



Dear Parents,

What a fabulous Book Week we had before half-term and it was enjoyed by everyone. The main highlight was a visit by children's author Julia Jarman, who shared some of her stories and talked to Key Stage 2 about being a writer. Many children across school were inspired by her visit and are now enjoying reading her books. On the Friday staff and pupils enjoyed dressing up as their favourite books characters. Thank you for the generous chocolate donations made for the Christmas Fayre.

Finally, the winners of our Book Week Photo Competition, who each received a signed copy of one of Julia Jarman's books, were:

Foundation: Ben B, Nursery AM

Key Stage 1: Sophie B, 2K

Lower Key Stage 2: Bless LA, 3W

Upper Key Stage 2: Lindsey N, 6B

Many thanks to everyone who entered; there were some fabulous entries with children (and staff!) reading in all sorts of interesting and original places! All of the photos entered into the competition will soon be displayed in the library for everyone to enjoy.

Attendance and Attitude towards Learning

Week ending 25 October

Head's Classes		Attendance	
FS	RW	2K	98.6%
KS1	2A	3W	98.5%
LKS2	4B	3D	98.5%
UKS2	5B	Week	97.3%

John Shepherd Select Estate Agents
Local Independent Estate Agent making a substantial commitment to Balsall Common Primary School over the long term.

Rugby Team News

On a wet Wednesday afternoon our contact rugby team travelled to Warwick School to take part in a four team tournament which featured two very strong teams from Warwick who perform well on regional and national levels, plus a team from Bluecoat Prep School. Our boys won many plaudits for their performance against the Warwick teams and although losing narrowly on both occasions we threatened the try line on many occasions with Ethan and Finlay held up just inches from the try line. Our third match was a convincing 31-7 victory against Bluecoat. William S, Ethan W and Finlay P all scored great tries. The whole afternoon was a wonderful experience for our boys who represented our school with pride. Thanks to Mr Green for organising it.

Holiday Absence

There have been lots of discussions about this in the media and it is quite controversial. However your children are required to attend school regularly and have 190 days a year to do so. The government has never agreed with leave of absence in term-time so really the new regulations are not new at all. We understand that flights do not all leave when you want them to and we are prepared to be lenient about the odd day before a main holiday. However we cannot authorise holidays unless there are exceptional circumstances involved, and not just for personal preference or because of the cost implication. We are required to see evidence of these exceptional circumstances before any decision is made. Last minute requests will no longer be accepted. I do hope that you understand the situation that we are in and that as a school we have to follow the guidelines.

Centenary Book

This special book was written and funded by the local History Association. It is an interesting read and still available from school for £5. Just send the money in with your child or visit the school office

Balsall Common Primary School Sponsors



3C Class Assembly

What an exciting day 3C had on their assembly day as they performed in their book character costumes. They shared with us all their interesting facts about dinosaurs and a few jokes! Well done children, and Mrs Carter and Mrs Mitchell.

Walk, Cycle or Scoot to School Week

This takes place across Solihull next week. This initiative helps to promote health and well-being, sustainability and ease the parking near school. We are asking parents and carers to leave the car behind or park further away from school and join others who are walking to school. The exercise and fresh air should make your children brighter and ready to learn.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

SATURDAY 23 NOVEMBER 1.00-4.30

Only two weeks to go to one of our main fund raising events, the PTA Christmas Fayre. I do hope that you have got the date in your diary. Use this weekend to clear out your cupboards and lofts of unwanted gifts, toys, toiletries, books and bottles and send them in to school. Bookings are already being received for Santa's Grotto so make sure that you don't miss out.

CHILDREN IN NEED Next Friday

Wear school uniform next week but add something spotty or wear some Pudsey Ears. Please give generously. Disappointingly the PTA Quiz is cancelled tonight due to a poor response. Never mind we can save the questions.

Have a good weekend

SJ Davies, Deputy Head

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

Morning - Harrison

Mon - Wed - Lara

Afternoon - William S & Ruby

Robin's Stars of the Week

Nicholas E, RH

Oscar S, RW

Soren W, RM

Writers of the Week

Harris M, RH

Gianluca F, RW

Sophia M, RM

Ziyuan Y, 1M

Henry D, 1S

Olivia J, 1P

Sophie B & Lucas Wr, 2K

Eloise A, Romilly M, & Ollie B, 2A

Hannah C, 2D

Maths Wizard

Gabriela J-L, Evie B & Delilah O'D, 1M

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Ole W, 1P

Maia F & Ralph P, 2K

Shelby B, 2A

Madeleine P, 2D

Good Choice Stars of the Week

Tia B, 1S

Elianne O, 2A

Bless L-A, 3W.

Marie K, 4B

Lily-Bea C, 5P

Callum D, 6B

Jayden C, 1S

Dexter T, 2K

Rebecca N, 3D

Oliver N, 4D

Summer S, 5B

Sepher S, 6B

Lucie M, 1P

Samuel W, 2K

Izzy S, 3C

Charlotte W, 4W

William C, 5M

Max B, 6H

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Ashton W, 2D

Lewis W, 6W

DIARY DATES

AUTUMN TERM 2013

Thursday 14 November	Year 6	The Skills Show, NEC
Friday 15 November	Children in Need Day 14:45	3D Class Assembly
Mon 18 & Tues 19 November	Educational Conference in school hall all day. Cold lunches provided. tbc	
Saturday 23 November	13:00-16:00	CHRISTMAS FAYRE
Friday 29 November	14:45	3W Class Assembly
Friday 6 December	18:00	Reception & KS1 Disco
	19:30	KS2 Disco
Tuesday 10 December	Year 5 14:30	National Space Centre, Leicester Reception & Nursery Additional Christmas Performance
Wednesday 11 December	09:30 & 14:30 18:00	Reception and Morning Nursery Christmas Performance Yrs1 & 2 Christmas Performance
Thursday 12 December	14:30 & 18:00	Yrs1 & 2 Christmas Performance
Friday 13 December	12:00	School Christmas Lunch
Sunday 15 December	15:00	Choir at Methodist Church
Monday 16 December	14:30 & 18:00	Yrs 3 & 4 Christmas Carol Concert
Tuesday 17 December	Nursery & Reception 14:30 & 18:00	Warwick Arts Centre (Room on the Broom) Yrs 5 & 6 Christmas Carol Concert
Wednesday 18 December	09:00	KS1/KS2 Leamington Theatre
	Nursery and Reception	Party Day
Thursday 19 December	Years 1 - 6	Party Day
Friday 20 December	School Ends for Christmas Holiday!	
SPRING TERM 2014		
Monday 6 January	School starts	
Thursday 16 January	Choir at Young Voices - LG Arena	



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