

Friday 13th February 2015

## Message from the head:

I would like to remind you all about our fantastic Parents' Association. They play an important role in the life of the school, bringing the community together and raising funds through social events such as the Spring Disco and the Community Festival. All of you are already members of this association simply by being a parent or carer of a Brecknock child and it would be great if many more of you could become actively involved. There are coffee mornings in the foyer every Tuesday morning where you can meet fellow parents and talk about life at Brecknock. The next meeting of the Parents' Association will take place after the Friday Tea in the Dining Room on 27<sup>th</sup> February – do come along! We are looking particularly for people who are willing to be Class Reps, to be the link between particular classes, the Parents Association and the school, ideally there would be two from each class. Finally I would like to wish you all a happy and restful half term break. School starts again on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February, we will look forward to seeing you then.

## School Council

The school council have been discussing the importance of privacy for children in the toilets at playtime and lunch time. Some of the council have prepared a short drama to show in assembly to make their point. The rest of school council have been reviewing school dinners and what they particularly like and what they would like to change. Classes are now being asked to feedback their ideas. We look forward to finding out what children think.

## Internet Safety Day 2015

This week we had Safer Internet Day. As well as special assemblies, classes across the school looked at how to stay safe online and how to make the internet a better place. It is clear the children have a good understanding about how to behave online and they had some great ideas and advice to help keep each other safe and happy when online. We have put up on the website a number of links to sites to support you with this topic at home.

## Dates for your calendar

16th-20th Feb	Half-Term Holidays
25th Feb	2H to CLC
2nd-6th Mar	Brecknock Book Week
3rd Mar	4M to the CLC (change to previously published)
4th Mar	4W to the CLC (change to previously published)
5th Mar	World Book Day
13th Mar	Comic Relief Day—non uniform day with donation!
16th-20th Mar	Brecknock Science Week
3rd-17th Apr	Easter Holidays
20th Apr	INSET Day
21st Apr	Summer Term Starts—Children Back
4th May	May Day—School Closed
25th-29th May	Half-Term Holidays
1st June	INSET Day—School Closed
21st July	Last Day of Term

## We Dig It!

This spring, Brecknock is kick-starting a new gardening club for parents and carers called Growing Together. These will be casual, fun drop-in sessions for anyone with a child at Brecknock who is interested in growing food along with our sense of community. You needn't have any previous gardening experience; everyone is welcome. Sessions will coincide with the weekly coffee mornings held on Tuesdays, beginning on 24th February, so there will be plenty of refreshments too. For further information, please contact:

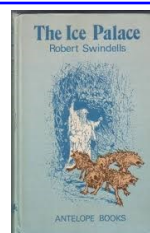
Syeda (07507775117, [syedamiah@gmail.com](mailto:syedamiah@gmail.com)) or Ann (07791984376, [annmatchette@aol.com](mailto:annmatchette@aol.com)).



## Well Done Ziyad...fantastic writing!

Year 4 have been reading 'The Ice Palace' by Robert Swindells. It is a fabulous story and some of the writing it has inspired has been outstanding. We were particularly impressed with this effort by Ziyad:

*I looked up in to the sapphire sky, while ivory owls swiftly flew toward their nests. I caught a glimpse in my head of my rundown but still working stove, but it only made the hole in my heart bigger and reminded me of my adored little brother. I almost regret it, but my brother needs me to go on. My feet sank while the wind carried evil laughter throughout the horror like pine wood. Snowflakes fall gracefully feel like memories, trees scraped my skin like melting snow, at last I found a snow wolf!*



By Ziyad

## Well Done Patrick...fantastic writing!

Here is some fantastic writing from one of our year 5 children inspired by the book 'Art and Max'. Well done Patrick, we're very proud of how hard you worked on this:

*With wide eyes Art looked at his colourful body and said, "What have you done to me?" Max reached for the sky with a proud expression as Art and Max stared at each other, Art coughed and coughed then fainted. Then Max ran away, he came back with a big fan. Art woke up. He said "What are you doing, don't you like your colours?" Then his colours flew off him like a vibrant rainbow. As he flew back towards the purple lizard wondered "I need to get this picture finished."*

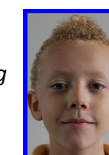


By Patrick

## Well Done Morgan...fantastic writing!

As part of their topic on 'Space' year five have been doing some descriptive writing. This fabulous piece was written by Morgan about the planet Mars. We're sure you'll agree, it is superb:

*A fierce flaming ruby of rage orbiting around the sun's scorching flames, I am a blood red ball of rocky sand withstanding the suns powerful rays. I am named after the god of war for his elephant like strength and no mortal can beat his maximum power. While in battle, this power hungry demon is impenetrable, no one can conquer, only he shall conquer and rule. I once had volcanoes erupting like Pompeii, dust clouds so thick, limited oxygen and no life has been found on me. My two moons are my only friends, Phobos and Deimos but they are stuck in my orbit like a mouse in a trap.*



By Morgan

## Attendance Rabbit & Early Bird Winners

Spring Term: 2nd—5th February

Attendance KS1: **2B—95.36%**

Attendance KS2: **5W—97.78%**

Early Bird: **Rec R—0 lates**



See the website for some of Year 3's Holi Celebration photo-graphs.

## Holi in Y3!



## Writing in Year 6

'Skellig' by David Almond. One of the writing tasks they did was a balanced argument as to whether Michael, the main character, should tell his friend Mina about his discovery of the creature, Skellig, in his garage. We wanted to share an extract from Anisa's with you.

Year 6 have been reading

### Should Michael tell Mina about Skellig?

The decision that Michael has to make is tough.

Both characters will feel offended whatever decision he makes. Michael is reluctant to disclose his secret to Mina as Michael is respecting Skellig's



By Anisa

request whereas Mina trusted Michael as she revealed her secret to him. This argument will consider both sides to whether or not Michael should tell Mina about Skellig.

Michael and Mina became friends when he moved into his new house. Many people may state that as they are friends they should trust each other. Mina told Michael her secret as she trusted him but it is a tough decision for Michael to tell Mina about Skellig. On the other hand people may say that Michael and Mina don't know each other that well so she doesn't know how she will react and she might tell someone his secret and betray Michael.

Mina can support Michael however he is frightened because Skellig told him not to tell anyone. Some people make the point that Mina has a vast amount of knowledge about birds therefore she can support Michael in his situation and give him information about birds so Michael can help Skellig survive. However Michael is afraid of what Skellig might do. Skellig told Michael not to bring anyone and to keep it a secret. He wants to remain loyal to Skellig and is also concerned about how he will react. Michael wants to tell his secret to his family but he wants to respect Skellig's request. Many people may state that it is wrong for Michael to keep secrets from his parents. Michael doesn't know that well and doesn't know his plan. If Michael does tell Mina or his parents, he may be putting his family in danger. On the other hand some people believe that Michael should respect Skellig's request. Skellig is suffering from arthritis and he is struggling to survive so he doesn't need aggravation. Skellig hasn't threatened him in any way so Michael has no reason to be disloyal.

In conclusion the decision that Michael has to make is difficult. It is a tough choice to make as one character will feel betrayed and he doesn't want that to happen. Michael knows that Mina told her secret to him because they were friends and it is wrong for Michael to keep secrets. However Michael doesn't know Mina that well and he is frightened about how Skellig will react. There is no clear answer to whether or not Michael will be putting his family in danger. What do you think he should do?

## Writing in Year 2

Jenny has been very impressed with the writing Year 2 have been doing this week, especially from Isaac and she wanted to share a snippet with you. Well done to them all for the high standard of work they are producing.

...Paul began to tell the sky the happiest things he knew. He told of the time he got an xbox 1 and of the time he had a birthday party... but still no sun. Paul started to weep and said, "if it keeps raining, there will be a flood and we might die!" SUDDENLY the weather started to change and the golden sun stretched and yawned and pushed the clouds out the way. Paul jumped off the Eiffel Tower and dashed all the way home...



By Isaac

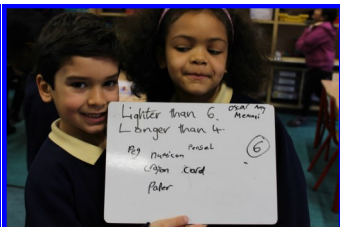
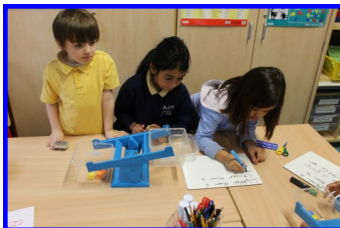
## Who's afraid of the Big Bad Wolf...not Year 1!



Year 1 had a surprise visitor this week! They thought he was going to try and gobble them up, but actually he just wanted to read them a story...are you afraid of the Big Bad Wolf or does he just have a bad publicist? Year 4 have also been thinking about wolves in stories, ask them what they think!



## Measuring in Year 1



In Year 1 they have been learning to compare, describe and solve practical problems involving measures. The children ordered themselves by height, from shortest to tallest, then conducted an investigation to find things that were 'longer than' or 'shorter than' body parts such as their arm, leg, foot and hand. Then they moved on to comparing objects by weight and deciding

if an object is 'heavier than' or 'lighter than' another object using measuring scales. Maybe you could do some measuring at home and practice using key vocabulary like weight, height, length, longer, shorter, taller, heavier, lighter, longer than, shorter than, heavier than, lighter than, equal to!

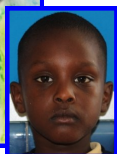
## Rainforest Art



By Said

This week year 3 shared some of their fabulous topic work on 'The Rainforests' in their class assembly. Among the things they showed us were these

brilliant pictures by Said and Goldie.



By Goldie



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



Torri Lee & Halima—Class 1M, Djibril & Ayub—Class 1T, Joseph & Sayed—Class 2H, Redhwan—3F, Plator—3N, Priam—4M, Ziyad—4W, Vanessa—5M, Emily—5W, Mohammed—6C, Reece—6G