new Reception children **by Sunday 18th June** for delivery to school up until the end of the summer term. Please visit their website: [www.michaelhope.co.uk](http://www.michaelhope.co.uk) or phone them on 01225 300358.

Finally, we would love each new Reception child, if possible, to make a 'Treasure Box' over the summer to help the teacher and class get to know your child during the first few weeks of term.  We request that, if possible, you help your child to decorate an old shoe box and place 5 items of importance to them inside (items you are happy to have in school!)  This could be a favourite toy, a book, photographs or something they have collected. We will reveal the treasure and look through each box together over the first few weeks of school.  This is a lovely way of finding out about what each child is interested in and will help the class teacher think about themes for the year.  Please bring the treasure box on Tuesday 5th September.

The tyres

The classroom

At Bathford Church School, our vision of “Grow, Care, Serve, Share” and our associated values of “Be Your Best, Be Kind, Be Respectful, Be a Team” drive our broad and balanced curriculum. We aim to help our children grow by equipping them with the knowledge, skills and values they need both to make sense of the world and to become caring, responsible global citizens. This vision permeates every aspect of school life and frames the way we live and work. Our school has an exceptionally strong sense of inclusion and is a place where everyone is welcome.  We are unwavering in our ambition to see every child included in the life of the school, enabled to flourish and succeed.

Do visit our school website for more information about our school. There are documents in the admissions section that may be useful. Rest assured, we will endeavour to make sure that your child’s induction and years ahead at Bathford are incredibly special.

If there is anything that you would particularly like to know, please do email us at either office@bathford.bwmat.org or becky.hayter@bathford.bwmat.org or call 01225 858776.

Once again, we very much look forward to getting to know you and your child over the coming months and do contact us if there is anything that you would like to know more about.

Very best wishes,

 Becky Hayter and all at Bathford Church School

*Please could you complete all the enclosed registration, permission and data forms and return them to the school office by Wednesday 21st June. You will also need to bring the original of your child’s FULL birth certificate so that it can be checked by the office staff before they start school.*

*Thank you!*