

Friday 6th January 2017

## Message from the head



Happy New Year! On behalf of all the staff I would like to wish you a happy and successful 2017. It has been lovely to see all the children again and they have returned to school full of enthusiasm and ready to learn. Please take note of the letter which is going home in book bags today and Curriculum Meetings next week. At these meetings you will be able to find out about the learning which is planned for this term and ask any questions you might have. We will look forward to seeing you there.



## Dates for your calendar

9th January	Y1, 2, 4 Curriculum meeting 3.45 in classrooms
11th January	R, 3, 5 Curriculum meeting 3.45 in classrooms
12th January	Hegarty Maths Launch— All Year 6 Parents to attend please!
10th February	Last day of half term
13th-17th Feb	Spring Half Term Holiday
20th February	Children return to school
20th February	Grand opening of the two year old Nursery—Mersea class
31st March	Last day of term—close at 2pm
3rd-17th April	Easter Holidays
18th April	School Opens—children return

## Curriculum Meetings Next Week!

We really value our close working relationship with parents and carers and know by working closely together we can improve the outcomes for all our young people. That is why at the start of every term we hold curriculum meetings so that you are clear on what will be covered that term and you have the opportunity to ask any questions you might have. We hope to see you at next weeks meetings. Please see the days and times below.

**Years 1, 2 and 4—Monday 9th at 3.45pm**  
**Years Reception, 3 & 5—Wednesday 11th at 3.45pm**

## Be the Best You Can Be!

Today we held our sixth Be the Best You Can Be day. This is a programme which we have been involved in for a year now. It is designed to help children discover their unique potential and give them the power to succeed in life. The programme was inspired by the 2012 Olympic Games and it used the techniques of sports coaching to develop young Londoners. Today we held a special assembly where each class presented the work they had done. There were some fantastic presentations ranging from discussions around how to achieve your dreams and what your ambitions are to setting your own new years resolutions and finding strategies to achieve them. We were very impressed with each class and it was clear that everyone at Brecknock is working to achieve their personal best. Here are some photos from the assembly.



## 100% Attendance

The winner of last term's 100% attendance prize will be revealed in a prize draw on Monday in assembly. There are also a selection of other smaller prizes for all those who don't win the iPod. There will be another opportunity to win an iPod this term too. This is a win/win situation – if you are in school every day you learn more and so become a winner and additionally one lucky person will also win an iPod. Start trying now – it could be YOU!

## Friday Teas

This is the schedule for the next three Friday teas:  
13th January—Y3  
20th January—Y2  
27th January—Y1



## Reading Eggs & Mathletics

Please encourage your children to use 'Reading Eggs' and 'Mathletics'. These online resources really help support the learning being done in school and will help support your children to develop their skills. Usernames and Passwords remain the same as last year. Please ask your child's class teacher if you need the log in details.

## Uniform and Cold Weather

As it is now getting so much colder children will need to be wearing sweatshirts, jumpers or fleeces in class. These need to all follow the school uniform policy.

- Gold polo shirt, preferably with school logo
- Navy blue sweat shirt, preferably with school logo
- Navy blue fleece, preferably with school logo
- Checked or striped yellow dresses
- Plain navy blue trousers or track suit bottoms, skirts, pinafores, jeans
- Plain white T-shirt, navy blue shorts and plimolls or trainers for P.E.
- Plain navy blue or gold hijab
- Preferably navy blue or black school shoes

All children should wear school uniform when attending school or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours as stated in the School Uniform Policy. We have also had a large number of unnamed jumpers and coats left behind in the playground recently. This lost property is now in the side room off the corridor in the dinner hall, please do look there if there is something you are missing.

## Education for Two Year Olds at Brecknock

Brecknock Primary School are thrilled to announce that after the February half term we will be opening a stunning new two year old nursery classroom. We have recruited first class staff for this provision and they started earlier this week. We would like to give a warm welcome to Natalie and Maria who are busy furnishing the classroom, planning for the two year olds and getting everything ready. From the 20th February our funded part time places will be available - either three hours in the morning or three hours in the afternoon. To find out if you will be eligible for a funded place in February please come and speak to Jackie or Sue in the office for an application form.

## RE Day at Brecknock

In the last week of term we celebrated RE Day at Brecknock. Throughout the school we studied Judaism, Islam, Christianity, Sikhism, Buddhism and Hinduism with each year group conducting research and taking part in activities inspired by their appointed faith. The theme was 'Giving' and we all focussed on respect and care for others.

Have a look at some of the pictures from a couple of classes that day.



## English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)

Our ESOL classes were very successful last term and there are spaces in the new class for this term. If you would like to join the ESOL class it takes place in the dining room every Thursday morning from 9.00-11.00. They are a great opportunity to develop English skills and are free if you meet the criteria. Classes are delivered by the Working Men's College. Ask Laura or in the school office if you would like to know more. Alternatively contact the Working Men's College Community Learning Manager on: 020 7255 4739.

## Starting School in September 2017

Parents whose children are starting Reception classes in Camden primary schools in September 2017 need to apply by the **15th January**. You can apply online.

<https://www.eadmissions.org.uk/eAdmissions/app>

If you have any questions please ask the school office.

## Is it better to give than to receive?

During last half term, Cuba discussed their rights respecting school ethos a lot. The children were amazed that it is not until 2042 that Unesco predict all children will have a primary education across the world. Muriel set herself the challenge to teach with no electricity for a day and minimal resources to appreciate how lucky we are at Brecknock!



The theme for RE day was 'Giving' which seemed to fit the challenge perfectly. Cuba class discussed and role played the story of Abu Nasr As-Sayyad a poor fisherman who gives a loaf of bread to a family in need even though his own had nothing (not realising this good deed would be life saving). One day he found himself rich and becomes conceited. When judgement day comes his bad deeds outweigh his good ones until an angel reveals that the tear he brought to the mother and the smile of her son when he gave them a loaf of bread weighed far more than his greed and other bad deeds. Cuba class learnt about the Zakat and Sadaqah in Islam - On the website there is a video of some good deeds the children of Cuba would like to do to express their love and gratitude to those close to them.

*Muriel and all of Cuba class found it lovely spending a day storytelling, exchanging cultural similarities and differences and simply enjoying each others company without the need of technology.*

## Guernsey Class

Guernsey class challenged themselves yesterday to beat their personal best scores in an assault course in the playground. They supported and motivated each other throughout the session.



## EYFS

Welcome to Brecknock's brand new Reception and Nursery classroom. The children are enjoying exploring their new environment space.

