

Biddenham NEWS



Spring Edition

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School bus trial service

The trial bus service, with Diamond Coaches, will continue until Tuesday 4th April, the last day of term.

No stagecoach bus passes will be accepted on the 205 service after Tuesday 18th April. Students can purchase a weekly pass for £15 from school reception on a Friday morning or pay cash on the bus - £1.50 per single journey on any part of the 205 bus route to and from school.

Students with free bus passes can use this service. Stagecoach Term Rider will be accepted up to and including Tuesday 4th April but you must come to the school reception to collect a free Biddenham School 205 bus pass. The bus driver will not accept Stagecoach termrider/free passes on the bus.

Please see page 2 for the timetable.



Weaving textiles from plastic

As part of their coursework year 10 textile students met up with artist Jo Atherton who uses items she finds while beachcombing in her 'flotsam weaving' to highlight the diversity of plastic objects washed up on the British coastline. **Turn to page 2.**

HOLIDAY DATES

Easter

**Last day of term Tuesday 4th April
Students return Wednesday 19th April**

May Half Term

**Last day of term Friday 26th May
Students return Monday 5th June**

Last day of summer term Friday 21st July

A message from the Head Teacher



Dear Parents and Carers

As you see we have been dealing with quite a few issues and activities this term - buses, RSA developments, year 7 and 8 buildings, and the whole focus on ensuring that our students are prepared and ready for their examinations. Our year 11 and Sixth Form have completed their practice exams and both had parents' evening to ensure that everyone is clear as to what is needed from now until the exams. We are excited about our application to secure an RSA sponsored academy and I hope to bring you more news on this shortly.

Our new year 7 and 8 buildings are taking shape as we write and should be finished by May half term ensuring that once again we will have state of the art purpose built buildings for our younger students to make the best possible start to their Biddenham journey.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact us if you need anything and many thanks for your on-going support.

David Bailey
Headteacher



Continued from front page

Talking to the students about her work Jo said:

"The longevity of plastic means that many of the objects we are leaving behind are going to be around long after we have gone. A plastic bottle takes 450 years to decompose, so imagine the kind of items archaeologists of the future will be finding and displaying in museums. Perhaps plastics will be no different to the pottery fragments and metal tools we see in museum cabinets.

BUS ROUTE 205 TO BIDDENHAM SCHOOL

Time a.m.	Pick Up Point
7.00	Manton Lane/Gainsborough Rise bus stop
7.03	Brickhill Drive shops
7.08	Avon Drive/Tiger Moth public house
7.10	Avon Drive/Pheasant public house
7.15	Wentworth Drive/Mark Rutherford School
7.17	Church Lane/Aldi
7.20	Church Lane/Goldington Green
7.25	Goldington Road/Fox and Hounds public house
7.30	Hassett Street Layby just before entrance to Bus Station
7.45	Biddenham School
Time p.m.	Return journey
2.40	Depart Biddenham School
	This bus will stop at any bus stop on the route

Attendance and Illness

Your child may have brought home one of our new attendance postcards for perfect attendance or attendance that has improved. Attendance at school is vitally important to your child's future therefore please support them and us by ensuring that if you are dropping them off by car that students are in school by 7.45 am.

In regard to illness please support us by sending your child into school.

- Early morning aches and pains often pass, don't keep your child at home 'just in case' when they be learning in class. We will call you if your child is too poorly to remain in school.
- A child may attend school with a minor cold or cough.
- Make emergency dentist or doctor appointments for the end of the school day where possible.
- A child whose only complaint is a minor headache does not normally need to be kept at home and we will call you if we are worried about them.
- Children must stay at home for 48 hours from the last outburst of sickness or diarrhoea.

Reading Challenge 2017 For Years 7, 8 and 9



Who in years 7, 8 and 9 can read the most books, from the library or from home, between now and 24th March 2017?

Win praise points for each book read, out of each of the ten categories (adventure, animals and the wild, fantasy, film and TV, historical, horror, humour, mystery, real life and science fiction). The student in each year group who gets the most points will win a £10 book token, and runners up will also win a book each.

Evidence shows that those who read the most usually get better exam grades too. What's not to like?

Year 7 and 8 update

Year 7

This term the topic is belonging. The set text is Refugee Boy by Benjamin Zephania. The students have been exploring across all subjects what it means to belong. They have been looking at their local surroundings and what social issues we have in our local area. The year 7s have shown passion and drive towards making a change and have started the process towards their First Give presentations. Seven teams will be selected to represent local charities with the chance to win £1000 pounds towards a project of the charity's choice.

Year 8

Students are studying the topic of exploration which has uncovered a real passion for Geography where they have been plotting out a journey across the world and thinking like geographers. Some of the projects students are exploring are: What are the differences between Apple and Samsung products, when and where did racial segregation start and how it developed.

Extra curricular

Students in years 7 and 8 are really starting to understand the importance of getting involved and trying something new. There is a wide range of activities on offer at break, lunchtimes and after school.

Students are also reminded of the equipment list that is required in order to be prepared to work effectively at school.



Year 8 student Fizan Khan was a candidate for the recent United Kingdom Youth Parliament Bedford Borough Council Elections 2017. Although he was not elected he put together an excellent campaign focussing on transport for children and young people and Bedford Hospital.

Sports News

As ever, it was a busy but a productive half term in the P.E Department, with an array of clubs after school and fixtures.

The term began with the new P.E extra curricular clubs after school. A new addition to these clubs was boys and girls handball. The handball team fixtures were in full swing as the fixtures started. The year 10 boys fulfilled their potential by winning the district boys finals.

The girls U16 badminton team also achieved highly with the team progressing through to the county finals in a few weeks time, so good luck to those involved.



The year 7 and 8s had a busy half term with fixtures in hockey and badminton for both boys and girls. The year 7 and 8 boys hockey performed well, losing only one game. We are currently waiting to hear if they have progressed to the finals night later in February.

The year 7 and 8 girls were also busy with their

badminton league at Goldington.

They have performed extremely well with some great performances from Leah Norman and Natasha Aitchinson.

In cross country, years 7 to 10 were involved in races last half term. Years 7 and 8 have ran well with Jack Thomas coming in the top 40 and Lauren Coppin doing very well running a year above. Years 9 and 10 also ran well with their race at Sharnbrook .

We had three students progress on to the next round of the county finals. Congratulations to Esther Fisher, Faida Dhangi and Nazo Utmanzai.

A great half term for all year groups and we are looking forward to this half term for more success.

FRIDAYS IN H2
14:30 -15:30
FOR Y7-Y11

The Math Matters

MANIPULATE NUMBERS

APPLY YOUR SKILLS

TEST YOURSELVES

HOP TO SUCCESS

SUCCEED IN LIFE