



BERRYMEDE



Newsletter ~ Issue 3 ~ February 2019

Term Dates 2019

Spring Term 2019

Half Term Holiday

Mon 18th Feb – Fri 22nd Feb 2019

Back to School for pupils

Mon 25th Feb 2019

Term Ends

Friday 5th April 2019 at 1:15pm

Easter Holiday

Mon 8th April – Mon 22nd April 2019

Summer Term 2019

Term starts for Pupils

Tues 23rd April 2019

May Day (Bank Holiday)

Mon 6th May 2019

Half Term Holiday

Mon 27th – Friday 31st May 2019

Back to School for pupils

Monday 3rd June 2018

Term Ends for Pupils

Friday 19th July at 1:15pm

Teacher Training Day

Mon 22nd & Tues 23rd July 2019

PTA: Parent Coffee Morning - Every fortnight on a Tuesday morning at 9am in the Huts.



Stay up to date by regularly visiting the school website and if you haven't already, make sure you sign up to class dojo!!
<https://www.classdojo.com/en-gb/>



Dear Parents/Carers,

The academic year continues to be full of activity; our international links continue to grow and relationships with schools overseas are flourishing; reading attainment and progress continues to be our greatest challenge and I am pleased to report that the PTA are recruiting a growing number of parent volunteers to support reading across the school which is a great asset and children love it! Year 6 are working hard towards SATs, we constantly emphasise the importance of reading as a life skill. Finally I hope you have enjoyed our 3rd week of Harmony where children have studied the principle of Interdependence and showcased their learning on the last day of half term. I wish all our families a restful break.

www.berrymede.com

Mrs L. Khan, Head Teacher

Why is Reading so important?

Studies show that reading for pleasure makes a big difference to children's educational performance. Here's how you can get your child off to a great start.

Evidence suggests that children who read for enjoyment every day not only perform better in reading tests than those who don't, but also develop a broader vocabulary, increased general knowledge and a better understanding of other cultures.

In fact, reading for pleasure is more likely to determine whether a child does well at school than their social or economic background.



Top 10 tips to help children enjoy reading

1. Make books part of your family life – Always have books around so that you and your children are ready to read whenever there's a chance.
2. Join your local library - Allow them to pick their own books, encouraging their own interests.
3. Match their interests – Help them find the right book - it doesn't matter if it's fiction, poetry, comic books or non-fiction.
4. All reading is good – Don't discount non-fiction, comics, graphic novels, magazines and leaflets. Reading is reading and it is all good.
5. Get comfortable! – make sure they have somewhere comfy when reading.
6. Ask questions – To keep them interested in the story, ask your child questions as you read such as, 'What do you think will happen next?' or 'Where did we get to last night? Can you remember what had happened already?'
7. Read whenever you get the chance – Bring along a book or magazine for any time your child has to wait, such as at a doctor's surgery.
8. Read again and again – Encourage your child to re-read favourite books and poems. Re-reading helps to build up fluency and confidence.
9. Bedtime stories – Regularly read with your child or children at bedtime
10. Rhyme and repetition – Books and poems which include rhyme and repetition are great for encouraging your child or children to join in and remember the words.

International Visitors

Berrymede welcomed 40 Chinese students for 5 days as part of a International cultural exchange program. The Chinese pupils were given the opportunity to experience life in a British School. There were many opportunities to share learning experiences with our own pupils and learning from one another's skills and cultural differences.



February's Right of the month – Please take the time to discuss this with your child, what does it mean and how does it apply to them!



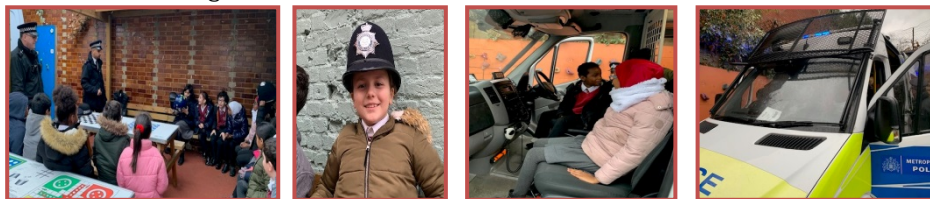
Article 3: The best interest of the child must be a top priority in all things that affect children.

School Dinners

Please remember school dinners must be paid for in advance, directly to Harrisons. Call 02082800319 to make payments, daily cost is £2.30 - for a copy of the menu, please visit the office. If your Harrisons account is not in credit, this will result in your child being unable to have a school dinner. In these circumstances, you will be required to bring lunch in for your child.

Police Visit

Pupils in Year 3 and 4 had a visit from the police last week. They talked to the children about the job they do and the different kinds of things they do on a day to day basis. The best part of the visit was when all the children got the chance to sit in the police van and put the siren on. The police officers were very impressed with all the pupils and the way in which they conducted themselves during the visit!



Dates for the Diary

Class Assemblies:

3L – Friday 15th March
4O – Friday 22nd March



World Book Day Celebrations

Friday 8th March



Book Fair

14th – 20th March



Science Week

8th - 17th March

Lost Property

There are a large number of items in the lost property. There are 2 lost property areas – 1 in lower school and 1 in upper school. Please ensure all belongings are clearly labelled with children's names and where possible their class.



PTA Cake Sale



Thank you all those who took part, sold, brought in cakes and supported the cake sale last week. It was a cold and wet afternoon but the PTA and school community managed to raise £90.93.



CPR Training

4 lucky year 6 students got to participate in the first CPR Teaching workshop for children run by Kids Save Lives in association with UCL. The event included lectures, videos and break out sessions where the children had hands on experience of practicing CPR.



Members of Teaching Faculty at the event included Doctors, Nurses and medical students.

It was an amazing day and it is great for the school to be at the forefront of this program which helps to save lives.

Sporting News.....

Well done to our Tai Chi squad who for the third year in a row have won the annual competition against St John's.



Well done to our Hockey teams. The year 6 team won bronze medals at the Featherstone Partnership Tournament.

Extra Curricular Clubs

Spring Term –

Mondays

Tai chi and Gymnastics

Tuesdays

Girls Football, Latin

Wednesday

Dance, Cricket, Taekwondo, Multi Skills, Art Club, Knitting Club and Latin

Thursday

Climbing, Hockey and Irish Dance

Friday

Basketball, Cricket and Arabic Club



There are also a number of academic clubs that take place during the school day – Latin, Reading, Homework, Badminton, and Maths (Days and times of these vary according to year groups/classes)

Attendance

Please remember that the current Government legislation does not give schools any authority to approve leave for children to take holidays in term time. Any leave requests need to be done by filling in the Leave of Absence form which can be collected from the school office. There is no entitlement to leave during term time and it will only be approved under exceptional circumstances which need to be explained and evidence produced. Failure to comply with this will mean a referral to the Local Authority which may result in a fine and court action. Thank you in supporting us to ensure your children have every opportunity for success in their education entitlement.