

Brinkworth Earl Danby's C of E Primary School



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER – Jan 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back & Happy New Year to you all.

We hope you all enjoyed the Christmas break and are now ready for the start of a new year. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all the lovely presents, cards and good wishes we received at the end of last term.

Ofsted

As you are all aware, Ofsted visited us on the 18th December and again gave us a Good rating. We were very pleased with this outcome and feel that it accurately reflects the school and pinpoints key areas that we are already working on.

The report is available on the school website and you can also request a paper copy from the office should you require one.

If you have any questions or queries about the report, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your positive comments and continued support.

Our Christian Value for this term is Perseverance.

Beech Class – Come & Play

Parents of Beech Class children were invited to come in and join us for a morning of fun and Christmas themed activities last term. The children, parents and siblings all thoroughly enjoyed their time together.



Countryfile 20.01.19

It was lovely to see Brinkworth Dairy on Countryfile last weekend. If you didn't see the programme, it's certainly worth catching up with on BBC iPlayer!

Christmas Productions

The Lower School Nativity play 'Lights! Camels! Action!' was a joy to watch and the children sang and danced beautifully. It was lovely to see the children relating the Nativity story with a modern slant!

The Upper School Production of Silent Night told the story of the hymn 'Silent Night' and was also superb to watch and very thought provoking.

A huge thank you to all the children for working so hard to remember where they had to be and remembering their lines. It was a beautiful start to Christmas.

Whole School Day

The whole school day at Lower School on Wednesday 19th December was thoroughly enjoyed by all the children. The children worked together in house groups, taking part in Christmas craft activities and enjoying Christmas story books together.

All the children sat down to a lovely Christmas lunch together. Thank you to Mrs Bull and Mrs Deane for putting on a lovely Festive Feast!



Parking – Dropping Off & Picking Up

Please can we remind you to park with care and consideration at drop off and pick up times. Please can we ask that you do not park on or drive over pavements in order to turn around as this poses a huge health and safety risk to our children and other pedestrians. We request that you are also mindful of neighbouring properties and avoid parking across driveways or in such a way that it causes an inconvenience to other road users and our neighbours. Please also **DO NOT** park or stop in the busy bays to drop off children or pick up children, at any time of the day. The speed limit at both sites is 30mph.

Leave of Absence During Term Time

Requests for leave of absence during term time will only be granted in exceptional circumstances.

Regular attendance is the best way of ensuring that a child makes the most of the educational opportunities which are available to him or her.

Persistent Absence - From the beginning of the 2015–2016 academic year, the government have reduced the persistent absence threshold from 15% to 10%. This would mean, according to the government, that a child missing seven sessions (3 ½ days) in a term, up to 38 sessions (19 days) in an academic year, will be considered to have persistent absence.

At Brinkworth Earl Danby's, we are keen to work with pupils and parents to ensure pupils' attendance is good (95%+) to enable pupils to make maximum progress and achieve their potential.

Emergency Closure

We hope that the weather will be mild this winter and we won't see much snow! It may be pretty but it makes getting to school or work very difficult! We do not take the decision to close the school lightly as we would much rather the children were in school and we also know that it can be very inconvenient for parents. However, we shall always base our decision on the safety of everyone. Snow may be worse in other areas away from the villages and many children come to school by bus, staff may not be able to make it in, or we may not be able to make the school grounds safe due to snow or ice.

We would hope to make a decision the evening before a closure and would post this on the Homepage of our website. However, this is not always possible and we may have to make a decision to close in the morning. In this case, we would have the information on our website by 7.30am. The best place for up-to-date information is our school website, but we will also inform local radio stations in the event of a closure.

www.brinkworthearldanbys.wilts.sch.uk

Heart FM radio (97.20 & 102.2 FM)

BBC Wiltshire (103.6FM, 104.3FM)

What do the school's governors do?

I thought I would take the opportunity in the newsletter to highlight some notes from the governors. We have a couple of parish notices but I also wanted to explain what the role of a governor includes and what we are not directly responsible for. Governors are often described as a critical friend. The main areas of responsibility can be placed under 3 main headings:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction.
- Holding executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the school and the performance management of staff
- Overseeing the financial performance of the organisation and making sure its money is well spent

In general, the role of a governor is largely a thinking and questioning role, as opposed to a doing role, although sometimes it doesn't appear that way!

It is often misunderstood where the line is between the governors' and the school's areas of responsibility. In general, the Headteacher is responsible for the day to day running of the school, along with the staff members and the governors hold them to account for the way in which they are doing that. Governors do not:

- Write school policies
- Undertake audits
- Judge on the quality of teaching
- Do the job of any school staff members

Parent questionnaire

The results of the questionnaire that was completed by many of you last term have been analysed now and there appeared to be a few parents that thought that the school's communication could be better. In response to this, we would like to see what we can do to improve this. In order to do this, please could anyone who thought this was an area for improvement email me

governors@brinkworthearldanbys.wilts.sch.uk

with details of exactly where the school fell short as communications is quite a large subject? Once we have details, we will ensure that we do our best to address those concerns and put in processes to improve matters.

Volunteer role request

We have a fantastic opportunity that may have met a stumbling block unless we can find a volunteer or two to push it forwards. Mr Richard Crapper's Entrust Foundation had agreed to fund the vast majority of a new community sports hall on the site of the MUGA at the Brinkworth site, which would obviously be hugely beneficial to the school as well as the community in general. We think we have found the rest of the funding through various grants. What we need are volunteers to help to

manage the project in the short term and then to govern it once built. If you are interested, please contact me on

governors@brinkworthearldanbys.wilts.sch.uk.

Allergies

We have children in school who have severe allergic reactions to nuts and sesame. As you are aware, this could be potentially very serious indeed for the child if he/she came into contact with nuts and sesame. As a precaution, we are therefore requesting you DO NOT send your child to school with any nut or sesame (including hummus) based foods in order to avoid a possibly dangerous situation. We do realise that many foods contain traces of nuts and we are not asking that you stop using these. Thank you for your co-operation.

Governors' Email Address

Should you wish to contact the school's governing body, please use the following email address, which has been set up for this purpose:

governors@brinkworthearldanbys.wilts.sch.uk

School Website

www.brinkworthearldanbys.wilts.sch.uk

Christmas Jumper Day

Thank you to those who remembered in all the Christmas festivities to support the Christmas Jumper Day on 19.12.18. We raised £39.40.

BEDSA Fundraising

Don't forget to take advantage of some of BEDSA's fundraising ideas when ordering heating oil and buying clothes labels. For full details see below.



your school lottery

Supporting 

BUY A LOTTERY TICKET & SUPPORT YOUR SCHOOL

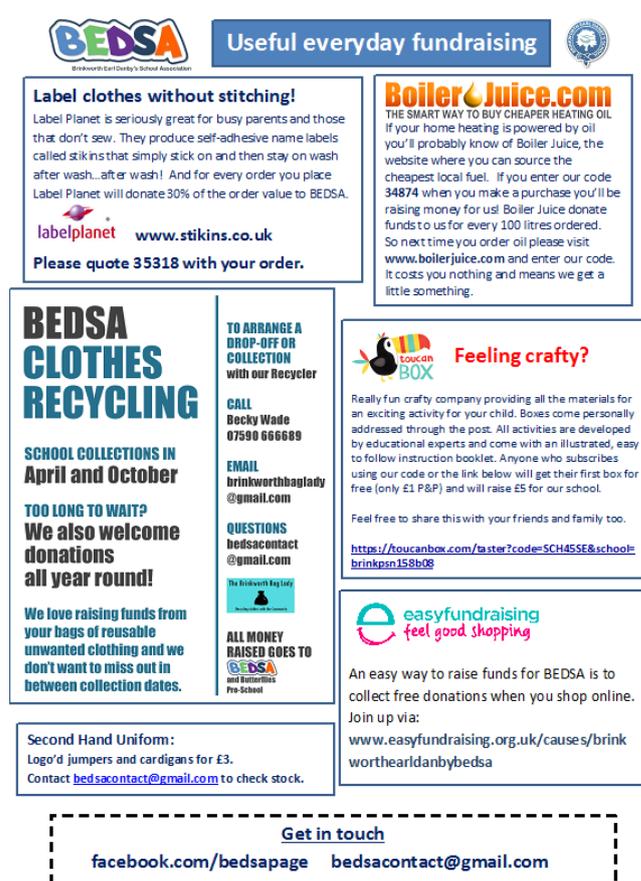
New Year, New Resolution – Buy a lottery ticket to support our school!

- Cash Prizes to be WON every week!
- Match all 6 numbers & WIN £25,000!
- Tickets cost £1 each, per week & 40% of ticket sales goes to our school.
- Draws are every Saturday at 8pm & results posted online.
- Joining is easy, just visit our web page to support us now.

To start supporting, visit:
www.yourschoollottery.co.uk

Search for:
Brinkworth Earl Danb

Supporters must be 16 years of age or older. Sign up before the 16th February 2019
*Terms and Conditions apply. See website



BEDSA Useful everyday fundraising 

Label clothes without stitching!
Label Planet is seriously great for busy parents and those that don't sew. They produce self-adhesive name labels called stikins that simply stick on and then stay on wash after wash...after wash! And for every order you place Label Planet will donate 30% of the order value to BEDSA.
 www.stikins.co.uk
Please quote 35318 with your order.

Boiler Juice.com
THE SMART WAY TO BUY CHEAPER HEATING OIL
If your home heating is powered by oil you'll probably know of Boiler Juice, the website where you can source the cheapest local fuel. If you enter our code 34874 when you make a purchase you'll be raising money for us! Boiler Juice donate funds to us for every 100 litres ordered. So next time you order oil please visit www.boilerjuice.com and enter our code. It costs you nothing and means we get a little something.

BEDSA CLOTHES RECYCLING

TO ARRANGE A DROP-OFF OR COLLECTION with our Recycler

CALL
Becky Wade
07590 066689

EMAIL
brinkworthba@plaidy@gmail.com

QUESTIONS
bedsacontact@gmail.com

ALL MONEY RAISED GOES TO


Feeling crafty?

Really fun crafty company providing all the materials for an exciting activity for your child. Boxes come personally addressed through the post. All activities are developed by educational experts and come with an illustrated, easy to follow instruction booklet. Anyone who subscribes using our code or the link below will get their first box for free (only £1 P&P) and will raise £5 for our school.
Feel free to share this with your friends and family too.
<https://toucandbox.com/?aster?code=SCHASSE&school=brinkpsn158b08>

easyfundraising
feel good shopping
An easy way to raise funds for BEDSA is to collect free donations when you shop online. Join up via:
www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/brinkworthearldanbybedsa

Second Hand Uniform:
Logo'd jumpers and cardigans for £3.
Contact bedsacontact@gmail.com to check stock.

Get in touch
facebook.com/bedsapage bedsacontact@gmail.com

DIARY DATES 2018/2019

FEBRUARY 2019

Fri	8	Oak Class Assembly – Lower School Hall – 9.15am to 9.45am Film Night – Upper and Lower School
Fri	15	End of Term 3

HALF TERM 18th February 2019 – 22nd February 2019

Mon	25	TD Day – Children not in School
Tue	26	Start of Term 4
Wed	27	Y5/Y6 Hockey Festival – Malmesbury Hard Courts – 1.30pm to 3.30pm

MARCH 2019

Thu	14	Y3/Y4 Football Festival – Malmesbury Red Bull – 1.30pm to 4.30pm
Mon	18	Year 4 Residential Trip to Braeside (18.03.19-20.03.19)
Fri	22	BEDSA Disco – Lower School Hall for all children
Tue	26	Travelling Book Fair – Upper & Lower School (26.03.19-02.04.19) Parents Evening - 5pm to 7pm
Thu	28	Parents Evening – 3.30pm to 5pm

APRIL 2019

Tue	2	BEDSA Recycling
Fri	5	End of Term 4

EASTER HOLIDAYS 8th April 2019 – 22nd April 2019

Tue	23	Start of Term 5
Thu	25	Y1/Y2 & Y3/Y4 Orienteering Festival – Malmesbury School Field – 12.30pm to 2.30pm

MAY 2019

Fri	17	BEDSA Disco – Lower School Hall for all children
Mon	20	Year 6 Residential Trip to Eden Project (20.05.19-24.05.19)
Fri	24	End of Term 5

HALF TERM 27th May 2019 – 31st May 2019

JUNE 2019

Mon	3	TD Day – Children not in School
Tue	4	Start of Term 6
Fri	7	Y5/Y6 Mixed Cricket Festival – Malmesbury Cricket Club – 10.00am to 3.00pm
Thu	13	NextGen Class Photographs
Thu	20	Y6 Athletics Festival – Malmesbury School Field – 1.00pm to 4.00pm
Fri	28	Sports Day

JULY 2019

Fri	5	Reserve Sports Day
Fri	19	School BBQ – to be confirmed
Wed	24	Leaver's Service, St Michael's & All Angels Church, Brinkworth End of Term 6
Thu	25	TD Day – Children not in school

These dates are provisional and may be subject to change