



**Dear Parents**

Christmas seems like it never happened! As much as we all enjoy the festivities at school it is good to get back to our normal timetable. The children have returned with positive attitudes towards learning, looking smart and with smiles on their faces. Spring term, if not interrupted by snow is a term where children can really focus on learning. If it does snow we will always aim to keep the school open but in the event of closure we will inform you via the school website.

**Attendance and Attitude towards Learning**

**Week Ending 10 January**

Head's Classes		Attendance	
FS	RM	100%	3W
KS1	1S	99.3%	1P
LKS2	3D	98%	1S
UKS2	6W	95.4%	Week

**INTERNET SAFETY**

Safer Internet day is on 11 February and the website is well worth a look at. [www.saferinternetday.org.uk](http://www.saferinternetday.org.uk) Mrs Edwards who teaches IT to most year groups has recently covered internet safety as part of the curriculum. She was astounded to find out how many of our pupils have their own Facebook account even though you should be aged 13 to open an account! She was even more shocked to find out that many children when using the internet and play online games use their own name as their user name and have no understanding about protecting their identity or about setting privacy levels on social networking sites. We will continue to educate them but parents must take responsibility outside of school for checking that all devices are protected.

**Help for Hedgehogs Campaign**

Nature Club are supporting this by selling hedgehog badges for £1 and will be giving practical advice on how to help hedgehogs in assemblies next week.

**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.



**Local Sponsorship and New Store Opening**

Yesterday Sainsburys opened their new Local Store on the Kenilworth Road and the school was represented at the Grand Opening by Mrs Clark and members of her nature club. The children were given their own name badge and allowed to choose their own healthy lunch which they scanned. They had a tour of the back rooms and saw the bakery. Interestingly, the BBC TV were there this morning reporting for Breakfast News.



Prior to this visit Mr Rose was able to gain sponsorship from Sainsbury for sports kit for our key stage two teams as well as providing sports and play equipment for key stage one children. John Sumner, Sainsbury's Store Manager, said, 'we are delighted to be able to help out the local primary school and look forward to building a long term relationship with them'.



**Balsall Common Primary School Sponsors**

**Young Voices**

One of the highlights of my year has to be going to the LG Arena to support our school choir as part of the mass choir which make Young Voices. This is a national initiative and allows the children to experience working with professionals. Last night was no exception as the children shared the stage with Stacey Solomon a previous finalist from X Factor. Well done to our children who have been practising for weeks and to the staff Mr Ireland, Mrs Clinton, Mrs Brown, Mrs Hardwick and Mrs Stimpson who not only gave their time but also had to learn the songs too! A final thanks to Mrs Avis who trained the choir, organised our participation in this event and sang beautifully in the teachers choir last night.

**INSET DATE CHANGE**

Second reminder - School will now be open and will operate normally on the 24 February but will be closed to pupils on 3 March for staff training.

**Oakes Egg Farm**

Thank you again to this local business who continue to support our cooking club by supplying fresh eggs free of charge. If you haven't visited the farm shop and café it is well worth a visit.

**Head's Curry and Quiz night**

This annual event is next week. Arrival for a 7.30pm start! You should have received information about this the other day. Traditionally, this has always been very well supported so do ensure that you get your forms back quickly...and get up on the school newsletter since the start of the year!!!

**Next PTA Meeting**

The next meeting will be held in the 'Brickies' near the station on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January at 7:30. We really would welcome new members. If you fancy a laugh and a chat do pop in and find out what happens. The following meeting will be held in school at a date to be decided.

**Have an enjoyable weekend.**

**S J Davies**

**Deputy Headteacher**

**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 - Lilian** **Afternoon (Last Week) - Thomas F**

**Robin's Stars of the Week**

Tilly C, RH

Alfie H, RM

Gianluca F, RW

**Writers of the Week**

Megan H, RW

Kieran T, RH

Josie R, RM

Evie B, 1M

Ava F, 1S

Rohan H, 1P

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Lucas Wh & Annika S, 2K

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**Maths Wizard**

Charlotte J-B, 1M

Clarissa Y, 1S

Ole W, 1P

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Tom M & Alfie J, 2K

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**Good Choice Stars of the Week**

Jamie B, 1M

Maia F, 2K

Tommy R, 3C

Anna, R 4D

Jack N, 5B

Alice W, 6W

Ole W, 1P

Jessica C, 2K

Josephine G, 3W

Hannah L, 4B

Shannon B, 5M

Lindsey N, 6B

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Lucy W, 3D

Fred D, 4W

Phoebe C, 5P

Annie H, 6H

**Helen Lewis Friendship Cup**

Caitlyn K, 1S

**DIARY DATES**

**SPRING TERM 2014**

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
Tuesday 4 February	Year 6 to Houses of Parliament		
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		
<b>Monday 24 February</b>	<b>BACK TO SCHOOL - NOT INSET</b>		
Tuesday 25 February	CENTENARY WEEK 1939-1970 Children return to school		
<b>Monday 3 March</b>	<b>INSET</b>		
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
Friday 28 March	09:10	Reception	Mothering Sunday Assembly