

Friday, 2nd July, 2021

BPS Fest kicks off in style next week with our Carnival Week. All of the year groups will be parading around the school field, on Thursday 8th July, singing and dancing as they go!

We'll ensure that lots of photos and videos appear on our website and Facebook page so that you can see how fabulous all of the

The next day, on Friday, 8th July, all children who are currently at BPS will be joining their new teacher and classmates for some 'getting to know you' activities.



The following week is Tokyo Olympics Week and is probably the busiest of the term, with so much going on! We have a whole range of activities taking place in school that week. Please check below for any specific arrangements for your child's year group. **Further details about the Challenge Walks will be coming to you from your child's class teacher directly, via Tapestry or email.**

For Sports Day, children need to come into school wearing their usual school PE kit (including a white t-shirt). They'll then be given bibs for their house teams in school.

For the Challenge Walks, children should wear weather-appropriate sportswear and sturdy shoes or trainers. They will all need a packed lunch (including a refillable water bottle) in a backpack.

	Date	Event	What to wear and bring
Elmer's Nursery	Monday 12 th July	Challenge Walk	Please wear shoes that are suitable for sports
	Tuesday 13 th July	Sports Day	
Reception	Wednesday 14 th July	Challenge Walk	Weather-appropriate sportswear, refillable water bottle & packed lunch in a rucksack
	Tuesday 13 th July	Sports Day	School PE kit including a white t-shirt and trainers
Year 1	Monday 12 th July	Sports Day	School PE kit including a white t-shirt and trainers
	Thursday 15 th July	Challenge Walk	Weather-appropriate sportswear, refillable water bottle & packed lunch in a rucksack
Year 2	Monday 12 th July	Sports Day	School PE kit including a white t-shirt and trainers
	Thursday 15 th July	Challenge Walk/Rhydd Covert	Weather-appropriate sportswear, refillable water bottle & packed lunch in a rucksack
Year 3	Monday 12 th July	Challenge Walk	Weather-appropriate sportswear, refillable water bottle & packed lunch in a rucksack
	Wednesday 14 th July	Sports Day	School PE kit including a white t-shirt and trainers
Year 4	Wednesday 14 th July	Sports Day	School PE kit including a white t-shirt and trainers
	Thursday 15 th July	Challenge Walk	Weather-appropriate sportswear, refillable water bottle & packed lunch in a rucksack
Year 5	Wednesday 14 th July	Challenge Walk	Weather-appropriate sportswear, refillable water bottle & packed lunch in a rucksack
	Friday 16 th July	Sports Day	School PE kit including a white t-shirt and trainers
Year 6	Wednesday 14 th July	High School Musical Leavers Production – Parents have already been notified of arrangements for this event	
	Friday 16 th July	Sports Day	School PE kit including a white t-shirt and trainers
	Monday 19 th July	Challenge Walk	Weather-appropriate sportswear, refillable water bottle & packed lunch in a rucksack

At Bewdley Primary, we pride ourselves on giving children fabulous opportunities that will ensure their time at primary school is as memorable and enjoyable as possible. At a time when there is lots of

uncertainty, we feel particularly lucky that our staff are so dedicated to ensuring these events are able to continue.

We know that the topic of Sports Days and parents' attendance has been in the press and on social media recently and we felt that it was important to explain why the majority of our Summer events are only possible this year due to strict risk assessments being in place which, unfortunately, cannot include parents and carers as spectators. This decision has not been made lightly but having had a positive case in school this week we feel that it is the right thing to do at this time.

DfE guidance is clear that it is the responsibility of schools to risk assess their sports day plans and decide what is feasible within the current restrictions. As you can see from the action-packed timetable above, we aren't able to have one day dedicated to Sports Day and, for those of you familiar with our traditions, we are unable to have a whole-school picnic in the middle of the day.

Our Sports Day has a mixture of events, from the ever-competitive sprint finals to the much-loved leaky water race. To help with the organisation on the day, these are set up as round-robin events and classes or house teams travel around the activities. All of the equipment will need to be cleaned after every use, to ensure that there's no cross over between bubbles. With 15 classes, it would therefore be impossible to be able to do this in one day, hence the split into key stages instead.

Bubbles of 30 spectators are allowed under DfE guidance which would allow for 1 spectator per child. However, to ensure that the bubbles did not clash or mix during the round-robin events, spectators would either need to be sat down throughout or we would, again, need 15 separate sports days.

Some parents have found it difficult to follow the guidance in school or have disagreed with the restrictions that are in place whilst dropping off or collecting their child on a daily basis. We are therefore uncomfortable that the same would occur during these additional events. We also do not feel it would be fair to ask our staff to, therefore, act as Covid marshals or to take unnecessary risks. In addition to this, we would not be able to provide appropriate public toilet facilities whilst adhering to safeguarding guidance too.

We appreciate that it is frustrating, particularly as thousands of spectators are currently flocking to sports fixtures around Europe. However, we are not responsible for the safety and wellbeing of those adults who make the decision to attend these events. We must therefore put the safety of our pupils and staff first.

We have two events which are going ahead with parents and carers attending. The first is our Nursery Graduations which are being held outside and are being split over 4 days. The other is our Year 6 end of year production. Both of these events are for one year group at a time, outdoors, pre-booked, ticketed, seated and with strict social distancing measures in place.

We know that many parents love the annual Sports Day and are disappointed that they won't be a part of it. However, the children are still able to take part in and enjoy these events because of the controls that are in place.

We have over 470 children taking part in the carnival on Thursday and Sports Days and Challenge Walks the following week. They will also be watching the Year 6 production, High School Musical, have a whole school reward in the last few days of term and, spoiler alert, have a class party too!

In 2020, the majority of pupils in this country missed out on the traditional end of year events. We are so pleased that we are still able to offer our pupils so many fantastic opportunities to make memories with their friends over the next few weeks. Thank you to all of the parents and carers who continue to support us throughout these tricky times and we are all looking forward to when things can start getting back to 'normal'.