

Friday 19th December 2014

## Message from the head:



It is hard to believe that this is my very last contribution to the newsletter. I

look forward every week to writing to you about our latest achievements as well as the occasional little nags about punctuality and correct uniform. The concert last night was simply wonderful and I would like to thank each and every parent who made the effort to come and watch the performances of the children who have worked so hard and taken advantage of the musical opportunities offered at Brecknock, under the expertise of Rod and the staff. Brecknock is truly flourishing; standards are high and we are continuing to improve year on year. A group of Camden head teachers looked round the school last week and commented on the high energy levels of our staff. We are a strong team, with capacity to keep on improving. Brecknock's success is built on a joint ethos of aspiration for all,

including ourselves, a determination to exceed targets and the resilience to cope with the complex demands of nurturing and teaching children. I have received so many beautiful cards, presents and expressions of kindness from many, many parents, which is deeply touching. Supportive and loving parents are the greatest gift any child could have – and I thank you all for working with us and supporting us to strive to make every moment of your child's education rich and meaningful. I will be following Brecknock on the web-site and reading the newsletter from wherever I am in the future, as memories of Brecknock, its wonderful children and its quite extraordinary staff will always stay with me.

I am as passionate today as I have ever been about the importance of high quality education for all children, no matter what their starting point. I hope I will be able to carry this on in the next few years in a wider context. But of all the jobs and roles I have had over the past 40 years, Brecknock is the one of which I am most proud.

I wish all of you a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year!

## Eid Tea—Thank you!

We'd like to say a huge thank you to all the parents and carers who helped organise the Eid Tea back in October as well as everyone who came along. We have just discovered the total amount raised was a huge £529.90. Fantastic!

## Parent Academy

Don't forget about Parent Academy this week...

- **Green Group—Tuesday 6th January 9am-11.30am**
- **Blue Group—Friday 9th January 9-11.30am**



## Mathletics and Bug Club

Please encourage your children to use these from home. Thanks  
[www.mathletics.co.uk](http://www.mathletics.co.uk) & [www.bugclub.co.uk](http://www.bugclub.co.uk)

## Attendance Rabbit & Early Bird Winners



**Autumn Term: 8th—12th December**

Attendance KS1: **2H—95.71%**

Attendance KS2: **4M—98.08%**

Early Bird: **6C—0 lates**



Thank  
You!!!

## Friday Cake Sale

Last weeks Christmas Fair raised over £400 for the school. Thank you so much for your support. The first Cake sale after the Christmas Holiday's will be for **Year 6**.



## Dates for your calendar

5th Jan	INSET day—school closed
6th Jan	Spring Term starts—children back
8th Jan	Whole School Debate Day
9th Jan	Y3 to London Zoo
9th Jan	Class 2B to Emirates Stadium
12th Jan	Year 3 to Kew Gardens
16th Jan	Year 2 to Emirates Stadium

## Goodbye Sue...

It is the end of an era at Brecknock with this the last newsletter with Sue as our head teacher. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Sue for her tireless work on behalf of the children and families at Brecknock. She has taken the school from being in the bottom 24% of schools in the country for progress when she first took over, to us being in the top 2% of schools in the country for progress (top 1% for maths progress). This is truly remarkable. While she has driven up standards with her vision and faith in the staff and community she never lost sight of the importance of 'cultural capital' and has steadfastly stuck to her vision of Brecknock being a school filled with creative staff and children where music, art, drama and sport are just as important as reading, writing and maths. Many of us, children, families and staff alike, owe Sue a great deal. The words of the song written by Rhiannon and Zahra in year 6, which they performed with the year 6 band, at the music concert yesterday sum it up best when they said:



*Your love of the school is the spirit of us  
Your rights respecting that reflects on us...  
We wouldn't be here without you  
So let's all hear it for Sue...*

Sue, we'll miss you. Good luck with all your future endeavours.

## Widen Cliff Villas Campaign!

If any of you are not aware of the current campaign being run by our school council to have the pavement on Cliff Villas widened please visit the school website to find out more and support them by signing the online petition below and sharing it with your friends. Thank you.

<https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/widen-our-pavement>



## INSET Day

Monday 5th January is an INSET and so school will be closed to the children. The office will be open for any parents who want to come in and buy uniform or pay for any dinners.

Children start back on **Tuesday 6th January at 9am** (remember school open for soft start from 8.50am).



# Christmas Lunch

Steve and his lunch team cooked up a storm for us on Wednesday with Santa's Elves (the TAs) decorating the dinner hall and handing out crackers! The food was superb and there were lots of smiles around.



# Christmas Fair!

A huge thank to all of the parents who helped to plan and run last Friday's Christmas Fair. Everyone who went had a great time. If you visited Santa's Grotto please collect your photograph from the school reception. A massive thank you to Snappy Snaps in Kentish Town for providing the printing.



# Christmas Concert

Thanks to everyone involved in the amazing Christmas Music Performance. Rod, Ella, the children, parents and everyone else. It was a fantastic night and one that will not be forgotten easily. We hope this will become an annual event.



# Golden Book for the Term



## Reception

Reception B—Aby  
Reception R—Melode

## Year 1

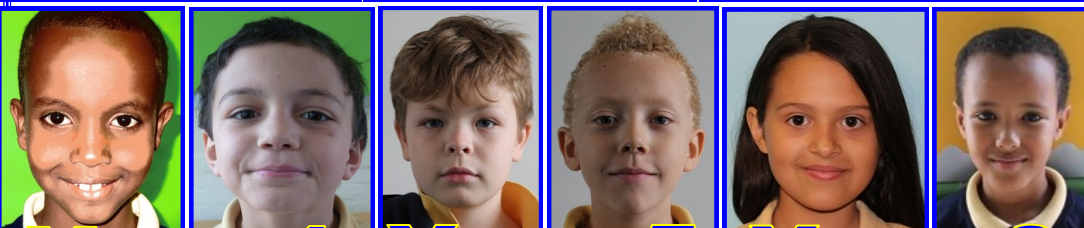
Class 1M—Saabir  
Class 1T—Yayha

## Year 2

Class 2B—Sienna  
Class 2H—Majida

## Year 3

Class 3F—Cleo  
Class 3N—Sahra



## Year 4

Class 4M—Zaki  
Class 4W—Hadi

## Year 5

Class 5M—George  
Class 5W—Morgan

## Year 6

Class 6C—Alula  
Class 6G—Abdi

As it is the end of the term one of the many children from each class, who has been outstanding in a particular area all term, has been chosen for the star pupil of the term. We are very proud of these children and want to share their achievements with you.