



Newsletter No.18 27th January 2012

Projections for the Academic year 2012-2013

The Finance Committee of the Board is preparing for the process of planning the budget for the next academic year (2012/13). Decisions have to be made very soon about how many classes we have in each year group. This, of course, also has an effect on our staff recruitment programme for the coming year.

I would be very grateful if you could complete the attached form and return it to school by Friday 10th February. It is important that we have an accurate picture of your intentions for next year.

Thank you in advance for your help in this matter.

Parking

Yes, it's time for the weekly update regarding parking and drop off! Once again, thank you to all parents who are walking from the preferred parking areas, or who are efficiently dropping children off, when necessary. This makes a big difference to traffic flow.

However, you will have noticed that the signs have changed slightly since last week as once again the kommun traffic planners have ignored an agreement made with the school and changed the arrangements. I will be following this up because, as before, it is not in the best interest of the children's safety and the needs of parents of the school.

For the time being it is important that we all observe the following:

- **No stopping** (including dropping off) on the graveyard side of the road, opposite the school grounds.
- **Drop off only** on the path side of the road outside the school. The drop off zone is now longer and I would suggest that leading cars pull in level with the lamp post halfway along the school playground.

Please note that, **on no account**, should cars be parked in the drop off zone. This causes major difficulties at the turning circle and results in traffic jams. Two cars this week have been parked for over five minutes and this resulted in significant queues.

School Calendar 2012-13

I know many of you have contacted the Office recently enquiring about the term dates for next year. Following this week's Board meeting the dates have now been confirmed and can be found in the attached document. The only dates which are still to be confirmed are the parent teacher conferences.

As usual, we have ensured that holidays correspond with both SIS and Swedish schools so that siblings can be off at the same time. Next year, we will also be trialling a longer October/November break for the children. For a number of years, our children have found the first half term exhausting and their learning prior to and immediately after the November break has suffered as a result. The Board and I have therefore agreed to trial an extended break to enable the children to recover fully from the long first half term. Please note that the normal staff training days will happen during that holiday.

Expansion Meeting

Please remember to let the Office know by e-mail, if you will be attending the Expansion Meeting on Tuesday 31st January at 6.30pm. This is an important opportunity for you to be informed about the school's expansion plans for next year as well as further into the future. There will be an opportunity for questions and discussion about development plans and ways in which you can be involved. We are at a significant stage in our school's history and recognise the importance of information for, and dialogue with, our whole school community. **Please could you let the office know (by e-mail) if you intend to attend.**

Staff Appreciation Breakfast

On Thursday, February 9th the PTA is providing a Staff Appreciation breakfast for the entire BIPSS staff. We have several volunteers who have offered to make something sweet or savoury for this event but we still need some additional helpers. If you are interested please email Kristi Lenahan and let her know what you could bring. All items can be dropped off in the school dining hall on Wednesday, February 8th at 2.30 pm.

Parent Singing Group

Any parents and friends who enjoying singing are welcome to join the Parent Singing Group on Tuesday mornings at 9.00 a.m. and / or Friday afternoons at 2.00 p.m. in the music room. No previous music or singing experience is necessary - we look forward to seeing you there! If you are interested in joining please contact Toni Behrendt for further information.