



BLETCHINGDON PAROCHIAL CE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

17th November 2017

Dear Families

Children in Need fundraising Appeal

What an exciting fundraising day – please can we have all sponsor money in by the end of next week so we can total it up and bank it to the charity – thank you.



Thank you very much to our school council (and parents) for baking cakes.

Thank you Mrs Jacques for helping our Kingfishers to bake 48 cakes.

Thank you Lindsey Inness for arranging the loan of a rowing machine from Nuffield Health and Racket Club, Woodstock Road.

Visit from John Howell MP

John Howell survived his visit (just) to our Year 5s and 6s who conducted themselves brilliantly. They had spent time reading his website (prior to his visit) and carefully prepared their questions which included:

- We hear there is a shortage of doctors and nurses in the UK. How are you going to make training to be a doctor or nurse easier and cheaper so that more people choose these jobs?
- You state on your website that you are committed to ensuring that schools are better funded. Furthermore, you claim that £1.3 billion extra is being given to education. According to the 'School Cuts' website, 99% of schools will have less money next year – our school will lose nearly £300 per pupil. We are unable to find any school in the UK which will gain money. Can you explain this please?
- We think that poverty is a major problem but we cannot find anything on your website. There are hundreds of people living on the streets. What are you going to do about it?
- Why does the government think that continually testing children at primary school is a helpful strategy in education? We are already practicing our SATS. Are you not just setting children up to fail – especially as the curriculum keeps changing?
- Why doesn't the government fund services properly then we wouldn't have to raise money for charities such as Children in Need?

I think it is fair to say that the children certainly challenged him.

Aviva Community Fund - Bletchington School Sensory Garden

Whilst we have already raised an amazing £3,000 towards the school's sensory garden we have the opportunity to obtain additional funding (up to £5k) which can be used for specialist equipment and planting via the Aviva Community Fund. Projects with the most votes receive the greatest funding.

Please can you log onto the link below and vote for our project – the link closes on Monday night.

<https://www.avivacommunityfund.co.uk/voting/project/view/17-4831>

Clubs Update

- Monday afternoon (ending 27th November) - Zumbacize with Miss Follen (15 spaces for children in Years 3 – 6)
- Tuesday afternoon (ending 28th November) – SATs with Mrs Walker (all Year 6s please)
- Tuesday afternoon (ending 28th November) - SOLE Club with Mrs Kelly for Y4/5 (12 spaces)
- Wednesday afternoon (ending 29th November – Homework club with Mrs Hatton
PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOUR CHILD HAS HOMEWORK TO COMPLETE IF THEY ARE STAYING TO HW CLUB
- Wednesday afternoon (ending 29th November) - Art Club with Mrs Seymour and Miss Shuff for Y2/3/4 (12 spaces)

Robins' Nativity

Robin class will be performing their nativity on Wednesday 13th December between 9:00 - 10:00am. Please do stay and watch their play which will be followed by mince pies and Christmas cookies.

Year 3 / 4 / 5 Swimming

Jackie has set up swimming contributions via +Pay. The charge is £10 per child with the remainder taken from the school's sport budget. The children will be swimming on Monday 13th, 20th and 27th November plus 4th December.

PTA Update

On November 18th we are hosting Bletchington's first ***Pamper & Shopping Evening!*** Come along for a relaxing evening of pre-Christmas pampering and shopping, choose from a range of treatments and shop with a great selection of retailers. Tickets in advance - £5 including a glass of bubbles and there will be a cash bar. Contact any member of the PTA for tickets or search for the event on Facebook.

For any more information about the PTA please contact Rachel 07790 025110 rachel_pirie@hotmail.com

Dates for your Diary

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| Wednesday 29 th November | Visit to school from Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue |
| Monday 11 th December | Whole School Maths Day |
| Wednesday 13 th December | Robins' Nativity followed by mince pies and cookies Years N and R |
| 14 th and 15 th December | Big Q days |
| Friday 15 th December | Christmas Lunch |
| Monday 18 th December | Nativity and Carols in Church (2pm and 6pm) Years 1 - 6 |
| Tuesday 19 th December | Christmas Party |
| | Last day of autumn term |
| Thursday 4 th January | Spring term begins |

We wish you all a Happy Half-term

Yours sincerely

L Hatton

Louise Hatton
(Headteacher)