



Dear Parents,

### Attendance and Attitude towards Learning

#### Last weeks' winners

Head's Classes		Attendance	
FKS	RR	Top Class	2K+ 2M 100%
KS1	1S	Week	97.03
LKS2	4D		
UKS2	6B		

#### Class Assemblies 1B, 3A, 3P

3A performed well on their topic of 'Aims and Ambitions' on Thursday morning having had to wait nearly 2 weeks to perform because of the snow. 1B had learned their poems exceptionally well and shared with us information learned from their 'Toys' topic. Finally, dressed in red, 3P prepared us for the Chinese New Year, acting out the stories of the animals' race. Well done to all pupils for excellent performances.

#### Rugby V Coppice

Our Tag Rugby team faced Coppice Primary School last week. The previous match had seen us beat them by just one try. From the very start of play it was clear that both sides were aware of the previous result and were determined to take control of the match. Playing uphill, and into the wind, we entered half time 10 tries to 7 ahead. A brief team chat during the interval saw a completely different approach to the second half of the game and Balsall quickly added score after score to dominate and to win the encounter 27 tries to 12! Some outstanding play was observed from all players but particular recognition must go to Grace, Ellis, Kieran and Miles for some first class breaks. Well done to the whole team!

#### Visiting Artist in Year 2

Wow! The children in Year 2 have been showing me some really frightening monsters! The idea of the visit was to allow children to experience top quality art tuition, further developing pencil skills and an awareness of perspective in drawing. Some of the results would grace the scenes of Dr Who without any question at all. Many thanks to Miss Ross, our Art Co-ordinator, for planning and organising an event which has added breadth to the school's curriculum.

#### Nursery Offer

We have had a huge uptake for our nursery provision for September 2013. I would imagine that this is because it provides:

- A first class start for your child in an 'Outstanding' (OFSTED 2009) setting;
- Access to all of the school's resources, including our indoor swimming pool, and free lessons by a fully qualified swim coach;
- Wrap around care with our partner provider, Pathways, therefore meeting all of your childcare needs in ONE place.

If you want to visit us to see what we can offer then make an appointment for me to show you round. Our offer has been extended this year to include a choice of either 5 morning or 5 afternoon sessions, or all day provision Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday morning or Wednesday afternoon and all day Thursday and Friday. **But hurry because we only have 7 places remaining!**

#### Balsall Common Scouts Swimming Gala

Last Saturday the Balsall Common Scouts entered the annual District Swimming Gala. Swimming groups comprised Beavers, Cubs and Scouts, and all but two of the swimmers are from our school. All of the children got through their heats and into the finals with

finishing positions of Beavers 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, Cubs joint 1<sup>st</sup> and Scouts 3<sup>rd</sup>. We are still awaiting notification of the overall event winner but believe that it is likely to be us! Very well done indeed to all swimmers.

#### Recycling

This initiative got underway this week. All classes have one tray for paper used on only one side, which they go to first if they require scrap paper. Once it is used on both sides, it moves to the second tray and is recycled. Simple but effective.

#### Supporting the Wider World

Our children continue to show concerns for local and world-wide issues, this time by raising money for the Dogs Trust and the Snow Leopards. Well done to children in Year 4, Ollie, Aaron, Joe, Joshua and Matthew for raising £47.19 for the Dogs Trust, and to Freya, Isaac, Phoebe and Aman for raising £55.60 for Save the Snow Leopards.

#### Parents' Meetings

We are very much looking forward to welcoming you into school next week to meet with teachers to discuss your son/daughter's progress. The KS2 playground will be open for parents to use for parking both evenings.

#### PTA Meeting

The next PTA meeting is Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March, 7.30, here in school. Everyone is welcome.

#### INSET DAY

A reminder that we break up for half term next Friday and that school re-opens for the children on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February since Monday 25<sup>th</sup> is an INSET Day.

Have a great weekend.

GT Burgess

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

Morning - Jacob & James O

Afternoon - Isabelle MJ

**Robin's Stars of the Week**

Oliver H, RM

Sian J, RH

Gabriella H, RD

**Maths Wizard**

Evie, H & Anwyn M-O, 1B  
Eva N & Joe W, 2K

Miles G & Seoul C, 1M  
-

Summer P, 1S  
Bless L-A, 2A

**Writers of the Week**

Jack B, RM & Rachel W, RM  
James, C 1B  
Isabelle M, 2M

-  
-  
Reeve C, 2K

Lizzie C, RD  
James M, 1S  
Anya B, Dulcie G & Bless L-A, 2A

**Good Choice Stars of the Week**

James L, 1M	Sam C, 2K	Anja W, 3A	Archie S, 4D	Eloise M, 5P	Nieve D, 6M
Aaron, Q, 1B	Kiran C, 2K	Harry H 3C	Lester D, 4F	Alice W, 5K	Nicholas B, 6B
Vishal D, 1S	Louis G, 2M	Niamh C, 3P	Ollie M, 4F	Katherine E, 5K	Sam D, 6I
	Tommy R, 2A		Esther W, 4F	Sepehr S, 5B	
			Phoebe C, 4B		

**Helen Lewis Friendship Cup**

James W, Nursery

**Diary Dates 2012- 2013**

**SPRING TERM 2013**

Mon 11 & Tue 12 February	16:00-19:00	Parent Consultations
Friday 15 February	14:45 6I	Class Assembly Break up for Half-term
Monday 25 February		<b>INSET</b>
Tuesday 26 February		School starts for children
Tuesday 5 March		Year 4 to Safari Park
Thursday 7 March		Year 2 to St John's Museum, Warwick
Friday 8 March	09:10 14:45 5K	Reception Mothering Sunday Assembly Class Assembly
Friday 15 March	Red Nose Day 14:45 5B	Class Assembly
Monday 18 March		Visit to Warwick University Science Lab for Yrs 5 & 6 Science Club
Tuesday 19 March		Year 3 to Chedworth Roman Villa
Friday 22 March	14:45 5P 18:00-19:15 19:30-21:00	Class Assembly Yrs 1 & 2 Disco KS2 Disco
Tues 26 & Wed 27 March	18:00	Year 4 production
Thursday 28 March	09:10	Years 1 & 2 Easter Bonnet Assembly Term Ends - please note that this is a day later than other Solihull schools
<b>SUMMER TERM 2013</b>		
Monday 15 April		School returns



**TheGivingMachine - You Shop, They Give**

Did you know that you can make free cash donations to us whenever you shop online via TheGivingMachine.

Join up as a Giver at [www.thegivingmachine.co.uk](http://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk) and every time you shop online via

TheGivingMachine it will generate a donation.

