



Newsletter Number 15

Friday 19th December 2014

Headteacher: **GT Burgess MA**

Web Site: www.balsallcommonprimary.co.uk

E-Mail: office@balsall-common.solihull.sch.uk



Dear Parents

Attendance and Attitude towards Learning for Last Week of Half Term

Personal Award for the Most Amount of ATL Points	
LKS2	Matthew C, 33, 6B
UKS2	Ollie, 33, 6W

Last Week's Head's Winners	
FS	RM
KS1	2K
LKS2	3C
UKS2	6K

Last Week's Attendance	
3C	98.7%
3D	98.0%
4W	98.3%
All Classes	94.2%

Very well done to everyone above. You can certainly tell that there has been a number of children with illness from the drop in overall weekly attendance. I do hope that everyone feels better for the holidays.

Lower and Upper KS2 Carol Concerts

It has been a real pleasure to welcome so many of you in for these events this week. We resurrected Christmas for the older children on my arrival in school in 2009. Initially, these events were not exceptionally well attended but this year there has been a significant increase in the demand for tickets...which I am delighted about. It means that we will have to canvass your opinions next year regarding offering an additional performance perhaps. In the meantime, children and staff have done brilliantly and this has been an excellent way to wrap up the term. Christmas is a wonderful time and should be enjoyed by everyone,

regardless of age.

Choir at the Methodist Church

I absolutely love this service and have been in attendance every year since I joined the school. This year was no exception. Thank you Mrs Brown for leading this event this year. And, children, you were amazing last Sunday! Well done!

Swimming

The Swim Team was out last week. Here is a report from the girls' captain, Caitlin E. *'On Tuesday 9th December, the B.C.P.S girls swim team arrived at Saint Martin's Girls' School with high hopes of winning this swimming fixture, especially the Year 3's as this was their first competitive swimming gala. They all swam brilliantly and had a few close shaves with the other teams; Saint Martin's A and B team and Edgbaston High School. Overall, Year 3 and 4 came 3rd, Year 5 came 1st and Year 6 finished in 1st place joint with Edgbaston School (EHS). We had a mixture of fun and serious races. Some were relays and some were individual races. The fun races included woggles, frogs and required a lot of teamwork. The whole evening was very enjoyable and packed with amazing races and swimmers. I'm sure you enjoyed this event if you came and hope to see you represent B.C.P.S in the future. I'd also like to thank Mr Barton for preparing us for this event, running swim team every Tuesday and Thursday morning and supporting us all the time. Thank you to the parents who helped at the gala, too.'* A great report Caitlin!

Hour of Code Week

It was Hour of Code Week last week and all of the children from Y1 - Y6 were taking part. The new curriculum has a much greater emphasis on programming. As a result, Mrs Edwards has devised an approach which gives children further opportunity to try their hand at writing code, using a variety of coding language. If you would like to explore a little further with your children at home, follow:

<http://code.org/learn>

KS1 Choir

Miss Whittall, Mrs Ward and I took the KS1 choir to both Knights and Rose Courts earlier this week. The children were fantastic and the residents absolutely loved it!

End of Term Message

Many thanks to you all as parents for the consistent way in which you support our work here. The efforts you put into ensuring that the children arrive in school at the right time ready to learn are paying dividends. Your attitude towards schooling is a significant factor in shaping their attitude towards learning. We have had a terrific Autumn Term and are all very much looking forwards to the Spring Term. Everyone here wishes you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The Final Shopping Saturday before Christmas is tomorrow!
Have a great Christmas
GT Burgess

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

Ted and Toby are packing their bags and wrapping presents ready for visiting their families this Christmas.

Robin's Stars of the Week

Poppy K, RW

Phoebe C, RC

Jake C, RM

Writers of the Week

Indejit C, 2B

Good Choice Stars of the Week

India L, 2B

Taran M, 3D

Louis G, 4T

Oliver N, 5B

Ben P, 6B

Lucie M, 2B

Alex S, 3C

Clare S, 4J

Noah F, 5W

Anaya H, 6W

Rebecca N, 4W

Maddie D, 5P



Council Friendship Cup

David Y-E, 6W



Merry Christmas

and

Happy New Year!

DIARY DATES 2014- 2015

Monday 5 January	School starts
Friday 9 January	Dad's Scalextric Night (rearranged from October)
Tuesday 13 January	Choir to Young Voices
Wednesday 14 January	Year 2 Visit to St John's Museum, Warwick
Friday 23 January	19:30 Headteacher's Quiz
Tuesday 27 January	Year 3 Timezone Visit
Thursday 5 February	17:30 Dunfield meeting for Year 4 parents
Monday 9 & Tuesday 10 February	16:00 - 19:00 Parent Consultations
Friday 13 February	Break up for Half-term
Monday 23 February	INSET DAY
Tuesday 24 February	Children return to school
Monday 9 - Friday 15 March	Scholastic Book Fair in Atrium
Tuesday 10 March	M and M Productions of Oliver with Workshops
Friday 13 March	School Disco
Tuesday 17 March	Year 3 Chedworth Roman Villa
Tuesday 24 & Wednesday 25 March	18:00 Year 4 production
Friday 27 March	FS/KS1 Easter Bonnet Parade School Breaks up for Easter