



Dear Parents

Attendance and Attitude towards Learning

Week ending 6 December

Head's Classes		Attendance	
FS	RH	1P	99.3
KS1	2D	4W	98.7
LKS2	3D	Week	96.3%
UKS2	6B	Term	97.3%

I am delighted with the high rate of attendance this term. Overall, 97.3% is above average and typifies the pupils' and parents' attitudes towards learning. In addition, children are working hard to achieve ATL Points from staff, both in and out of the classrooms. Well done to all children and thank you parents.

School Applications - message from Solihull Admissions Service

'The closing date for Reception applications for September 2014 is 15 January. We have decided not to contact parents that haven't yet applied until in the New Year as we feel that 'chase postcards' may get lost in the Christmas chaos! However, if you have not yet applied you can apply online at www.solihull.gov.uk/enrol.'

Who is picking up my child tonight?

The school telephone system is extremely useful in terms of getting messages to teachers quickly by using their extension number. However, if you are letting teachers know that there is a change to who is picking up your child that day, please ensure that you actually speak to a member of staff. They will then carry the message to your child's teacher. Staff tend to check their phone messages after the children have left for the day. Many thanks indeed.

John Shepherd Select Estate Agents
Local Independent Estate Agent making a substantial commitment to BCPS over the long term. Call Matt Carroll on 01676 534411 to discuss your needs.

Year 6 Travelling Topic

Pupils have been learning about migration and the impact it can have on families. As such, pupils in Year 6 have investigated their own family history and made presentations to their peers and parents and linked this to 'food tasting around the world'. This has caused quite a sensation with the children. For example, one child discovered that his great grandfather had travelled to China as part of his job to help solve their traffic congestion in the city and had received an MBE for his work! Well done children and thank you parents for joining them for their presentations.

Recycle Fashion Club

Mrs O'Leary's lunchtime fashion club 'strutted their stuff' on Friday and also joined John Lewis staff to 'Jazz up their Christmas Jumpers', alongside Cllr Joe Tildesley. This has been superb fun and the completed recycled garments were incredible.



KS2 Christmas Carol Concerts

Our Christmas performances were rounded off this week with two fantastic Carol Concerts from children from Years 3-6. Christmas is a very special time of year, especially for children, and we have been delighted to welcome in over 1400 visitors to the school over a 6 day period to see the shows, in which the children have performed brilliantly. My personal thanks go to all of the staff for their continued enthusiasm and hard work at such a busy time of the year. I would also like to thank all of you for your very generous donations during the performances. Donations for Myton Hospice and the RNLI have totalled just under £1500. This is absolutely incredible at such an expensive time of the year with the currently economic climate. Thank you all so much on behalf of these charities.

Balsall Common Primary School Sponsors



School Choir

The school choir have been extremely busy over the last two weeks performing at Oak Trees, Michael Blanning, Knights Court and Rose Court. They also led a Christmas Service at the Methodist Church last Sunday. Thank you parents for escorting the children to these venues and to Mrs King and Mrs Avis for their work with the choir. The audiences have all been particularly welcoming.



Thank You Coffee Morning

Thank you to all of our helpers. We do hope that you enjoyed our Thank You Coffee Morning. If you feel that you have some spare time, contact Mr Ireland for more information about how you might be able to help in school.

Pantos

All of our children have had a thoroughly enjoyable time at their shows this week. 679 pupils.....and two pantos. Wow! Again, thank you to all of you for accompanying us to these events.

Parentview

If you get a moment over the holiday, please visit the Ofsted website and fill in the Parentview questionnaire to share your views of us. Our next full questionnaire will be coming out next half term.

And so, to leave you with this from Marcus in 2K, 'What do you call a three legged donkey?.....Wonkey!' Have a great Christmas and New Year and see you all back here on Monday 6th January!

GT Burgess

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

Ted & Toby Bear will stay in Nursery to wait for Father Christmas's visit on 25 December!

Robin's Stars of the Week

Isabelle W & Nancy PG, RW

Casey H, RH

Louisa G, RM

Writers of the Week

-

Drew T, RH

-

-

Kasper VC, 1S

-

-

Nikita J & Samuel W, 2K

-

Maths Wizard

-

Mimzy S, 1S

-

Dexter T & Oliver W, 2K

-

Rohan C, Simran N & Reiss S, 2D

Good Choice Stars of the Week

Harrison M, 1M

Sophie B, 2K

Victoria H, 3C

Mia B, 4B

Sam T, 6B

Clarissa Y, 1S

Tigerlily C, 2K

William M, 3D

Oliver D, 4W

-

Mabel S, 1S

Ben L, 2A

Imogen D, 3W

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Council Friendship Cup

Eleanor D, 6B

Helen Lewis Friendship Cup

Ben L, 2A

DIARY DATES

SPRING TERM 2014

Monday 6 January	School starts
Thursday 16 January	Choir at Young Voices - LG Arena
Friday 17 January	14:45 4B Class Assembly
Friday 24 January	14:45 4D Class Assembly 19:30 Headteacher's Quiz
Tuesday 28 January	17:30 Dunfield meeting for Y4 parents
Friday 31 January	14:45 4W Class Assembly
Friday 7 February	09:10 2A Class Assembly 14:45 6M Class Assembly
Mon 10 & Tues 11 February	16:00-19:00 Parent Consultations
Friday 14 February	09:10 2K Class Assembly 14:45 6W Class Assembly Break up for Half-term
Monday 24 February	INSET
Tuesday 25 February	CENTENARY WEEK 1939-1970 Children return to school
Friday 7 March	09:10 2D Class Assembly 14:45 6H Class Assembly
Friday 14 March	09:10 1S Class Assembly 14:45 5B Class Assembly
Friday 21 March	09:10 1P Class Assembly 14:45 5P Class Assembly