

Friday 7th March 2014

Message from the Head

Parent Consultation

Thank you to all the parents who took the time to come and see the children's teachers this week. These meetings benefit us all but particularly the children, their attitude to learning, their relationship with school and the valuable partnerships we create together.

Year 5 trip to France

Year 5 have had a truly fantastic visit to France. I hope you have been following their adventures on the we-site. The have had wonderful weather throughout the week, and the activities they have managed to squeeze in—together with the site seeing, has been impressive. Patrick has informed me that there have been no arguments and the children have behaved really well! I sincerely hope that we will be able to continue this as an annual Year 5 trip, as I believe the experience it has given the children and all the learning that has taken place will have a powerful impact on their progress and development. They will arrive back at about 7.00 this evening. I am sure the teachers will be in need of a very restful week-end.

New Head

There has been a good response to the headteacher recruitment process. An agreed panel of governors will be shortlisting on Monday and interviews will be on 18th and 19th March.

Parent Governor Ballot

Please cast your vote—1 vote per family for the new parent Governor. Ballot closes Friday 14th March.

Missing Clothes - Help!

We wanted to ask parents for their help in finding a number of missing items of school uniform. There have been a lot of cases recently of children accidentally picking up the wrong fleece, jumper or coat and taking it home. If we could ask you to check carefully your children's clothes and if they do have someone else's stuff could you please return it to school into the lost property so it can be returned to the owner. Also, if you could label your children's clothing it would really help us make sure the right children are reunited with their belongings. Thanks.

Dates for your calendar

11th March	Year 3 to Hampstead Heath for Orienteering
14th March	5M to the CLC
14th March	Cross Country competition @ Parliament Hill
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
29th April	3N to the CLC
1st May	3M to the CLC
12th-16th May	Year 6 SATs week
19th-23rd May	Sports Day (19th) Brecknock Book Week (20th—23rd)

The Romans are coming!

There were some unusual scenes in school on Thursday. Year 4, dressed head-to-toe in Roman attire, were taught by the Roman goddesses Diana and Minerva all about the Roman way of life, the brutal fights in the Coliseum and Roman art. They even taught the children how to make beautiful Mosaics. More pictures of this fabulous experience are on the website.



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 14th March — Reception



World Book Day

As you may know this Thursday was 'World Book Day'. We had a number of parents asking about it so we wanted to let you know that although we didn't do any formal events this week for it we have planned a whole week of fantastic activities for our own 'Brecknock Book Week' involving the whole school which will take place in May. We felt that with year 5 away this week and a number of other events planned we didn't want to squash it in but instead give it more time later in the year. The May event will include dressing up, story writing and author visits as well as some special surprises that Az is keeping very quiet about! It is shaping up to be our best book week ever! Good luck getting Az to spill his secret surprises - we can't wait!

Attendance Rabbit & Early Bird Winners

Autumn Term—24th-28th February

Attendance KS1: 1B—97.24%

Attendance KS2: 6G—99.09%

Early Bird: Rec L, 3M, 6G & 6M — 1 late



Year 3 out and about!



This week 3M visited the Cutty Sark, a Victorian cargo ship that used to transport wool and tea to and from Australia and China. The children had a chance to become apprentice sailors for the day and imagine a life spent scrubbing the decks and climbing the rigging as part of their 'Explorers and Adventurers' topic. Wei-Kat drew this fabulous picture of the class and the Cutty Sark. 3N will be going later this month.



Then on Thursday the whole of Year 3 descended on The British Museum to visit the new Viking exhibition - it only opened to the public that day! They saw an enormous amount of Viking artefacts including a 37 metre longship, Viking swords, axes and incredible brooches to name just a few. They were amazed to discover just how similar our everyday items are today and how far and wide the Vikings travelled trading and raiding along the way.



Hour of Code Week



This week was 'Hour of Code Week' across the country. At Brecknock every class from Year 1 to Year 6 had an hour lesson that involved some kind of computer programming. Even some of the reception children got in on the act using the iPad's to programme Bee Bots and solve logic puzzles on 'Path Puzzler'. In KS1 they did more of the same along with some classes having a go at simple directional programming using the fantastic 'Kodable' App. In KS2 the children used the Code.org resources to solve puzzles using block coding, being introduced to functions and loops. All the children showed great determination and perseverance to work out what to do. We were impressed by their logic and computational thinking skills as well as their hard work in what was in some cases quite advanced programming. We will be doing more in June during our very first 'Brecknock Programming Week' so it will be interesting to see how our budding coders have moved on by then. If you'd like to learn more and use some great free online resources with your children visit code.org.



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



Isaac & Kerriann—Class 1B, Ayman & Teo—Class 1T, Esther & Dren—2B, Khadija & Sharnelle—Class 2H, Charlotte—3M, Rhyanna—3N, Mohammed—4A, Vanessa—4M, —6G, Idris—6M