Brecknock Newsletter

Friday 18th November 2016

Message from the head

This week we have been assessing children's attainment and progress so that teachers can have productive parent meetings with you in the week beginning 28th November. It is good to see how much learning has already taken place - it is going to be a great year! Please make sure that you all sign up for a meeting. We have also been busy recruiting staff for our new 2 year old class this week. We will be opening this provision in January 2017 and the new class will be called Mersea Class. Please speak to Sue or Jackie if you are interested in a place for your child.

Dates for your calendar

There is one INSET day still to be arranged. As soon as it is set we will publish it in the newsletter and amend the list of term dates on the website.

25th November	Brecknock walks Everest
Wk beg 28th November	Parent Conferences will be scheduled this week
7th December	Nursery show to families in the afternoon
8th December	Reception show to families in the afternoon
9th December	Christmas Fair
13th December	Year 1 show
14th December	Christmas lunch
15th December	Year 2 show
20th December	Last day of term—close at 2pm
21st December	INSET Day—School closed
22nd Dec-Jan 2nd	Christmas Holidays
3rd January	INSET Day—School closed
4th January	School opens—children back

Attendance Rabbit & Early Bird Winners!

Attendance KS1: Guernsey
Attendance KS2: Sicily
Early Bird: Lundy and Sumatra

Friday Teas

This is the schedule for the next two Friday teas:
25th November – Nursery
2nd December— Year 5 & 6

Ambassadors take part in Outright!

Over the next few weeks the ambassadors are taking part in Outright—an opportunity to speak out about how the refugee crisis is affecting children and their families. As we approach the anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child this Sunday, the children have started to think about how they can ensure their voices are heard loud and clear. OutRight gives them the chance to speak out on behalf of refugee children across Europe, using their new campaigning skills both in the local community and by speaking to the Home Secretary. We can't wait to see how they get on! Here are some photos of this weeks meeting.

Daire does Everest!

Please go on to Daire's Just Giving Page to support his climb to Everest.
The children will be doing a walk on the 25th to raise awareness over at Caledonian Park. Please bring in £1 or more to take part in the event. Families are very welcome to join us over there. We are hoping to have the Barnardo's mascot with us too!
The time that each class will be over there will be confirmed next week.

https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/DaireFitzharris

Reminders:

Coats- As the weather changes, could we please remind you to make sure that all children come to school with a warm, waterproof coat. This is particularly important if the children are going on a trip or to the swimming pool. Please make sure all items of clothing are clearly labelled. Thank you!

Medication— Please can you let the school office and the class teacher know if there are any changes to your child's medication. It is important we are immediately made aware of any updates. Thank you.

Christmas Fair

Brecknock Needs You! The Christmas Fair is on **Friday 9th December after school**. We need all of you to help make this a wonderful event—prizes for the raffle and tombola, bake a cake, do face-painting, help set up, ask around locally for donations, run a stall—anything at all.
There is a volunteer sign up sheet in the office if you would like to help.

Christmas Dinner

14th December—if your child is not usually school dinners but you'd like them to have the Christmas meal please order it at the office.

Mull's Super Science

In Mull this week they conducted a very interesting science experiment in class. They began by asking the question - 'Why do leaves lose their colour during the Autumn?' They discussed in great detail the difference between deciduous and evergreen trees and the different seasons. Here is how they tested their experiment:

1) They gathered some different coloured autumn leaves.
2) They broke them up into small pieces and popped them into three different jars organised by colour. They crushed them up with a spoon.
3) They poured in Isopropyl- A mild acid which will help to break down the colours. Then they gently swished it.
4) They wrapped cling film over the top.
5) They placed all three jars into a basin with nearly boiling water poured in.
6) They waited for 30 minutes and then removed the cling film and stuck in a coffee filter to absorb any of the colour that they had removed.

The next morning they found some amazing results and recorded them in their science books. Take a look at some of their pictures.
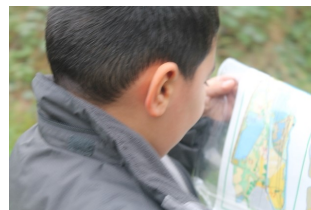
Family Literacy in Reception

It was so lovely to see so many parents at the Reception literacy morning last week. Parents saw a short phonics session and a shared guided reading session and then joined the children in Literacy activities around the book The Gingerbread Man. During the same week the children also got to make their own gingerbread men which tasted delicious.

The road to nowhere... and then we found somewhere!

The intrepid explorers of Cuba and Jamaica (Year 5) discovered what Lee Valley Park had to offer this week! Using compasses and maps they were able to follow coordinates to get clues, well, most of them! Just like the great explorers of our time we realised that 'getting lost' is part of the explorer life…
As Ernest Shackleton declared, "Difficulties are just things to overcome, after all."

Sumatra make Roman Jewellery

Sumatra have been learning about the Roman empire this term and got to spend time designing, making and painting some Roman jewellery out of clay. Various types of jewellery were worn by different genders and social classes in Ancient Rome, and were used both for aesthetic purposes and to communicate social messages of status and wealth.

Golden Book

Charlie & Amina—Skye, Kyle & Ava—Guernsey, Star & Alfie—Jersey, Isaiah & Zahra—Y3, Tesnim & Masa—Y4, Cleo & Jake—Y5, Firdows & Abbi- Y6