



Dear Families,

I cannot quite believe we are at the end of term already, and what a busy one it has been!

What a WONDERFUL end to 2024 we have had. Last Friday the Friends of Binstead organised a wonderful Christmas Fayre for us all. It was so well attended and enjoyed by all. Thank you so much to the Friends for their organisation and planning, staff and volunteers for their help on the day and all of you for coming along and spending your pennies to have a good time and raise money along the way. The Friends raised a wonderful £2107.97p that will all go towards your children. Thank you to everyone involved in such a lovely Team Binstead Event.

On Saturday the Friends also ran a very successful Family Bingo Night at the Community Centre which was very well attended and a super night. Thanks again to all those who planned, took part, attended and spent their money on the evening, raising another wonderful total of £811.36.

This week I have had the pleasure along with many of you, of watching our play, The Grinch. I know you will all join me in saying a huge WELL DONE to all the children and staff involved in the Christmas Play. The amount of effort from everyone involved was amazing, and the whole school pulled everything together for the greatest show. I am so proud of them all, and as always, proud to lead Team Binstead. Thank you to everyone who came along to support the children and sat in either an extremely hot, or extremely cold hall :) (depending on which night you came to watch).

Today the children have had an incredibly special visitor. Santa came to see them in their classes and deliver a present to each and every one of them. Thank you to the Friends of Binstead for writing to Santa to let him know where our children would be so he could find them and deliver their gifts.

I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Thank you all for your festive wishes, cards and gifts for Team Binstead. I hope you all have a wonderful and safe Christmas break and look forward to seeing you all on Monday January 6th.

With very best wishes,

Mrs C



Week 2 menu	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Option 1	Cheese and Tomato Pizza	Beef Bolognese	Roast Pork	Chicken and Vegetable Pie	Fish fingers
Option 2	Vegetable Fajita	Chinese Vegetable Noodles	Winter Vegetable Hotpot	Macaroni Cheese	Quorn Dippers
Dessert	Crunchy Chocolate Mousse	Apple and Cinnamon Sponge	Fruits of the Forest Jelly	Chocolate Cookie	Orange Sponge Pudding

Cheese, Beans or Cheese and Beans Jacket potato, tomato pasta, yoghurt and fruit available daily

Attendance 17.10.24—6.11.24

EYFS: 92.7%

Year 1: 95.7%

Year 2: 100%

Year 3: 95%

Year 4: 97.7%

Year 5: 91.7%

Year 6: 93.1%

Whole School 95.1%

Whole School Target: 97% +

Total learning lost due to lateness— 5 hour 11 minutes

If your child is absent from school, please email or phone the office by 9.30am . Telephone calls must be confirmed in writing within 7 days or the absence will be coded as unauthorised.

Children arriving between 8:55 and 9:15 will be coded as 'Late'. Arrivals after 9:15 are coded as an 'unauthorised absence' for the session.

If they have a medical appointment and are going to be late, please also let us know and tell us if they would like a school meal ordered.

New attendance rules



There are new rules for unauthorised absences, whether this is due to holiday, irregular attendance, or otherwise.

1

I'm a parent and I want to take my child out of school.

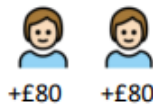
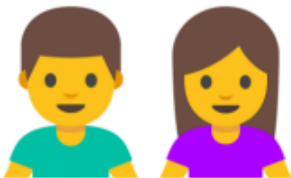
Make sure you use the absence request form. The form enables us to communicate whether an absence will be authorised or unauthorised.

Holiday requests **will not** be authorised.

If your child will miss 5 school days, they will be given a penalty notice fine.

The fine is £80 per parent, per child, if you pay it in 21 days, otherwise it is £160.

For a family of 2 parents & 2 children



+£80 +£80
£160 x2 = £320

Doubled to £640 if not paid in 21 days

What happens if school suspects children are actually on holiday?

Photos on Facebook?
Foreign mobile dial tone?
Other children talking about your holiday?
Amazing sun tan?
Home visit shows no-one at home?



Please don't be offended if we ask for evidence or mention these questions to you. We're required to do this to ensure a fair system!

2

What about subsequent absences? Is it still the same penalty amount?

No, not anymore. If in any period of not more than 3 years, your child has a 2nd and 3rd leave of absence OR pattern of irregular attendance, which is unauthorised then...

2nd TIME

2 parents and...
1 child = £320
2 children = £640
3 children = £960
4 children = £1280

NO DISCOUNT FOR EARLY PAYMENT

3rd TIME

A penalty notice fine **will not** be given. Instead, your case may be taken forward for prosecution. A magistrate can fine each parent £2500 for each

1 parent & 2 children = £5,000
2 parents and 2 children = £10,000

3

What about irregular attendance? Could I get a penalty notice?

If your child is absent (or late after registers) for 10 or more sessions in 10 weeks, and their absences are unauthorised, then the school is required to issue penalty notices / prosecution.



So, half a day here and day there could all add up to 10 sessions in 10 weeks (across years or terms). If unauthorised, then it would be a penalty notice. Remember, 1 day is 2 sessions (morning and afternoon).

YES

4

What are typical reasons given that won't be authorised?

Examples of unauthorised absences

A family member's birthday
Shopping for uniforms
Inadequate clothing for school
Child being used as a carer
Problems with transport
Family holidays

Sickness of parent or sibling
Sibling's school closed
Refusing to attend, but able to
Poor family organisation
No absence request completed or received after absence.



Where attendance is irregular, or historically poor, sickness absences may be unauthorised unless medical confirmation by a medical professional is given.

EVERY DAY COUNTS – ATTEND TODAY, ACHIEVE TOMORROW

The Friends Page

After a VERY busy weekend the totals are in... drum 🥁 roll please 🙏

The fayre made £2107.97!! 🎉

Added to the bingo & jar filling that's a weekend fundraising total of £2919.33 🤔 🎉 🤔

A little while ago we applied for a grant through Asda Community & we are delighted to say our application has been approved...

A £2000 cheque arrived and has also been banked 🙌

This incredible total allows us to confidently step in to 2025 knowing we can continue to support school with resources AND get underway with some exciting new projects 😊

Thank you for your ongoing support ❤️



Santa
Claus
IS COMING TO
town

Whilst you have been doing last minute shopping and wrapping the children have had a special visitor.

That's right, Santa has surprised the children and handed out special gifts organised and funded by "The Friends". We really hope they all enjoyed this exciting visit!

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your unbelievable continued support during 2024. And wish you all a happy and healthy 2025!!

ATTENDANCE EMAILS

Following changes to the attendance rules introduced by the government in August, we have a statutory obligation to write to all families whose children's attendance falls below 90%.

We will be emailing out every half term if your child's attendance falls below 90%

We know that sometimes our pupils cannot come to school because they are really unwell - and that's the right thing to do for them and other students. Medical advice is clear however that children with mild illness will often be well enough to attend - for example if they have a cough, or cold, without a temperature.

We also know that pupils fall behind their friends and classmates when they miss school.

At Binstead Primary School we want the amount of missed education to be reduced as much as possible. We believe that our community is stronger together, with all of our pupils in school, on time, every day.

We are building life skills, life-long friendships and preparing your child for future success.

We appreciate that every family's situation is unique.

Please be ensured that these emails are our statutory obligation and Mrs Parkinson our FLO will contact families directly if needed.

From the Isle of Wight NHS Trust

Children's COVID-19 Vaccination Appointments this Winter – Children's Outpatient Department, North Hospital

We are offering the following Children's COVID Vaccination Clinics for Ages 5-11, Ages 12-15 and Ages 16-17 in the Children's Outpatients Department, North Hospital, St Mary's (NOT the Hospital Vaccine Hub). Accessible parking is available in the North Car Park.

Appointments must be booked in advance, we are unable to offer walk-ins. **Please book appointments by calling the Hampshire and Isle of Wight COVID-19 vaccination Helpline 0300 561 0018**

Please note that Children are eligible if:

they are in a clinical risk group ([as defined in tables 3 or 4 in the COVID-19 chapter of the Green Book](#))

- or have not had any COVID vaccination in the past.

All vaccines offered will be the latest Pfizer JN.1 vaccines.

Upcoming Children's Vaccination Clinic times:

- Monday 6 January 2025, 2pm to 5pm
- Thursday 16 January 2025, 8am to 11am

For further information regarding Children's COVID vaccinations, please email the Hospital Vaccine Hub Team: iownt.vaccine-hub@nhs.net

Children who have not had the COVID vaccine are no longer eligible to have one. **Eligibility is only for children in a clinical risk group ([as defined in tables 3 or 4 in the COVID-19 chapter of the Green Book](#))**