



BLETCHINGDON PAROCHIAL CE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

13th October 2017

Dear Families

Thank you to Clare Dellar for visiting classrooms around the school with me to see what was going on during our Big Question days. Our question this term was 'Why do people wear symbols?'

Our Woodpeckers started by looking at what symbols are, symbols in the world around them and Christian symbols. They were then challenged to use their understanding to create their own symbol. One child had chosen a heart, a woodpecker and their family. She explained that she had chosen the woodpecker and her family as she belongs to both of them and that she had chosen the heart because she loves her family.

When we visited the Kingfisher class they were looking at Hindu symbols and their meanings. There was some discussion around what the conch shell, trident and cow symbolise to Hindus. During the conversations, Y4s were making references to Vishnu as well as links to their prior learning about the cow being sacred and representing peace.

Having begun their lesson focusing on what symbols are, what they mean and where you might find them, the Owls quickly took the focus in a different direction than that Mrs Walker had intended. They suggested that symbols can be negative and referred to branding, e.g. Adidas and Nike. They talked about the fact that people can be made to feel as if they are 'not part of the in-crowd' if they are not wearing them. Later in the day, they moved on to focusing on Christian symbols.

It is always fascinating seeing just how the children can drive the question.

Food Bank Plea

Would anyone be available to take our food contributions to Bicester Food Bank next week? If so, please can you pop into the school office to talk to Jackie about it.

Clubs Update

Just a reminder that there is NO Zumbacize on Monday 16th October owing to parent-teacher meetings.

Home School Agreement Pack

Please can we have your photograph consent, blanket permission and internet code of conduct forms back – signed.

Autumn Parent – Teacher Meetings

Just a reminder that our parent – teacher meetings are taking place on Monday 16th and Tuesday 17th October 2017.

PTA Update

Saturday 14th October Quiz

Saturday 18th November Pamper Evening

Thursday 30th November – Children's Winter Disco cancelled

FLU VACCINATION FORMS for pupils in Years Reception / 1 / 2 / 3 / 4

Please could you return your Childs Flu Vaccination Consent form to Jackie by Monday 16th October.

We said farewell to Lynsey Dawe on Wednesday after nearly 8 years working as one of our Lunchtime Supervisors, we wish her well in her new ventures. A warm welcome to Miss Hollie Mason who has joined us as our Nursery Lunchtime Supervisor who will also be helping in the school kitchen alongside Sharon our school cook.

School Meal Change

Following the Parent Mail message sent earlier this week please note the Tuesday's meal choice **Week 1 Day 2** (next week) will change to Jacket Potato with a choice of Beans / Cheese & Tuna.

'MOVING ON TO SECONDARY SCHOOL'

Now is the time for all parents of Year 6 pupils to make their choice for their child's secondary school place for September 2018 entry. The booklets 'Moving On' WILL NOT be distributed to schools this year but are available to view on the public website for all to look through or to print off. The online portal (*which admissions are encouraging all parents to use*) is open for secondary applications and the closing date is 31st October 2017 followed by the National Offer Day of 1st March 2018.

To access the portal please use:

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions

Dates for your Diary

16th and 17th October

19th October

Mon 23rd – Fri 27th Oct.

Monday 30th October

Monday 6th November

Tuesday 7th November

Friday 17th November

Monday 11th December

14th and 15th December

Friday 15th December

Monday 18th December

Tuesday 19th December

Thursday 4th January

Parent-Teacher meetings

Year 3 / 4 plus selected Year 5s attending x-county event at Witney Rugby club

Half Term

INSET

Reception children's eye tests

Yrs 3, 4 and 5 swimming

Yr5 and 6 partnership hockey tournament

Children in Need fundraising

Flu vaccination for children in YR, 1, 2, 3 and 4

John Howell MP visiting school

Whole School Maths Day

Big Q days

Christmas Lunch

Nativity and Carols in Church (2pm and 6pm)

Christmas Party

Last day of autumn term

Spring term begins

Have a good weekend.

Yours sincerely

L Hatton

Louise Hatton

Headteacher

***** **Bletch Cafe is still running two sessions!** *****

Come and join us either on Tuesdays from 2-4 or Wednesdays 9.30-11.45 throughout the year.

Although the dance classes have moved, there still seems to be enough demand from parents and carers to continue to run the Tuesday cafe.

So please do support these community ventures. Not been yet? Drop by and enjoy homemade cakes and Costa coffee all at reasonable prices and right on your doorstep. We've even got drawing stuff and games for the children to enjoy too!