

Friday 14th March 2014

Message from the Head

Parent Governor: Votes will be counted on Monday and we will let you know the outcome. Thanks to all those who've voted.

Sports Relief: Children are invited come to school next Friday dressed up as a sports person as long as they bring £1 for Sports relief.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION - Strike Action: There is a planned NUT strike on the 26th March. We expect the majority of our teachers to strike. This means we will have to close the school. We are really sorry for the disruption that this may cause you. The teachers don't take this action lightly but feel duty bound to do so for the good of the teaching profession and ultimately the best outcomes for the children. A letter of confirmation of this closure will be sent out next week. Again we apologise for the inconvenience. If you want to know more about why the teachers feel they have no option to strike please feel free to approach them and ask or go here for more information: <http://www.teachers.org.uk/>

Message from the Chair of Governors

Head teacher Recruitment: I am pleased to report that there has been a very positive level of interest in the position of Head teacher at Brecknock. We received a total of 11 applications and governors, and their advisors from the Local authority, have decided to shortlist 5 candidates, all of whom have experience in similar schools to Brecknock.

The selection process will start next Tuesday, 18th March, and will last for two days. We hope to be able to confirm an appointment by the end of next week. On Tuesday the candidates will undertake a number of tasks, including lesson observation, data analysis, meeting the leadership team, the School Council and also some parents; then on Wednesday we will be holding final interviews.

Parents will not be selecting the candidates, but I am sure that some of you would like to meet them; so we have invited all members of the PTA to join the candidates at a short meeting on Tuesday morning at 10.15. There will be limited places available - but if you are not part of the PTA and would like to join the group then please give your name into the office on Monday morning, or contact Sue. It will be a case of first come, first served if we have too many people wanting to come but governors would like representatives from all our parent groups to be there!

Paul Smith—Chair of Governors

Dates for your calendar

17th-21st March	Science Week
17th March	Royal Albert Hall Choir Performance
18th-19th March	New Head teacher interviews
18th March	3M to the Cutty Sark
18th March	5C to the CLC
4th April	4M to the CLC
4th April	Last day of term—close at 2pm
22nd April	Summer Term Starts
25th April	Brecknock Poetry Day
12th-16th May	Year 6 SATs week
19th-23rd May	Sports Day (19th) Brecknock Book Week (20th—23rd)

Chicks in the nursery

This week the hen eggs arrived in Nursery. The children have been waiting patiently and watching closely for our chicks to hatch and they didn't have to wait long—by today all had hatched successfully! The children have been very excited. Here's a flavour of what they were saying while they waited for them to hatch!



Shaqee: 'I saw his beak going up, I'm so excited are you Etienne?'

Josh: 'There's a baby, its tiny'

Rayan: 'I think it uses its feet not its beak, cos its feet are sharper'

Siraj: 'I think the chick eats the inside of the egg'

Fire, Fire!

Last week Year 2 re-enacted the great fire of London in the school playground. This time the outcome didn't endanger any lives and the rest of the city was safe. This was a great entry point into the children's new topic and really helped bring the learning to life.



Mathletics and Bug Club

Please encourage your children to use these from home. Thanks

www.mathletics.co.uk & www.bugclub.co.uk

The next Friday Cake Sale is...

Friday 21st March — Nursery



Super Sue!

Last week was a very important 40th anniversary. It was 40 years since Harold Wilson became Prime Minister and since the 3 day week came to an end with the end of the miners strike but more important than both of these historic moments, it was 40 years ago last week that Sue Dunbar first began working at Brecknock. She has worked tirelessly for the school in a number of different roles over the years and many of us wouldn't be able to do our jobs as well as we do without her help and support.

Thank you Sue and here's to many more years together!



Attendance Rabbit & Early Bird Winners

Autumn Term—3rd-7th March

Attendance KS1: **2B—96%**

Attendance KS2: **3N—99.26%**

Early Bird: **3N & 6M — 2 lates**



Brecknock's fabulous literacy learning...

For days and days the rain crashed down on London where Silver lived. The rain was cold and miserable. It was too wet to ride a bike, too wet to ride a scooter and even too wet to ride a skateboard.

One day silver went to see his cousin Sonic and he said "You must climb the highest building you know and say the happiest thing you know!"

So Silver set off to climb the highest building. By the time he arrived at the entrance to the Shard he climbed higher and higher until he got to the top. He was exhausted. So he said the happiest things he knew. First he told of the time when he went to the cinema to watch Scooby Do. The second time he told of the time when he won a golden certificate.

Nothing could be heard not even a sound except Silver weeping.

Unexpectedly the wind blew softer and softer and suddenly the sun came out like a sun flower. Silver rushed home and his family were dancing and saved by the secret of the sun.



By Jaycee

Response to 'Back' by Wilfred Gibson—a poem about fighting in the First World War and the effect on an everyday man put in that position and how they cope with the memories of what they had to do.

I think that 'Back' written by Wilfred Gibson says that war completely changes any soldier. He writes 'They ask me where I've been and what I've done and seen. But what can I reply?' indicates that when people ask these soldiers about what they saw and things like that they would find it hard to explain as you can't ever properly describe, fully express or determine the true experience. War changes soldiers perspective on things and the world around them. 'Killed me on foreign lands...Though I must bear the blame because he bore my name'. This shows war forces you, kind of brainwashes you to do it. To survive they must kill their enemies, yet they have to live with the guilt and blame from killing them when in fact they are not that different from themselves.



By Tauheedah

Response to 'February 17th' by Ted Hughes—a poem about a farmer helping a sheep to birth. The lamb cannot be saved and has to be killed to be able to save the mother.

The poem I chose from my sister's anthology 'Fifty, Fifty', is called 'February 17th' and is written by Ted Hughes. The poem is about a lamb that cannot be born and the farmer is helping the sheep give birth. It is a cold winter. He is both helping and killing the lamb at the same time. When the farmer cuts the dead lamb's head off and throws it into the mud, "To star at its mother, its pipes sitting in the mud with all earth for a body", you get the idea that the lamb's head roots into the earth and it discards its weka baby body; it becomes the earth. The lamb lives and dies at the same time, in fact the process is so mixed up it is living and dying and dying and living at different moments. I like the simile, "Then like pulling myself to the ceiling with one finger hooked in a loop".



By Albertine

Year 5 in France



Last week Year 5 had a fantastic week in France! Following a long and tiring coach journey, they arrived at the Chateau de Grande Romaine, which was to be their home for 5 days. Everyday started with a yummy continental breakfast (croissants, pain au chocolat and let's not forget the hot and juice machine!) Each day brought a new adventures for the a trip to the market town of Brie Comte Robert; a visit to the nt Notre Dame Cathedral; an evening of crepe making; a magical ng the River Seine; The Louvre; a climb to the second floor of the er to take in some breath-taking views of Paris; wall climbing; n extremely high zip-wire; and Disneyland! Finally, it was time to d after a reluctant wake up call on Friday morning, the children got packed. Even though many did not want to leave, they were excited air loved ones and share their amazing experiences with them. If you ee more detail and lots more pictures look on our website.



Golden Book Awards—and this weeks winners are...



Timur & Sayed—Class 1B, Kingsley & Oli—Class 1T, Serena & Soraya—2B, Mohammad & Elionit—Class 2H, Shanika—3M, Abbi—3N, Erona—4A, Tahmid—4M, Kwadwo—5C, Mohammed—5M, Sahra—6G, Albertine—6M