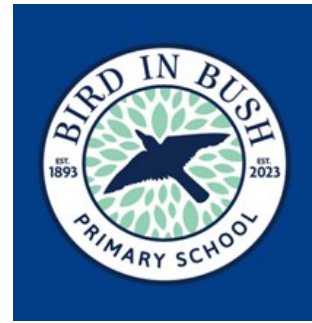




The Bird in Bush School Newsletter

January 2024 Edition Two

#exceptionaleveryday



Preparing for our next Ofsted

At the heart of a school's Ofsted evidence base are parent/carer responses to the surveys sent to you all.

Should you be willing to provide feedback on the school through completing your survey then it is essential that your email address is up to date.

Bird in Bush School is hugely proud of its strengths in terms of the quality of education we provide and we hope all our parents/carers support these successes. These qualities include:

- * *a school that is inclusive of all its pupils—unlike other schools who will use exclusion to punish their children*
- * *a school that has had no parental complaints in 7 years—where parents/carers can directly phone the headteacher to ask questions and raise any concerns*
- * *a school that has above national rates of attendance for three consecutive years—possibly because of the exceptional healthy school meals and availability of free breakfast provision*
 - * *a school committed to being exceptional every day*

Parents Evening

Tuesday 30th January
(apologies if any confusion on date)

Appointments between
1.00—6.45 p.m.

Reminder:

The school will close at 12.45 p.m. on Tuesday 30th January to support every parent/ carer being allocated a full ten minute appointment time

Please liaise with the school office if you have not signed up for an appointment. We will send confirmation of allocated times before 30/01/24

PE timetable for Week commencing Monday 22nd January

Year 1—**Tuesday** (Indoor Games);

Year 2—**Friday** (Indoor Games);

Year 3—**Thursday** (Cricket);

Year 4—**Friday** (Dance);

Year 5—**Friday** (Indoor or Swimming Redwing class to swim)

Year 6—**Thursday** (Outdoor + 8.00 a.m. lesson on Thursday)

**Might you be interested in a daily job in the school
11.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.
If so, please apply to this offer**



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***Our expanding primary school on the Old Kent Road...
'Southwark's newest Primary School'
is offering fixed term contract positions within our
Early Years team.***

Starting January 2023 until 31st August 2024

Early Years Play Assistants

15 hours per week - starting at 11.00 a.m.

Grade 3 spine point 2-6

(All positions are paid on a pro rata basis and are term time only)

We are a multicultural inner-city Southwark primary school with a friendly supportive team, whose diversity is an asset. The school offers exceptional levels of support and excellent opportunities for professional development to all its staff.

We are extremely proud of our diverse pupil intake (with over 60% of pupils from families receiving FSM or NRPF support) as well immensely proud of the diversity of our staff team (over 60% of our staff team are from a BAME background)

**Closing date for applications: 9.00 a.m. Monday 29th January with
interviews to follow without delay**

For an application pack or if you have any queries please contact Sharon Raven, Office Manager (email: office@birdinbush.southwark.sch.uk)

Bird in Bush School is committed to the Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and we expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All posts are subject to pre-employment checks. References will be sought and successful candidates will need to undertake an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check.

**It is essential that all holidays are booked around
school term dates—thank you**

**Please remember no
holidays in term times**



**Prior written approval is
needed for any term time
absence for a child**

Bird in Bush Primary School Term and Holiday dates

Academic year 2024/2025

Autumn term 2024

- Tuesday 3rd September 2024 to Friday 25th October 2024 (39 school days)
Half Term Monday 28th October 2024 to Friday 1st November 2024
- Tuesday 5th November 2024 to Friday 20th December 2024 (33 school days)
Mid-term Inset Day Friday 22nd November 2024

Spring term 2025

- Monday 6th January 2025 to Friday 14th February 2025 (30 school days)
Half Term Monday 17th February 2025 to Friday 21st February 2025
- Monday 24th February 2025 to Friday 4th April 2025 (30 school days)

Summer term 2025

- Tuesday 22nd April 2025 to Friday 23rd May 2025 (24 school days)
Half Term Monday 26th May 2025 to Friday 30th May 2025
- Tuesday 3rd June 2025 to Friday 18th July 2025 (34 school days)

Inset Days: 5 days for staff only

National Storytelling Week

Dream up a world

National
Literacy
Trust

Change your story

Supported by

REY
Paper in motion

What is National Storytelling Week?

In 2024, National Storytelling Week will take place from 27 January to 4 February.

This fantastic annual event is a joyful celebration of the power of sharing stories. Stories teach us about the world, they allow us to step into someone else's shoes and feel empathy, they help us to relax and escape and they can help develop essential literacy skills.

Our first Super Six Challenge will be to write our stories. Every child, staff member and parent/carer is invited to write a story.. To dream up a world.. and to join in the National Storytelling Week.

Watch out for further instructions but the basic criteria for our stories is based on that used for the BBC 500 Words competition which our Year 6 pupils recently entered.

- ◆ no more than 500 words
- ◆ Fictional stories only please
- ◆ Not judged on spelling, grammar or punctuation
- ◆ Judged on originality, plot and enjoyment

We would love to welcome any parents/carers or family members to come and tell a story to our children in assembly. Please let Mr Robinson know if you could come to school on either Monday 5th, Tuesday 6th or Wednesday 7th February?



Date for your diary

Come and join in with the Bird in Bush
Year of the Dragon/Chinese New Year
Parade in the playground on
Friday 23rd February.

During the February half term, there will be a Chinese New Year Art project which will result in your child being involved in the parade celebrations on this date.

Celebrating this event is one of the Super Six events that your child has been invited to participate in for 2024.

The next event/challenge will be linked to their participation in the British Science Week in March 2024.

The AFCON has started.. and there have already been wins for Ivory Coast, Morocco, Senegal and Nigeria... all Bird in Bush School Teams!



We are planning a big celebration of the AFCON by inviting everyone to watch the semi finals at Bird in Bush on Wednesday 7th February at 5.00 p.m. in the Rio Hall.

There have been offers to bring food to share at this event which are well received. This is an event for parents and children to attend together, possibly dressed in team colours.

Bird in Bush School can't lose!

Bird in Bush School—its pupils, staff and community—will be supporting all 12 of the African Nations represented in our school and competing in the 2024 ACON.

We will be supporting:

Cote D'Ivoire	Algeria	Morocco
DR Congo	Egypt	Nigeria
Senegal	Ghana	Guinea
Guinea-Bissau	The Gambia	Tunisia

Also on Wednesday 7th February we are celebrating the visit of Michael Situ, Southwark Mayor. His right honourable Mayor will meet parents/carers from 2.30—3.00 p.m. for a meeting to discuss local issues such as housing, the redevelopment of the Old Kent Road and Ledbury Estate/Bird in Bush items.



School trips at this time

If you are a parent/carer who might be willing to support school trips can we ask that you obtain a DBS check through the school. Please bring documents to validate yourself and your home address and the school will do all the rest.

This week, Year 5 went to the British Museum
Next week, Year 4 will go to the local Mosque
Year 6 will go to the Imperial War Museum
and then we have future trips coming up for:

Year 2 to the Victoria & Albert Museum
Nursery to the Unicorn Theatre
& sporting trips for Year 3 and 4 Athletics Team
And the Year 5 and 6 Netball Team



Bird in Bush School noted for its exceptional quality of education for its pupils with additional educational needs.

Recent visits to our school have drawn attention to the exceptional leadership of Miss Eastwood and her team in ensuring provision for supporting every child to be included in school in every way possible. SEND lead professionals have commented that they know that pupils will not experience the same challenges that they might experience elsewhere if they are educated at Bird in Bush School. We start 2024 with double the national averages in terms of numbers of children in a school supported by SEND strategies and provision. Credit where credit is due to Miss Eastwood and all the many staff supporting the school's SEND cohort.