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28th February 2017

Dear Parents

I hope you had a lovely half term break with your children. Thank you to all of you who have been very busy, and imaginative, with your 'guess the book' photos. All the photos entered will be displayed in school throughout this week.

Thank you also to all of you who attended parents evening before half term. It is always very encouraging to have such a high turnout at parent meetings and great to receive such overwhelmingly positive feedback. 100% of evaluations stated that you felt well-informed about your child's learning and next steps, and are pleased about the good progress your children are making in school. We apologise to those of you who were unable to see Mr. Taylor on the Wednesday evening. A new appointment will be sent out to you in the next couple of days. As always at parent evenings, representatives from our Governing body were available to talk to parents upon arrival and departure, and again, our governors received many positive comments about life at school. We are very pleased that the vast majority of you feel that the school communicates clearly with parents and that you feel any concerns raised are acted upon swiftly. If you do ever miss a letter, all communication sent home is also put on our school website and can be downloaded at any time. Many of you expressed a keen interest in the possibility of being able to pay for school trips and events online. This is something we will look into over the coming weeks and hopefully I will have some more news on this issue by the end of the term.

School Activities

As well as a busy time in school last half term, many children were involved in a number of enrichment activities.

Sleepover at the Novium

On Friday 13th January, Pheasant Class had the amazing opportunity to stay overnight at the Tim Peake exhibition of the Novium Museum – an incredible prize for some incredible poetry about space. The whole class had a fabulous time, building space stations out of boxes, and creating rocket ship art work. The children's favourite activity was definitely the spooky torch lit tour of a dark and silent museum. At the end of the evening, the children were read a fun bedtime story by staff and teachers before drifting straight off (!) to sleep in the



exhibition hall. It was a fabulous night and the children represented our school wonderfully for the whole event.

United Voices at the Festival Theatre



Having practised and practised since well before Christmas, Pheasant class had learned their words, perfected their tone and were finally ready to share their beautiful voices at the "United Voices Concert". Alongside a host of children from other local schools, the children performed beautifully to a packed Chichester Festival Theatre, singing fantastic songs such as "Don't Worry, Be Happy," "Refuge," and our favourite, "Eye of the Tiger." It was a wonderful event and the audience was wowed by the "United Voices" of our local schools. Well done to

everyone involved in such a great event!

















Visit from Feeding Futures

The school had a special visitor on Tuesday 31st January as we celebrated our partnership with Feeding Futures, a local charity that provides meals for children in Kenya. Peterson Githinji, the Head teacher of St Brendan's Primary spoke to all the children in assembly and explained how their generous support had really helped the children in his school thrive. Peterson also visited the children in Robin Class who were comparing the similarities and differences between life in the Rift Valley of Kenya and Lavant. Our School has been a committed fundraiser for the charity for the past 6 years.

On 1st February, 15 children from our school running club competed in the annual Chichester Locality Cross Country Run. The event, held at Bishop Luffa School, was well attended with nearly 300 children from across our local primary schools running 1,500km. Our children were great ambassadors for our school and gave it their all. We were very proud of them. A particular well done must be given to Abi Neal who was selected to represent our area at county level and competed in the county race on Saturday 11th February.

Treasure Hunters

On Monday 6th February 5 lucky children were invited to become Treasure Hunters at Chichester Cathedral. With the help of two guides the children had to solve a series of clues that led to information about various important people and events in the history of the cathedral. The children met Richard of Wyche who was made Bishop of Chichester in 1245 and William Collins, a local poet. They identified the Bradbridge Brass Memorial and were allowed behind the scenes to interview a modern day Verger. Finally they were taken to the choir stalls where they discovered the Misericords which date back to the 1300s. The children were great Treasure Hunters and were able to complete their very own historical timeline which they brought back to school.

Safer Internet Day 2017

On Tuesday 7th February all our children were learning about keeping safe on the internet as part of Safer Internet Day which is celebrated globally. During the day a group of year 6 children visited Chichester High school to show an internet safety video they had produced based on the theme of Cyber Bullying. The children, who had been learning about e-safety in class,

used Stop Frame Animation to create an amazing video. Please log on to our school website to see their finished video.

Wren and Robin Class celebration assembly

Many parents attended Wren and Robin Classes assembly on Tuesday 14th February to celebrate their learning journey all about traditional tales. The children shared a range of learning including artwork and traditional tales written with alternative endings or from different viewpoints. The children in Reception

showed some excellent filmed puppet shows. Many of the children also shared the different mechanisms they had used to make books with moving parts.

Dance House 2017

In preparation for the Dance Show on Thursday 23rd March at 7.15pm at the Alexandra Theatre, Bognor, Dance Club are perfecting their dance called "Your Waste My Treasure". Please contact The Alexandra Theatre, Bognor Regis Box Office on 01243 861010 to book your tickets now for, what I know, will be a wonderful performance.











Sainsbury's Active Kids 2017



The Sainsbury's Active Kids Voucher Scheme is running again this year until Friday 30th June 2017. All vouchers collected really do make a difference so please collect as many as you can. A collection box for the vouchers is

situated in the school entrance hall.

World Book Day

As part of our book week, this week please remember that it is character dress up day this Thursday. We look forward to seeing all the children in their fantastic costumes.



Staffing

Many of you will know that Mrs Botham has been off school since last October half term and we have now been informed that sadly she will not be returning to school before Easter. I am delighted however, that Miss Stevens, who has been teaching Robin Class for the second half of each week has agreed to continue her work with us for the whole of this half term.

Easter Service

We hope you will be able to join us at our Easter service at St Nicholas Church on Friday 7th April at 1.30pm. Rev Dr David Jarret will kindly be leading our service and we would love to see as many parents there as possible. All parents who do attend will be welcome to take their children home directly after the service, once they have returned to school to collect their belongings.

As the days are finally getting longer again and spring will soon be here, we can all look forward to a really creative, fun and learning packed rest of the Spring term.

Kind regards

Adrian King

Key Upcoming Dates

Friends Jumble sale

Paul Ullson visiting Woodpecker class

Pheasant Class assembly

Wren and Robin Classes visit to Blue Reef Aquarium, Portsmouth

Woodpecker Class assembly

Dance House performance - 7.15pm at Alexandra Theatre, Bognor Regis

Mother's Day Sale

Friends Easter Cake Sale

Easter Service

Last Day of Spring Term

First day of Summer term

Saturday 11th March Monday 13th March Thursday 16th March Tuesday 21st March

Thursday 23rd March Thursday 23rd March

Friday 24th March Thursday 6th April Friday 7th April Friday 7th April **Monday 24th April**

Weekly Diary Dates

Please do remember to check weekly diary dates to keep yourselves up to date!















If you have any ideas or additional suggestions for our school please feel free to complete the slip below and return to the school office at your convenience

Name: Comment: