



Brecknock Newsletter



Friday 9th October 2015

Message from the head

I am sorry to tell you that we have had some disappointing news this week. Our wonderful Children's Centre has been 'de-designated' due to funding cuts in Camden. This means that it will no longer officially be a Sure Start Children's Centre, we WILL however continue to run the same high quality drop-ins and services that we have always done until 31st March 2016. We are currently investigating options for beyond that date as we are determined that this invaluable community service is retained in some form. Please come and talk to Amanda, Elena, or a member of the Leadership Team if you have any good ideas – Together Everyone Achieves More.

Reusing in Nursery!

We take our responsibility for the environment seriously and recycle all our paper waste. When possible we reuse it. Nursery had fun reusing paper from the shredder this week. Not sure the cleaners are big fans though!



Train to Teach in Camden – School Direct Open Day on 21st October 2015 9-12.30pm

At Brecknock we play a key role in training new teachers through the School Direct PGCE route. We work alongside UCL/Institute of Education and other excellent local Camden schools – Torriano, Kentish Town, Holy Trinity NW1, Fleet, Christopher Hatton, Thomas Coram, Eleanor Palmer, Primrose Hill and Netley - to deliver a really successful programme. The programme is different because as well as attending all the same lectures as other PGCE students at UCL/IOE, our students get together each week for specific, additional school-based training sessions and they know they will do their placements in a good local school. Last year 15 students graduated and many have jobs within our group of local Camden schools. This year we have 16 students. Reviews from students last year include: "Being part of such an inspirational group of schools has given us the opportunity to observe outstanding practice. We're part of a really supportive group and have been welcomed into our schools from the very start." and "What makes School Direct with the Camden Primary Partnership special is the chance to work and learn hands-on in the best primary schools in the country, each with its own unique teaching and learning ethos and a generosity of spirit in sharing skills, mentoring and expertise." We are now recruiting for 20 graduates (please note age is no barrier!) to join our teacher training programme for entry in September 2016 and we'd like to encourage anyone who is interested to make contact and to come along to our Open Day on **Wednesday 21st October starting at 9am at Eleanor Palmer School before walking down to Torriano School.** Please email sarah.ewins@camdentsa.org.uk or phone Sarah on 020 7485 2155 to book your place. Lots more detail can be found on the Teaching School website: <http://www.camdentsa.org.uk/school-direct/>

FREE Breakfast Club Trial

For the next two weeks (weeks beginning 12th and 19th of October) we are going to be trialing a FREE Breakfast club from 8.30am. Normal charges (£1 per day) will apply to those arriving between 8am and 8.30am. The free breakfast will be for any children arriving from 8.30am onwards. There will be free breakfast bagels available until 8.45am.

Dates for your calendar

19th October	Year 2 to Tower Bridge
19th-23rd October	Year 6 School Journey
26th-30th Oct	Autumn Half Term Holiday
2nd November	INSET Day—school closed
3rd November	School Opens—Children Back
4th November	Year 5 to V & A Museum
4th November	Family Supper @ 5.30pm
12th November	1/2 Year 6 to Regent Street Cinema
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
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
15th-19th Feb	Spring Half Term Holiday
22nd February	School Opens—children back
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

28th September-2nd October
Attendance KS1: **Jersey—97.14%**
Attendance KS2: **Madagascar—98.5%**
Early Bird: **Lindisfarne—0 lates**



Friday Tea—Year 4
Friday 16th October



Lost property

If your child has lost any items of clothing, please check the lost property box. We will be taking any unclaimed items to a charity shop over half term. Thank you.

School Dinners

If you want to switch from school dinners to packed lunch, or vice versa, please let the office know with a weeks notice so the kitchen can make changes to food orders.

Parents' Association email address change

The PTA email account has changed to brecknockpta@gmail.com

Parents' Association Gardening Group

A huge thank you to the parents who came in to school last weekend to plant up the ornamental grasses and other plants to help brighten our playground. Your commitment to improving the school environment is greatly appreciated.



Universal Free School Dinners in KS1

A number of parents have said they are unclear about eligibility for universal free school dinners. From September 2014 all pupils in reception, year 1 and year 2 qualify for a free school meal automatically (FSM). Once a child is in Year 3 they no longer automatically receive free school meals unless they meet certain eligibility criteria. To find out if your child qualifies for free school meals in years 3-6 you need to have completed the eligibility form. Please see the office if you are unsure or need help with this. If you have not completed this form you will be charged for school meals. Thank you.

Quadkids—Into Athletics—Sunday 11th October

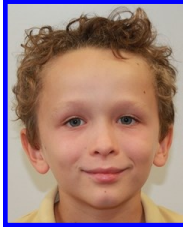
QuadKids is the England Athletics endorsed format for children of all abilities, it is quick, fun and a great way to measure progress over time. QuadKids is perfect for children aged up to 12. Cost is £2 per child, no need to pre-register. At Parliament Hill Track on Sunday 11th October 12-2pm (registration at 11.30am).

Brecknock Writing Special!

We are halfway through the first half term of this academic year and already the whole school focus on writing is working well. Many children have been making great progress and we wanted to share with you some of the fabulous writing the children are doing across the school. We hope you enjoy these snippets.

Year 3 Learning Outcome: To retell the story of Jemmy Button

Along way away from home there was a boy who lived in Tierra del Fuego. The boy was a curious , learning boy. Some nights he climbed to the tallest redwood tree to gaze at the glistening stars. He often wondered what it would be like to cross the big blue ocean and what is on the other side of it...



By Oliver

After a long time an old rusty boat came with strange visitors with tails, top hats and curly moustaches. One of the visitors opened his hand to reveal one of the ocean's most magnificent pearls. The visitors said hopefully, "Can we exchange this pearl for you boy?" The family agreed. "We will call you Jemmy button". Even the wind seemed to whisper, "Jemmy Button, Jemmy Button, Jemmy Button..." So Jemmy Button said farewell to faraway island and started his voyage on the dark and choppy seas. The stars glistened in the midnight sky. His stomach twisted, turned, when the waves crashed on to the boat like your heart beating. As the dolphins sailed out of the water, while fish swiftly swam through the ocean. It was a very long while the rickety rickety boat rocked across the glistening sea. Once he got there he was surprised because the visitors home was mostly made out of rocks. Some were even larger than the tallest redwood tree. The streets were crowded, the people seemed that they were wearing top hats, tails and smart shoes, he too yearned to dress himself in such clothes. Soon he looked like the other people but not quite. After a month he went to a place which was lighter than the sun. Days went by, he went to a place which had music sweeter than the lap of the waves. After another month he started to feel almost at home, but not quite, the breeze wafted into his face. The visitor agreed he should go back to his own home and teach his family what he had learnt. All his friends came to say goodbye. When he got back, he quickly scrambled back into his home, made out of leaves a year ago, even before the visitors came. Once he got back he jumped into his mum and dad's arms. After five minutes he showed his possessions which were his shiny shoes, slender tail and tall top hat. That night he quickly climbed to the tallest branch of the tallest redwood tree and softly whispered, "Goodnight."

Year 3 also recorded a collaborative version of the story of Jemmy Button. If you would like to see them they are on the Year 3 Blog Sec-



Corsica Class



Sicily Class

Year 2 Learning Outcome: To write my own poem

The jelly-fish looks like a feather floating on the edge of the water.
It slowly drifts in the waves like a snowflake.
The jelly-fish glides across the water like ice floating in the ocean.
It moves like a rocket starting its journey.
It bursts into a big rainbow bubble.
How graceful you are, you are.
What secrets do you hold and what do you feed on?
Where are you travelling to?
It feels like a marshmallow floating in the shimmering blue sea.
You're as glamorous as a peacock.



By Amy

Year 6 Learning Outcome:

To write a collaborative WW2 poem inspired by art work

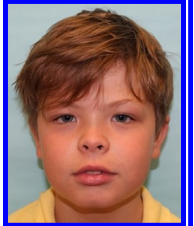
No time to go to shelter
Clouds of smoke causing blindness
Devastating fire burning everything to a pile of ash
Huge buildings crashing into pieces
Saint Paul's Cathedral tumbles to its death
London's bridges burning
The fire of destruction
London left cowardly as the Luftwaffe shows its might
The destructive planes destroying London
No way out!

By Sumatra Class

Year 6 Learning Outcome:

To write a diary entry from the perspective of Joey, the horse from War Horse

I am heartbroken because I feel abandoned. I have been taken away and I never see Albert again. I will miss Albert running through the freshly cut grass with me and giving me sweet hay from his hand. I will miss Albert's loud whistle that goes through the fields and calls me to him. I will even miss his grumpy old dad. I am scared and I don't want to go to the cold, brutal war. I don't know what's ahead of me. I might get injured or worse dead. I live in Idesleigh and that's where I belong. I hope I don't suffer. I don't know what's going to happen to Albert. He might get hurt. The war will be hard but I am proud to serve my country. I hope I make it out alive. Albert will be destroyed because I am not there with him. The Germans don't stand a chance. If I come back alive I will make sure I will make him proud.



By George

Year 5 Learning Outcome:

To write a poem inspired by a section of the Odyssey

In the realms of the dead, there lay hissing forms in the fog.
Utterly black.
As the mist invaded, all colours transformed into grey.
Utterly black.
The gloomy dark night, was filled with flickering ghosts.
Utterly black.
Mindless souls wandered around not remembering their lives.
Utterly black.
As the grey, frightening fog swished in the breeze the world of the dead was full of flickering ghosts.
Utterly black.

By Yasmin, Ruwayda, Mohammed A, Naji and Aleyna



Keep an eye on the website for films of today's Poetry Day Class Performances