

Blossomfield Infant & Nursery School

NEWSLETTER
January 2017



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Dear Parents and Carers,

*We would like to wish everybody a
Happy New Year and welcome you
back to the spring term at
Blossomfield.*

Although it is still cold and dark outside we are looking forward to the warmer, brighter days of the spring and summer terms that lie ahead of us.

Before moving on to a very busy and exciting spring term, we would like to take a moment to reflect on some of the events that took place in December and celebrate their success.



Christmas Performances

The children enjoyed working towards producing and presenting Christmas Performances, which everybody enjoyed. The Year 2 play, 'Midwife Crisis' kept us gripped to the end and the Reception Nativity, 'Shepherd Little' put everybody in the mood for Christmas festivities. Nursery presented, 'Nursery Rhyme Nativity' which made everybody smile. New this year was the Year 1 Carol Concert which was a big hit with the audience. Our friends at Longmore Nursing Home thoroughly enjoyed a personal visit from Year 2 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 Rachel Homes and her catering team. Our dedicated 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 their performance with children from Sharmans Cross School. 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

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

Our first event of the year, 'The Big Coffee morning' in September raised funds for Macmillan.

Harvest food donations were donated to Crossroads, who feed the homeless in Birmingham City Centre and to Mildenhall House who support the young homeless of Solihull.

Remembrance Day was celebrated with a special assembly. Poppies and other items were on sale for children and the wider community during November.

Slip into Slippers day saw children and staff wearing slippers to school to raise funds for Age UK.

Everybody wore blue to highlight anti-bullying day and the children received a 'Fundraising Hero' certificate for their efforts.

Jolly Jumper Day and a collection after the Christmas plays raised a generous donation for our chosen charity this year, Birmingham Children's Hospital.

Your generosity in buying Nativity photographs raised funds which 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 record £2600. 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 Mrs Hazel to Blossomfield. She will be teaching Year 1 Elm class alongside Mrs Mace who has now returned from maternity leave. There will be an opportunity for parents in Elm class to meet Mrs Hazel and Mrs Mace on Friday 20th January at 2.30pm. We also have a new member of staff in Treehouse Kid's Club. Kerri Ricketts has joined

the Blossomfield Childcare team and comes to us with considerable experience.

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 legally, respectfully and considerately outside school.

Family Workshops - please see diary dates

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. **The nature of these sessions means that they are unsuitable for younger siblings.**



Parent Consultations

We will be holding our spring term parent consultations on Tuesday 7th March between 4.00 - 6.00pm and Wednesday 8th 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 the teacher about your child's learning and next steps in learning. *We will send out more details nearer the time.*

And finally...



SOME OF OUR RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Green Flag Status

Lindsey Mason has co-ordinated our Schools Eco Group to encourage Blossomfield to be more Eco aware. We have now been recognised as a 'Green Flag' school. Thanks go to Mrs Mason for her outstanding leadership in this area and to the children who are our 'Green' champions.



RHS School Gardening Awards

Even with the constraints of our current building work Mrs Adams and Mrs Collingridge have managed, with the help of the children, to achieve Level 1 and 2 Awards for Gardening. In the spring term they intend to improve upon this achievement and go for the Level 3 award. Good luck!



Travel Plan

Blossomfield have achieved the Bronze Award for their;



'exceptional achievement in promoting and supporting sustainable travel'

Just before Christmas Mrs Farkas and 2 children were invited to attend a celebratory event with the Lord Mayor of Solihull for this achievement.

18 th Jan	Reception Family Workshop -9- 10am Maple Class (All children) Birch Class (surnames A-K inc.)
20 th Jan	Reception Family Workshop -9-10am Holly Class (All children) Birch Class (surnames L-Z inc.)
20 th Jan	Elm Class parents - Coffee with Mrs Hazel & Mrs Mace - 2.30pm
23 rd Jan	Nursery Family Workshop Nam- 9 - 10am - Npm 2 - 3pm
25 th Jan	PTA meeting 7pm
1 st Feb	Parental Partnership - 9am
6 th Feb	Online Safety Assembly - 2.30pm (details to follow)
9 th Feb	Gym Competition at Lode Heath School 4- 5.45pm (details to follow)
20 th Feb 24 th Feb	HALF TERM HOLIDAY Tree House Holiday Club Open
2 nd Mar	World Book Day (details to follow)
2 nd Mar	Year 2 Dads & Lads meeting 6pm (details to follow)
7 th Mar	Parental Consultations - 4-6pm
8 th Mar	Parental Consultations - 5-7pm
13 th Mar	Year 1 Family Workshop Willow Class (All children) Elm Class (surnames A-K inc.)
14 th Mar	Year 1 Family Workshop 9 - 10am Hazel Class (All children) Elm Class (surnames L-Z inc.)
15 th Mar	PTA meeting 7pm TBC
16 th Mar	Y1 Dance Festival (details to follow)
22 nd Mar	Reception Mothers' Day Assembly 9.15am
22 nd Mar	Reception Mother's Day Lunch
22 nd Mar	Year 1 to visit Avoncroft Museum
24 th Mar	Red Nose Day
24 th Mar	Year 2 Family Workshop 9 - 10am
28 th Mar	Parental Partnership - 9am TBC
31 st Mar	PTA Easter Disco - 6 - 7.30pm
6 th April	Y1 & 2 to visit Baptist Church for Easter Celebration TBC
6 th April	Change 4 Life Event at Streetsbrook Academy (details to follow)
7 th April	SPRING TERM ENDS
24 th Apr	SUMMER TERM STARTS

SPRING TERM PROVISIONAL DATES