



Dear Parents,

Can you believe that this time last week we were recovering from our inspection? This week it has been business as usual and teachers and pupils have continued to focus on learning. On Monday the staff had a very productive training day led by a leading HMI for English, focusing on how we can improve writing. Tuesday's staff meeting was extremely active as Joe Winston from Warwick University led a drama workshop. Well done to all staff for their commitment and contribution.



Year 4 Visit the Safari Park

On Wednesday Year 4 travelled to West Midlands Safari Park as they have been studying habitats and animal adaptations to their environment. It was an incredibly busy day with many activities. Some of the highlights were the tour of the animal enclosures, the sea lion show and a classroom session where the children were able to handle some animals to see first-hand their adaptations to their habitats. A fabulous time was had by all and it really brought the children's learning to life.

Netball

Last night our netball team played against St. Martin's and won the match 6 - 2. The girls showed great spirit and determination. Well done to all!

Internet Safety

I know that we keep raising this subject but it really is important that you monitor your children when they are using any device that connects to the internet. Instagram is a networking site that was new to me so I decided to have a look at it with a little help from a younger family member. What I discovered is that some of our children are not protecting themselves despite all the teaching that we have been doing with them. Children in our school are using their full names, posting photographs of themselves and others, and not setting their privacy level which means that anybody can contact them or see what they are doing. Also children who think they are being private seem to be unaware that their comments can be seen through unprotected accounts. It certainly should not be used for making negative comments about anyone else. So, please, please check that your children are safe and using sites like this appropriately.

School Uniform

The inspectors liked our school uniform and were impressed with the smartness of the children and the pride that they showed in wearing it. However to maintain this high quality it is necessary to give reminders from time to time of some of the rules.

- ✿ No jewellery except plain stud earrings or watches which should be removed for PE, games and swimming
- ✿ No nail varnish or make-up
- ✿ Hairbands should be simple and not have decorative attachments
- ✿ Long hair should be tied back for games
- ✿ Trainers to be worn for outdoor games in KS2
- ✿ Black shoes, no boots or open-toed sandals

Sports Relief

Friday 21 March

We will be supporting this charity by asking the children to dress in sports gear and to make a donation to Sports Relief. There will also be some fun activities during the day weather permitting. More information next week.

World Book Day

Scholastic Book Fair will be in school from next Friday 14th March until Thursday 20th March (not including Tuesday). It will be held after school in the Atrium. We will be accepting the World Book Day tokens towards payment of a book but will not stock any £1 World Book Day books. We will also be selling stationary.

'Hour of Code' Week

Coding is a big part of the new IT curriculum for September 2014. This week all children from Y2 - Y6 had lessons in coding. The coding is in the form of writing code to make things happen on screen. They worked through different levels which become progressively more difficult as more commands are introduced. The older children had the opportunity to write some of their own code too. Not only did they need to think logically to write the code but they had to be able to 'debug' it when it didn't work! The children really enjoyed it and it's accessible for all abilities. The programs are available online at: <http://code.org/learn>

Sophie's Story

Lizzie Laws a parent from Pathways is running her first half marathon on 23rd March in aid of Sophie, a friend's daughter who was brain damaged after an accident. If you wish to support her please follow the link: <http://www.gofundme.com/6lsgvg#>

PTA

At the PTA meeting this week it was decided to set a date for the Chairman's Quiz. This follows a different format to the Headteacher's Quiz as you bring your own food as well as your own refreshment. The questions might even be easier! The date to keep free is 9th May. Start to gather your team together and look out for further information.

Have a restful and hopefully rain free weekend.

S J Davies Deputy Headteacher

Attendance and Attitude towards Learning Week Ending 28 February

Head's Classes		Attendance	
FS	RH	1P	99.3%
KS1	1S	1M	99.0%
LKS2	3D	5P	99.0%
UKS2	5M	Overall	96.3%

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.

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

Morning - Becca & Evie M

Weds pm - Fri - Holly

Afternoon - Phoebe Mc

Robin's Stars of the Week

Jessica L, RW

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Kirath M, RH

Writers of the Week

Daisy-May A & Charlie P, RW
Jack C, 1S
Ralph P & James H, 2K

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Sophia M & Alfie H, RM
Jack B, 1M
Reuben S, 2A

Maths Wizard

Zach J, 1M
Eleanor D-D & Ben A, 2K

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Rhys E, 2A

Taylen K, 1S
James M, 2D

Good Choice Stars of the Week

Seoul C, 2A	Haydon P, 3C	Nimah C, 4W	Matthew F, 5M	Ellie D, 6M
Oliver W, 2K	Eva N, 3D	Lucie D, 4B	Eve L, 5P	Tom M, 6W
Daniel W, 2K	Max H, 3W	Aryan B, 4D	Jessica B, 5B	Taryn W, 6H
Madeleine P, 2D			Joshua M-H, 5B	

DIARY DATES

SPRING TERM 2014

Friday 14 March	09:10 14:45 15:30	1S Class Assembly 5B Class Assembly Scholastic Book Club Sale in Atrium
Mon 17, Wed 19 & Thu 20 March	15:30	Scholastic Book Club Sale in Atrium
Tuesday 18 March	Year 5	Brandon Marsh
Friday 21 March	09:10 14:45	1P Class Assembly 5P Class Assembly
Tuesday 25 March	Yr 3	Chedworth Roman Villa
Friday 28 March	09:10	Reception Mothering Sunday Assembly
Tuesday 1 April	Morning - M&M Productions 'Treasure Island' in hall	
Friday 4 April	09:10 14:45 18:00-19:15 19:30-21:00	1M Class Assembly 5M Class Assembly Reception & Yrs1 - 2 Disco Yrs 3-6 Disco
Tuesday 8 - Friday 11 April	Music Dunfield	
Tuesday 8 & Wednesday 9 April	18:00	Year 4 production
Monday 14 - Friday 25 April	EASTER HOLIDAY	
Monday 28 April	Back to School for Summer Term	
Tuesday 29 April	Choral & Orchestral Day - King Henry VIII School	
Monday 12 May	Bikeability Week for Year 5	
Mon 12- Fri 16 May	KS2 Tests	
Tuesday 20 May	14:00	Yrs 5 & 6 Sports Afternoon
Thursday 22 May	Children break up for Half Term	
Friday 23 May	INSET	
Mon 27- Fri 31 May	HALF TERM	
Monday 2 June	School returns for Summer Term	