Birchfield Community Primary School & Pre-School

Newsletter: November 2016



Head Teacher's Welcome



Welcome to our November Newsletter. It is always helpful to have feedback about our monthly newsletters, so if you have any thoughts, comments, suggestions then please let either myself or the school office know.

Richard Culham

Healthy Snacks

As a school we promote healthy eating in many ways. It features in our curriculum, in the school meals that we provide, the milk and fruit that we offer at lunchtime and the fruit that we provide at the start of each day.

We also encourage healthy snack to be eaten during morning playtimes. For the vast majority of children this is taken as fruit, healthy snack bars or vegetables such as carrot sticks.

There is always water in class and at break and lunchtimes. Drinks are often water, reduced sugar fruit juices or squash. We are keen to avoid energy drinks as they are not healthy for children.

We all enjoy a balanced diet and this is important but if we could all keep to the healthy snack option then that would be helpful.

Children in Need



Supporting this important charity has usually featured in our calendar and it will again this year but in a slightly reduced format. The School Council have chosen for non school uniform and there is the option to also wear a Pudsey style bandanas and a colouring competition.

I hope that we will all be able to support Pudsey and our Councillors again this year.

We do have some Pudsey keyrings and wristbands from last years event. There are limited stock so it is 'first come, first served'. Suggested donations of £2 for keyring, £1.50 for m/l wristbands and £1 for s/m wristbands. These are on sale in the school office.

Lands End to John O'Groats!

This short (!) walk will be attempted by the whole school on **Friday 25 November**. FoBS have organised this event so that the children can raise funds directly for some new playground 'adventurous play' equipment. More information about 'Project Playground' is on display in the Hall window.

Details will have come to you in a FoBS newsletter.

Parking

Many thanks to those who have parked away from the school gates and walked the last little bit.

If you are aware of anyone parking/driving dangerously near the children, please let us know and we will follow it up.

Jewellery

Just recently we have noticed an increase in the number of children wearing jewellery to school. The reasons that we ask for this not to happen are simply that:

- 1. They can go missing
- 2. With children playing lively, exciting games they can get accidently caught on someone else and can cause injury or break.

Stud ear rings and watches are fine to wear to school.

Staff Changes



As you may be aware, Miss Shutler is pregnant. Her maternity leave begins on Monday 14 November. We wish her well.

I am delighted that Miss Boyce joined us last week. She will be teaching 4GS for the rest of this academic year. She joins us after successfully teaching at Ash Primary School and abroad. The handover is going very well and I know that Miss Boyce will be delighted to meet you if you have time to pop in.

Diwali Celebrations



You may know that recently Diwali was celebrated across the world by Hindus. By chance 2 people that I know from my trip to India a few years ago are in the country at the moment so I have asked them to come into school to do 2 days of art, drama and story telling to celebrate Diwali and the story of Rama and Sita.

I am sure that the children will have a fun and educational time.

Cinema Visits



We are always looking for ways to make our curriculum exciting and engaging and so this week sees the start of the year groups YR – Y6 going to the cinema to see different films. This is a great opportunity for a shared experience for each year group.

Along with KS1 going to the panto next month, Y6 went to Bath Theatre Royal to see Macbeth last month and the Theatre Club are going to the same venue to see Horrible Histories this week. We are finding as many ways as we can to make stories and story telling fun.

Harvest and Seeds for Africa

Thank you for supporting our Harvest assembly with gifts for The Lord's Larder and Seeds for Africa. 252 food items were received and a wonderful £454.40 was raised from filling the tubes with coins. All of these donations will give great benefit to those in need. Many thanks again for your continuing support.



Can I please remind parents that all money sent into school should be in a labelled envelope with your child's name and class clearly marked on the front. It would also be very helpful if it could be the exact money.

Dates for your Diary

Thurs 10 Nov: Y4 cinema trip 'Ice Age'

Theatre Club trip to Bath

Mon 14 Nov: 3LH trip to Gore Farm

Tues 15 Nov: Y1 – Y3 nasal flu vaccinations

Fri 18 Nov: Children in Need – non school uniform

Mon 21 Nov: 6BM trip to Gore Farm Wed 23 Nov: 6LB trip to Gore Farm

Thurs 24 Nov: YR and Y3 cinema trip 'Finding Dory' **Fri 25 Nov:** Walking from Lands End to John O'Groats

fundraising event

Tues 29 Nov: 5CL trip to Gore Farm

Year 4 Egyptian Day

Wed 30 Nov: 5DG trip to Gore Farm

Fri 2 Dec: School Discos – KS1 6 – 7 pm / KS2 7.15 pm –

8.30 pm

Mon 5 Dec: KS1 Nativity 2 pm (further details to follow)

Tue 6 Dec: KS1 Nativity 9.30 am Wed 7 Dec: KS1 Nativity 2 pm Thurs 8 Dec: KS1 Nativity 2 pm

Tues 13 Dec: KS1 trip to the pantomime (further details

to follow)

Wed 14 Dec: Christmas Lunch

Thurs 15 Dec: KS1 Christmas parties (further details to

follow)

Fri 16 Dec: KS2 carol service @ St Michaels Church 2 pm

Last day of term

Tues 3 Jan 2017: INSET Day Wed 4 Jan: School re-opens