

Blossomfield Infant & Nursery School

NEWSLETTER

January 2016

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Dear Parents and Carers,

*We would like to wish everybody a
Happy New Year and welcome you
back to the new term*

The autumn term is always very hectic with new children and families being welcomed into school and curricular activities increasing each year. Happily the warmer, brighter days of the spring and summer term lie ahead of us and we are looking forward to a very busy and exciting spring term.

Before moving on we would like to take a moment to reflect on some of our December events and thank all those involved in their success.

Christmas Performances



The children once again enjoyed working towards producing and presenting Christmas Performances, which everybody thoroughly enjoyed. The Key Stage 1 Nativity play, 'Straw and Order' kept our attention to the end and the Reception Nativity, 'The Sleepy Shepherd' made everybody smile. New this year was the Nursery Noel which was a great achievement for such young children and was clearly a big hit with the audience. Our friends from Trinity at Parkgate thoroughly enjoyed a personal visit from some Year 1 children who performed Carols for residents. The Choir and some Year 2 children once again

performed Carols for the Community at Touchwood.

All of these performances lifted spirits at this special time of year so a big thank you to children, staff and parents for all their hard work and support.

Christmas Lunch, Parties and Entertainment



The children had a delicious Christmas Dinner and a Party Box Lunch, prepared by our fabulous Cook Brigette Gillespie and her catering team. Our cheerful band of Lunchtime Supervisors ensured that each of these occasions ran smoothly, and was memorable for the children.

Christmas Parties and Entertainment

Year One visited St James' Church where they had a Nativity based fun packed morning. Year 2 children thoroughly enjoyed sharing Nativity Performances with children from Shirley Heath School. Thanks go to parents who made these visits possible by walking along with the children. Party Day was fun packed with entertainment provided by Major Mustard who entertained our young audience with a very exciting puppet panto performance.

Santa also managed to make an appearance with presents for all!



Fundraising

Blossomfield community once again supported numerous charitable organisations during the autumn term.

A local food bank benefitted from a collection of food items that were collected during British Food Week. At the end of the week children took part in our traditional Harvest Festival Assembly.

Remembrance Day was celebrated with a special assembly. As it was Open Day some of our visitors joined us for this moving assembly. Poppies and other items were on sale for children and the wider community during November.

Paddington Bear day saw children bringing in a 'spare bear' to donate to child refugees from Syria.

After learning about water conservation in a special assembly, children wore blue to school for a small donation which went to Water Aid.

We celebrated 'Children in Need' by wearing our pyjamas to school for a small donation which went to this worthwhile cause.

A collection after the Christmas plays raised £394.93, which has been donated to 'The Alzheimer's Society'.

Your generosity in buying Nativity photographs raised approximately £200 and this money will go to replenish costumes and props for future productions.

HEADTEACHER'S AWARD TO THE PTA



This group of parents and teachers worked tirelessly throughout the autumn term to organise events in order to raise funds that will benefit the whole school community. The final event of the autumn term, the Christmas Fair, raised a tremendous £2200. I am sure that you will agree with me when I say that a big pat on the back is well deserved!

The PTA is always keen to recruit new members. Please speak to a member of staff if you would

like to offer your services and they will put you in touch with current members.

Staffing

We would like to welcome to Mrs Tracey Rae to Blossomfield. She will be teaching Year 1 Elm class during Mrs Mace's maternity leave. Mr O'Connor has moved on to pastures new and we are currently in the process of recruiting a site manager for Blossomfield.

Students in School

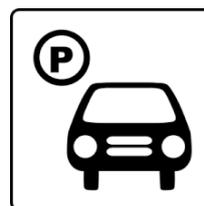
Teaching students from local Universities will be in school during the spring and summer terms.

Individual classes will be notified of student involvement.



School Nurse Suggests

I hope everyone had a happy and healthy Christmas. At this time of year when it's cold outside we might not be thinking about exercise but perhaps this is the time for the family to have some fun together getting out on those new bikes, scooters and roller blades that the children had for Christmas. If we can encourage the children to enjoy exercise when they are young they are likely to continue exercising as an adult with all of the health benefits that exercise brings.



RESPECT IS BLOSSOMFIELD'S CORE VALUE
Please make a New Year's Resolution to drive and park respectfully and considerately when dropping children off at school.

Family Workshops

During the spring term we will be running **Maths 'Family Workshops'** for children, parents and carers in school. These sessions will run for one hour at the beginning of the school day from 9am to 10am. The expectation is that one Parent, Grandparent or Carer will come into school to meet the teachers who will coach them for about 20 minutes. For the following 40 minutes children will join their 'adult' in a joint activity, supported by teachers. This session is intended to give child and adult quality time together developing a deeper understanding of how an aspect of the curriculum is taught.



Wednesday 20th January - Reception

Thursday 21st January - Reception

Monday 25th January - Nursery

Tuesday 8th March - Year 1

Friday 18th March - Year 2

(more details in the diary dates)

The nature of these sessions means that they are unsuitable for younger siblings. However, Orchids are running a free crèche that parents can use during their child's session. Please speak to Amy or Vicky at Orchids to book a place as soon as possible, on 0783 725 9429.

Parent Consultations

We will be holding our spring parent consultations on Tuesday 1st March between 4.00 - 6.00pm and Wednesday 2nd March between 5.00 - 7.00pm. There will also be an afternoon session that teachers will inform you about at a later date. This is an opportunity for you to talk to your child's teacher about what they know and what they need to learn next. ***We will send out more details nearer the time.***

Look out for more dates in weekly class newsletters and on the website. If dates need to be changed due to unforeseen circumstances parents will be informed in class weekly newsletters and on the website.

8 th Jan	Gym Club starts 8am - 8.50am
11 th Jan	Helping your Child with Maths & English Course starts - 9am
13 th Jan	Parental Partnership - 7pm
20 th Jan	Reception Family Workshop -9- 10am Maple Class (All children) Birch Class (surnames A-K inc.) Personal Invitation to follow
21 st Jan	Reception Family Workshop -9-10am Holly Class (All children) Birch Class (surnames L-Z inc.) Personal Invitation to follow
25 th Jan	Nursery Family Workshop Nam- 9 - 10am - Npm 2 - 3pm
26 th Jan	Year 1 & 2 - Farmhouse Breakfast 8.20am (details to follow)
27 th Jan	PTA meeting 7pm
9 th Feb	Safer Internet Assembly - 2.30pm (details to follow)
10 th Feb	Gym Competition at Lode Heath School - 4pm - 5.45pm
15 th Feb - 19 th Feb	HALF TERM HOLIDAY School Closed
22 nd Feb	Helping your Child with Maths & English Course continues - 9am
25 th Feb	Year 2 Dads & Lads meeting 6pm (details to follow)
1 st Mar	Parental Consultations - 4-6pm
2 nd Mar	Parental Consultations - 5-7pm
2 nd Mar	Mothers' Day Lunch (details to follow)
3 rd Mar	World Book Day (details to follow)
4 th Mar	Reception Mothers' Day Assembly 9.15am
8 th Mar	Year 1 Family Workshop 9 - 10am
9 th Mar	PTA meeting 7pm
22 nd Mar	Parental Partnership - 7pm
18 th Mar	Year 2 Family Workshop 9 - 10am
18 th Mar	PTA Easter Disco - 5.30pm
23 rd Mar	SPRING TERM ENDS
11 th Apr	SUMMER TERM STARTS

SPRING TERM PROVISIONAL DATES