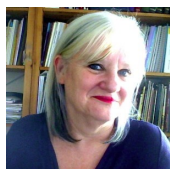


Friday 6th November 2015

Message from the head



Thank you to everyone who made Family Supper such a fantastic event! It was a wonderful evening when the whole Brecknock community came together to share food music and dancing, you will be able to tell from the photos over the page and on the website that a great time was had by all.

Please make sure you sign up for a meeting with your child's teacher during the week beginning 16th November. These conferences are very important because by working together we can make sure that your child's progress is maximised. Additionally this year you may be aware that the government has required us to change the ways we assess children and we are no longer able to use levels for this. Teachers will be explaining this in more detail to you at the meetings and you will be able to see your child's progress in their books and ask any questions you might have. We will look forward to meeting you.



Homework

During the INSET day this week teachers spent time discussing homework. We all recognise that changes need to be made in order to ensure greater consistency across the school and to make learning at home more meaningful.

Several options were discussed and we have agreed to trial some new ideas in some classes. Teachers will be happy to talk to you about these during the parent conferences.

We will be evaluating the different approaches over the next half term and also distributing parent and child questionnaires to gauge everybody's opinions. During the Spring Term we will meet again to agree on a policy which we will, of course, share with you all when it is complete. In the meantime please do not hesitate to talk to Marianne if you have any questions, comments or bright ideas!



Free Breakfast Club to continue

Due to the success of our trial of free breakfasts from 8.30 am before half term, we will be continuing this offer for the rest of the year. We are lucky to be sponsored by "Magic Breakfasts" who provide the bagels and cereals free. Children do not need to sign up for this offer, just use the buzzer at the gate to come in and join Breakfast Club where Tina will register them for that day. We all know how important it is for children to have breakfast in the mornings and hope that parents and children will take up this offer where it is useful.



Dates for your calendar

9th November	Corsica Class to London Zoo
12th November	1/2 Year 6 to Regent Street Cinema
16th November	Sicily Class to London Zoo
19th November	1/2 Year 6 to Regent Street Cinema
3rd December	1/2 Year 2 to Unicorn Theatre
3rd December	Year 4 to Unicorn Theatre
4th December	1/2 Year 2 to Unicorn Theatre
8th December	Year 6 to Theatre (evening)
10th December	Corsica Class to CLC
14th December	Sicily Class to CLC
18th December	Last day of term—close @ 2pm
21st Dec-1st Jan	Christmas Holidays
4th January	INSET Day—School Closed
5th January	School Opens—children back
12th January	Jersey Class to CLC
15th January	Guernsey Class to CLC
25th January	Hawaii Class to CLC
1st February	Year 5 to the Royal Observatory
10th February	Year 5 to Unicorn Theatre
10th February	Tahiti Class to CLC
15th-19th Feb	Spring Half Term Holiday
22nd February	School Opens—children back
3rd March	Jamaica Class to CLC
4th March	Cuba Class to CLC
7th-11th March	Brecknock Book Week
8th March	Year 1 to Unicorn Theatre
24th March	Last day of term—close @ 2pm
25th Mar-8th Apr	Easter Holidays
11th April	School Opens—children back
2nd May	May Day Holiday—School Closed
30th May-3rd June	Summer Half Term Holiday
6th June	INSET Day—School Closed
7th June	School Opens—children back
20th July	Last day of term—close @ 2pm



Attendance Rabbit & Early Bird Winners

19th-23rd October

Attendance KS1: Jersey—99.26%

Attendance KS2: Jamaica—95.93%

Early Bird: Jersey—0 lates



Friday Tea—Year 1
Friday 13th November



Lost property

One week back and we are already building up a stock of lost property. Please check to see if any of it belongs to your child. Unclaimed items are given to charity.

Christmas Shows

It may seem like a long way off but we wanted to give you plenty of notice in case any of you need to book time off to come and see your children perform in their Christmas Shows. These are always very popular events and the children and staff work really hard to get ready to perform for you. The children light up when they see their family and friends in the audience. This years shows will be on the following dates at 2pm in the middle hall. Please try to arrive in plenty of time so everyone is seated ready for the children starting at 2pm. As usual, DVDs of each performance will be available to have as a keepsake.

Nursery—Tuesday 8th December & Reception—Thursday 10th December
Year 1—Tuesday 15th December & Year 2—Wednesday 16th December



Home Learning Resources

Encourage your children to use their logins for Reading Eggs and Mathletics. We know that by practicing skills at home using these supports learning in school.

www.readingeggs.co.uk & www.mathletics.co.uk

We also have a home subscription to the Phil the Storyteller's website where you can access videos of his stories from home. If you haven't used it yet, fill out the registration form by visiting the website below and entering the school top code: Gsjm_2049

www.thestoryemporium.co.uk

Links

Use this QR code to visit the Educational Links page on our website to support learning and stay safe online.



Year 6 School Journey



The week before half term you may have noticed less Year 6 children around than usual. That was because nearly all of them they were in Kent on the annual Year 6 residential school journey to Margaret McMillan house in Wrotham. They had an amazing time doing some fantastic activities. On Friday some very tired children returned, muddy but happy (some very tired teachers too!). Although there were sometimes tears from missing family and not being used to being away from home, not to mention, pushing themselves to do things they never thought they could and were genuinely scary, we think they'd all agree it was a brilliant trip and already we've heard them reliving the week—'Remember that time on school journey...' has been heard many times already this week. If you are a parent or carer of a child in the current Year 5 start planning ahead for them to be going this time next year. It is such a vital preparation for helping them to see what they are capable off and preparing them for the challenges ahead with their SATs and moving on to secondary school. Scan the QR code above to visit the Year 6 news page of our website and see lots more photos of the trip.



Inspired by the classics

Year 5 were at the Victoria and Albert Museum this week to see how classical Greek architecture and design has influenced design in Britain. They discussed pediments, the frieze and pilasters, including Corinthian, Doric and Ionic. Scan the QR code here with your smartphone or tablet to go to our website and see more pictures as well as play the spot the 'Medusa' challenge the teacher has set you!



Fabulous Family Supper!



Thanks to everyone who came along to enjoy our 'Family Supper' this week. It was wonderful to see so many of you enjoying the event. Yet again there was a marvellous spread of delicious food that you brought along to share—thank you. It's definitely a favourite in the Brecknock Calendar. Scan the QR code below to see more great photos of the night.

