

Balsall Common Primary School

Outstanding: OFSTED February 2014

Newsletter Number 19



Friday 30 Jan 2015

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

Last Week's Head's Winners		Weekly Attendance	
FS	RW	Last week 6B achieved 100% attendance and 5P 99.4%	
KS1	2K		
LKS2	3C		
UKS2	6B	Whole School	96.9 %

Personal Award for the Most Amount of ATL Points	
LKS2	Millie, 34, 4W
UKS2	Sophie, 29, 6B

Many congratulations to pupils and classes. I am delighted with pupils' attitudes towards their learning and attendance.

School Improvement Review

The achievement of becoming an **Outstanding** school (OFSTED judgement, February 2014) was amazing since it represented formal recognition of the excellent practices here in school. However, we can never be satisfied with what we do; we must always stay alert and respond where we feel there is a need. Spotting these areas can be difficult at times when one is so familiar with one's own surroundings. As a result, we have two additional independent advisors that we buy in regularly who can bring about a fresh perspective and who can review our work and the achievements of the children. One such advisor made his scheduled visit earlier this week and reviewed the quality of topic and science work across the whole school, looking specifically at curriculum coverage and marking. His findings were that *'these are the best, and well-marked books, that I have ever seen in any of the schools I have reviewed'*. High praise indeed! I have

already shared this with staff. However, there is still room for improvement and we will continue to support each other in meeting exacting standards. Please take the time, if you can, to review your children's books when you come into school for **parents' evenings** in two weeks' time.

Class Assemblies

Super class assemblies last week by 1H and 5P.

1H's assembly was on the theme of friendship and they gave us a reminder of how important it is to be a good friend. They shared with us the ingredients needed for a special friendship recipe - being kind, happy, helpful and sharing with others. Very useful advice!



5P used the theme of 'Going for Goals' and spoke about their future ambitions. It was great to see the children thinking about their strengths and sharing their career aspirations, which included becoming a music teacher, author, mad scientist and professional boxer, amongst many others. Great to have clear ambition!



Into the County Finals

Following the success of our Year 5 Girls Rowing Team last week, we now have three teams into the County Finals in the summer; the Year 5 girls rowers; the Year 6 boys and girls biathlon competitors. Well done to all of the athletes and to Mr Green's un-wavering focus on sport in school.

Wasps' Mascots

Mr Green, again, accompanied some of our oldest full-contact rugby players to the Wasps game last Saturday, where our players led their team onto the ground. What an experience for the children!

Gifted and Talented Artists



Mrs Tranter and Miss Ross took a small group of budding artists to the Herbert Art Gallery earlier this week as an enrichment activity. They all had a highly educational and great time.

Headteacher's Fish and Chip Quiz

This quiz always seems to be very popular but last week's was a **bumper** of a night! 24 teams turned out to answer questions within rounds generated by myself, Miss Hughes and Mr Ireland. Tracey Giddings (PTA Chair) and Howard Rose (School's Sponsorship and Publicity Manager) were busy collecting quiz sheets and running the Heads and Tails event. Together we have raised £875.50 from this one event. Thank you all so much and many, many thanks to Mrs Clinton for her super organisation, as always, with the bookings and the chips! Put the date in your diary for next year - **Friday 22 January 2016!**

Have a great weekend

GT Burgess



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

Mrs Smith's Class: Bethan & Jagger

Miss Sargent's class: Jessica W

Robin's Stars of the Week

Emily M, RC

-

Chase C, RM

Writers of the Week

Lilian C, RM

Nathan E & Soren W, 1M

Olivia J, 2B

Matthew C, 1H

Isabelle C, 2D

Maths Wizards

River B & Isabelle D, 1K

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Evie B, Grace D & Rajan D, 2D

Good Choice Stars of the Week

Sam W, 1M
 Isabelle W, 1K
 Megan H, 1K
 Matilda C, 1H

Ciara H, 2B
 Matilda D, 2K
 Scarlett N, 2D

Molly-Rose L, 3D
 Mollie S, 3C
 Millie S-P, 3P

Charlie D, 4T
 Leila E, 4W
 Maeve D, 4J

Alex F, 5P
 Reah A, 5B
 Aryan B, 5W

Josh G-T, 6W
 Louis S, 6B
 Tim S, 6K

Helen Lewis Friendship Cup

Andrew B, RC

Upper Key Stage 2 Council Friendship Cup

Maddie D, 5P

DIARY DATES 2015

Thursday 5 February	17:30	Dunfield meeting for Year 4 parents	
Friday 6 February	09:10	2K	Class Assembly
	2:45	3P	Class Assembly
Monday 9 & Tuesday 10 February	16:00 - 19:00	Parent Consultations	
Friday 13 February	09:10	2D	Class Assembly
	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		
Friday 6 March	09:10	2B	Class Assembly
	2:45	3D	Class Assembly
Tuesday 10 March	M and M Productions of Oliver with Workshops		
Friday 13 March	Red Nose Day - no school uniform!		
	2:45	3C	Class Assembly
	School Disco		
Tuesday 17 March	Year 3	Chedworth Roman Villa	
Tuesday 24 March	Year 6	Houses of Parliament	
Tuesday 24 & Wednesday 25 March	18:00	Year 4 production	
Friday 27 March	FS/KS1	Easter Bonnet Parade	School Breaks up for Easter
Monday 13 April	School Returns		
Monday 27 April	Year 5	Bikeability all week	
Monday 4 May	BANK HOLIDAY		
Mon 11- Fri 15 May	KS2 Tests		
Tuesday 19 May	13:45	UKS2 Sports Afternoon	
Thursday 21 May	Children break up for Half Term		
Friday 22 May	INSET		
25-29 May	HALF TERM		

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