



Friday 9th November 2012

Headteacher: **GT Burgess MA**

Web Site: www.balsallcommonprimary.co.uk

E-Mail: office@balsall-common.solihull.sch.uk



Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the second half term of this academic year as we move towards our Christmas Festivities. Our Christmas Fayre is but **four weeks tomorrow**, followed by the Choir's debut at Young Voices and the school disco! Then, incredibly, only **five weeks on Tuesday** is the first of our Nativities! Where does the time go? We are all very much looking forwards to a busy and exciting half term! However, we are desperately short of helpers for the Christmas Fayre stalls! So, if any parents, grandparents, sons and daughters or friends would like to lend a hand, even if it is only for an hour, then please contact Rachel Brand on:

rbrand@williamfordham.com as soon as possible. Your help has, and always will be, essential!

Attendance and Attitude towards Learning

Winning classes before half term.

Head's Classes		Attendance	
Foundation	RH	Last half term all Pupils	96.8%
KS1	2K		
LKS2	4B	Class 100%	None
UKS2	5K		

Assemblies

Both of our assemblies at the end of last half term, delivered impeccably by 2A and 5P, focused on the history behind 5th November. Alongside this, both classes built in clear guidance on how to remain safe around bonfires and fireworks. The messages were clear and will undoubtedly have had considerable impact on the children. Very well done indeed to the children in both classes.

Build a Guy

We had an absolutely fantastic response this year to our Build a Guy Project, with a total of 45 fine specimens created by

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children across the whole school. I know that some of the Guys were built with grandparents, as well as parents, and know that you will all have thoroughly enjoyed this. Please put it in your diaries for next year!

Nursery Outdoor Classroom

The rejuvenation of this outdoor area commenced over half term and is scheduled to be completed by today. We are all delighted with the outcome so far. Many, many thanks to the PTA and John Shepherd who have shared the cost of this £26,000 project!

Football

The week before half term saw 4 boys' matches played, resulting in 2 wins and 2 defeats. On the Tuesday evening the boys played Dorridge. Our A team were defeated 3-2 whilst our Year 5 B team won 5-2, after going 2-0 down at the start. Meanwhile, the following day we played Coppice. Our A team won 4-1 against Coppice Year 6, whilst our B team, comprising of Year 4 and 5 boys, lost 3-1 to a team of Year 6. Special mention to Joe W, Year 5, who played above his age group and over the two evenings scored five goals. Finlay PO, from Year 5 captained the Year 6 team and capped off a great performance with a goal, whilst Joe H and Archie C, from Year 4, played really well against boys two years older. Meanwhile, this week our girls played Castle Bromwich and, although they lost 3-0, the spirit of the girls was excellent and in particular Nieve and Hannah R were outstanding. Well done to all players!

Year 1 Geography Topic and TRAFFIC

As part of our geography topic this term, Year 1 went out onto the local roads to observe the traffic and discuss how to help us to stay safe. Around 65% of the children said that they did not feel safe coming to and leaving school as it was very busy and the cars drove too fast. 50% of the pupils in Year 1 said that people did not park correctly which meant that it was hard to see

other cars. One child commented, 'My Daddy can never get into the spaces because cars don't leave enough room for each other'. In spite of the recently revised speed limit on the main road, the children commented on the speed that the cars were driving. They were concerned that the signs, barriers and bollards would only protect them if people were careful and considerate at all times! Out of the mouths of babes! We clearly ALL need to be doing our best to drive sensibly and observe speed limits and parking restrictions!

Book Week Next Week

We are particularly lucky next week to have one of the most well-known and celebrated authors in the UK, **Anne Fine**, joining us on Thursday! She will be working with the children all day and then deliver an 'Evening with Parents' between 6.00-7.30! This is all part and parcel of our desire to raise the profile of reading with all children as part of life-long learning. We are combining Anne's visit with **BOOK WEEK** and **CHILDREN IN NEED** by concluding on Friday with a 'Dress as your favourite Book Character' day and bringing in a donation. We would like to request a minimum donation of £1 but will be happy with whatever you can afford AND we will NOT be excluding children whose parents cannot afford to make a donation!

PTA Meeting

The next meeting is Wednesday 14th, 7.00pm at the Brickies. All welcome!

Have a great weekend!
GT Burgess

Balsall Common Primary School Sponsors

Atkinson Stilgoe, Village Estate Agents, is once more sponsoring our school generously over the next 4 year period. Please ring Anita McKeogh on 01676 535234 to see current listings of homes for sale.



Nursery - Ted & Toby Bear's Star of the Week Awards

The Bears didn't go home at half-term. They were too busy helping in the new Nursery Garden!

Robin's Stars of the Week

Millie M, RH

Louis J, RD

Chloe D, RM

Maths Wizard

Alfie E, 1S
Isabelle M, 2M

Harriet G, 1B
-

Miles G, Elizabeth M & Romilly M, 1M
Lois E, 2K

Writers of the Week

Zach J, RM
Annika S, 1B
Harrison B & Sarah M, 2M

Lucie M, RD
-
-

Millie M, RH
Florence C, 1M
Ethan A, 2K

Good Choice Stars of the Week

Lucas W, 1B	Summer R, 2M	Mia B, 3C	Rebecca D, 4B	Ella N, 5P	Jacob R, 6B
Molly W, 1S	Libby J, 2K	Oliver D, 3P	George S, 4D	Katherine E, 5K	Joe F, 6M
Ben L, 1M	Charlotte C, 2A	Noah F, 3A	Daniel W, 4F	Gagandeep S, 5B	Eleanor D, 6I

Helen Lewis Friendship Cup

India L, RD
Alex S, 1B

Diary Dates 2012- 2013

AUTUMN TERM

Mon 12 - Fri 16 November	BOOK WEEK	
Wednesday 14 November	09:00	Year 5 Chemistry Demonstration in hall with Nick Barker
Thursday 15 November	Year 6	Skills Show, NEC
		Roving Bookshop Author Anne Fine in school all day and parents meeting at 18:00
Friday 16 November	Children in Need Day - 'Dress as your Favourite Book Character'	
Friday 23 November	Non-uniform day for PTA chocolate stall 14:45 6B Class Assembly	
Saturday 1 December	13:00 - 16:00	CHRISTMAS FAYRE
Tuesday 4 December	13:00	Choir to Young Voices at LG Arena
Friday 7 December	18:00	Reception and Yrs 1 & 2 Disco
	19:30	Yrs 3 - 6 Disco
Monday 10 December	13:15	Yrs 1 & 2 Christmas Performance
Tuesday 11 December	Year 5 to Space Centre	
	09:30	Reception and Morning Nursery Christmas Performance
	14:30	Reception and Afternoon Nursery Christmas Performance
	18:00	Yrs 1 & 2 Christmas Performance
Wednesday 12 December	10:30	Nursery and Reception to Warwick Arts Centre
	12:00	School Christmas Lunch
	18:00	Yrs 1 & 2 Christmas Performance
Thursday 13 December	09:00	Years 1 - 6 to Leamington Theatre - Snow White
		Party Day for Nursery and Reception



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