



Head Teacher's Welcome



Welcome back and I hope that your half term was enjoyable and restful.

Richard Culham

Staffing

There are various changes taking place currently. Briefly, *Miss Stocker* has joined our Year 3 teaching team. *Miss Griffiths* is joining us as an LSA for 3 days a week, working mainly in Y5.

Mrs Dron joins us as a Kitchen Assistant and *Mr Pound* joins us as a Sports Assistant on an apprenticeship. Welcome all!

Later this term our new ICT technician, *Mr Coate*, will be joining us.

Birchfield Two/Too!

Thanks for all of the entries to our "name our new Pre-School" competition. There is still time to enter - we now have some fabulous vouchers as prizes!

We have now appointed a Manager for the setting and he will begin in January. There are various delays to the re-launch, particularly because I am very keen for it to have a major "overhaul" before it is opened. Therefore at the moment, I am planning for an April launch. We will be recruiting Pre-school trained and experienced staff after Christmas.

Lantern Workshop



Some of our Y5 children will be taking part in a lantern workshop in the next few weeks ready to parade their lanterns in the town's annual switching on of the Christmas lights which takes place on **Saturday 18 November**. This is a great opportunity for our children.

E-Safety Questionnaire



We are always looking at ways of keep our children safe when they are online. To that end we would like parents/carers to complete an E-Safety questionnaire so that we can continue to ensure we are focusing our resources in the right area. A letter will be coming home to you with details of how to access the questionnaire online or you can collect a copy from the school office. Our PFSA's Ms Barter and Mrs Schroetter are always available for you to speak to.

Photographs

Don't forget that all orders need to be returned by **Tuesday 7 November 2017** to get them back in time for C*****

Competitions

We have recently held other competitions and again had many entries – many thanks to everyone! The Erasmus Geography quiz was very popular and prizes will be given out in assembly this week.

Another extremely popular competition was our Book Review competition that Mr Garbett and Miss Mathieson held. The standard of entries was extremely high and of a very impressive standard. They are on view in the Library.

The winners won tickets to see famous children's authors talk about their work at the Yeovil Literacy festival:- *Paris Smalling* (6BM) and *Tayla Hodges* (4JR) saw Jacqueline Wilson and, *Louey Critchell* (6BM) and *Alfie Turner* (3AL) saw Harry Hill. They all had a great time and some were lucky enough to meet their author and Louey even appeared on stage telling a joke with Harry Hill!

Many thanks again for all of the entries to all of our events.

Uniform



With winter fast approaching can I please ask that the children come to school appropriately dressed for the weather. You might be surprised by how many children arrive without even a coat on some days! (I remember well that on some days it can be a battle but we have to persevere!)

Can I also please remind you to ensure that all clothing is clearly named – we have a wonderful team of children who try very hard to return all “abandoned” jumpers etc at the end of playtimes but sometimes it is impossible!!

C*****



Obviously the “C” word is banned until 1st December (we haven't even had Bonfire Night yet!) but preparations are underway for our school events.

Our KS1 Nativity performances are on Monday 11 and Tuesday 12 December at 2 pm / Wednesday 13 and Thursday 14 December at 9.30 am.

Our KS2 Carol Service will be held on our last day, Wednesday 20 December at 2 pm at St Michaels Church. Further details to follow on all of these events.

Children in Need



Friday 17 November – non school uniform day but children to wear something with spots on. 50p donation towards Children in Need.

Dates for your Diary

Fri 10 Nov:	FoBS Bingo (details to follow)	Mon 11 –	KS1 Nativity (further details to follow)
Tues 14 Nov:	Y4 Egyptian Day	Thurs 14 Dec:	Christmas Jumper day (details to follow) and School Christmas Lunch
Wed 15 Nov:	Y2 trip to SS Great Britain	Mon 18 Dec:	KS1 trip to the pantomime (am) KS2 Carol Service (pm)
Fri 17 Nov:	Children in Need Day	Wed 20 Dec:	Last day of term
Sat 18 Nov:	Lantern Parade and switching on of town Christmas lights	Thurs 21 Dec:	INSET Day
Thurs 23 Nov:	Reception vision screening	Mon 8 Jan:	School re-opens
Fri 1 Dec:	School Discos (details to follow)		