



# BRINKWORTH EARL DANBY'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## News Letter

Dear Parents & Carers,

Spring 2015

Welcome back! I do hope that you all had a wonderful Easter, which was helped by some beautiful sunshine. I hope that the children are well rested and looking forward to all of the exciting learning that is planned for Term 5, especially our Year 6 children who will be preparing to sit their SATs exams in a few weeks' time. The calendar is looking busy and I know that lots of exciting learning opportunities have been planned for each class.

At the end of term, we had our Statutory Inspection for Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS). The inspector was very complimentary about our school and the report should be available shortly.

Collective Worship values this term are:

Honesty – 13<sup>th</sup> April

Love – 20<sup>th</sup> April

Inclusion – 27<sup>th</sup> April

Respect – 4<sup>th</sup> May

Excellence – 12<sup>th</sup> May

Friendship 18<sup>th</sup> May

Open the Book takes place at Lower School and Mr Graham and Miss Withers share collective worship at Upper School.

### Welcome New Staff

We would like to welcome back Mrs Litvak-Watson in Beech class while Mrs Horn is still unwell. We are looking forward to seeing Mrs Horn in school as soon as she is feeling much better.

We have said 'goodbye' to Miss Hunt who has been a valued teaching assistant at Lower School and we wish her well in her new ventures.

### Water Fountain at Upper School

Our new reflection area at the Upper School site has now been finished off with the kind donation of a water fountain. We would like to say a big THANK YOU to Mr Gawthropp and Somerford Plumbing for supplying and fitting the new fountain, which has already been in great demand and well used by the children during break and lunch times.

### Thank You to BEDSA

BEDSA have kindly funded the following purchases:

Beech Class has purchased new role play equipment of an iron and a cash register and Chinese bowls and spoons to be enjoyed when celebrating Chinese New Year.

Oak Class has purchased a Magnetic Fish Set, an Arctic set and Translucent Cubes to support their learning about Polar Regions.

Elm Class had a visit from ZooLab for their Rain Forest topic, costing £106.

Hazel Class have purchased fabric and special paints for a special art project along with seed trays for growing plants.

Rowan Class has purchased assorted motivational stickers.

Thank you to the school association and all its' members for their generous support in raising money for these items.

A donation of £457.85 to purchase 5 new Visualizers for the classrooms that do not already have them, so that there can be one in each class room for the children and staff to use to share objects and work in more detail together using the electronic whiteboards.

### Dobbies of Cirencester

We would like to thank Dobbies of Cirencester for their very kind donation of compost and plant pots for the new reflective garden at Upper School. The School Council took delivery of the items earlier this month.



### **Mightier Than The Sword**

In the wake of the events in Paris, Rowan class have debated democracy and freedom of speech. They put together a book called "Mightier than the Sword" which included their reflections and cartoons about human rights and freedoms. The Year 5 children donated the profit from selling the book, amounting to £84, to Amnesty International.

### **Book Week and Shakespeare Day celebrations**

Last month we were celebrating books in the multicultural context. After all, it was **World Book Day!** In assembly, we shared stories from exotic cultures to inspire children to take a peek into the greater world out there. The Book Fair was very busy!

Our celebrations coincided with Shakespeare Week, when pupils across the school found out more about Britain's greatest playwright and his works through play, theatre trips and an array of exciting activities and challenges.

### **The Tempest by Willow Class**

On Friday, 23rd January Willow class performed The Tempest, their own adaption of Shakespeare's play by the same name. It was a cultural feast for the school: the children made magnificent puppets, danced and sang galore, taking us all on an amazing journey!

### **Sports for Schools Event**

The children at both sites thoroughly enjoyed their visit from the Paralympian, Ben Rushgrove for our Sports for Schools Event in February. All completed the fitness challenges and raised a very impressive amount in sponsorship. The total raised was £1,586.20, which will be split 50/50. Half the funds will be spent on new PE equipment for the school and half will go towards supporting young British athletes. Thank you for your generosity in supporting this event.

### **General Knowledge Quiz**

A team of four, Chris, Grace, Monty and Sophie took part in the Royal Wootton Bassett rotary General Knowledge Quiz on 16<sup>th</sup> April. Questions ranged from "Who is Peppa Pig's brother?" to "What is the capital of Lithuania?" and "What was the date of the Battle of Culloden?" The scores of the six participating teams were all close and our team came a very respectable third. Well done to them!

### **Rowan & Willow - Trip to the Egg**

*On Thursday 5th March Rowan and Willow came into school buzzing with excitement, we were going to see King John at the Egg in Bath. At 11:15 we set off after just having lunch. The coach ride lasted 1 hour or so and then we jumped off the coach and walked to the Egg. Everyone was running so fast to get there. When I got there it was nothing like I imagined, but that was a good thing! We had to wait about ten minutes, but then (eventually) we went in.*

*I was lucky and got to sit in the front row, but it didn't live up to what I expected..... It was much better! It started slowly but then got better and better. I think mine and most people's favourite part was the singing and most dramatic scenes. I also liked the puppets, (very creative). The main storyline was that there were two countries fighting, however they come to peace, but not for long. They ended up fighting, which went a bit too far with three people dying. However, overall it was amazing!*

*By Jacques*

### **Comic Relief**

Children at both sites got into the spirit of fund raising on Friday, dressing in red and bringing in plenty of cakes to sell. The total raised was £322.42. Thank you for your generous support of this event and the kind donation of cakes to sell.

### **Beech Class Tractor Visit**

Beech Class had a wonderful week finding out about animals that live on a farm. The highlight of the week was a visit from Mr Sykes on his tractor. The children were very excited when they went out to look at the very big wheels, the baler and engine. The children listened to Mr Sykes tell them about his tractor and how bales were made. They were amazed when another tractor went past the school carrying bales on the trailer. An opportunity to sit in the cab was gratefully taken by all the children and happy faces showed how much they appreciated Mr Sykes' visit.

Thank you Mr Sykes for providing a bale of straw for our farmyard and the time to tell us about your tractor.

### Calling all budding guitarists!

We are hoping to offer guitar and ukulele lessons at school, subject to there being enough interest. Tuition will be provided by a specialist teacher from Swindon Music Co-operative – options below.



Lesson option	Cost per lesson
Group A Lesson (4 pupils in 30 minutes)	£3.55
Group B Lesson (3 pupils in 30 minutes or 2 pupils in 20 minutes)	£4.75
15 minute individual lesson	£7.15
20 minute individual lesson	£9.50

Financial assistance may be available for pupils entitled to free school meals.

Pupils will need to provide their own instruments (a beginner classical guitar costs around £50 and ukuleles are around £20). We do have a number of guitars in school, available on a loan basis.

If you would like to find out more, please pick up an application form from the school office, or download one from:

[www.swindonmusiccoop.co.uk](http://www.swindonmusiccoop.co.uk).

If you have any queries about lessons please call the Swindon Music Co-operative office on 01793 530139.

### Callow Hill Bridge Closure

Alterations to Callow Hill Bridge are due to begin shortly. Children who travel to school by school bus or taxi will have been informed of a change of route by Wiltshire Council Passenger Transport, if a change of route applies. For all parents coming into either site to drop off and pick up children please be aware of diversions and possible delays.

**PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN THE SCHOOL BUS BAYS AT ANY TIME OF DAY & ESPECIALLY AT THE BEGINNING AND END OF THE DAY WHEN CHILDREN ARE ARRIVING AND LEAVING BY SCHOOL BUS AND TAXI.**

Please also be considerate of local residents living near both school sites and avoid parking across or obstructing access to properties, when picking up and dropping off your children.

### Headlice

It has been brought to our attention that there is a problem with head lice in school. Please check your child's hair as soon as possible, and treat if necessary.

A drop of tea tree oil on head bands or in your child's shampoo can help as a preventative measure.

Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

### Governor's 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](mailto:governors@brinkworthearldanbys.wilts.sch.uk)

### Don't forget...

to check out the Notice Board page on our website for details of local activities and events at:

[http://1222354937.web4.sitemove.co.uk/page\\_viewer.asp?page=Notice+Board&pid=108](http://1222354937.web4.sitemove.co.uk/page_viewer.asp?page=Notice+Board&pid=108)

## BRINKWORTH EARL DANBY'S SCHOOL CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

### DIARY DATES 2014/2015

#### APRIL 2015

Mon 13 Start of Term 5  
Fri 24 Y6/Y5 Bikeability – bike check. Name label on bike and helmets please.  
BEDSA Textile Recycling – 9.00am

#### MAY 2015

Mon 11 Start of SATS week  
Fri 15 BEDSA Disco – Lower School Hall  
Mon 18 Y5 Essential Cycling Skills  
Start of Y6 Residential Trip to Minehead  
Elm Class Trip to Lower Moor Farm

Thu	21	Birch Class Assembly Y2 Visit to Upper School
Fri	22	End of Term 5
Sat	30	BEDSA Ball

**HALF TERM 25<sup>th</sup> May 2015 – 29<sup>th</sup> May 2015**

**JUNE 2015**

Mon	1	Start of Term 6
Tue	2	Start of Y2 Swimming Lessons
Mon	8	Y6 Bikeability – Course A
Wed	10	Y6 Bikeability – Course A Start of Upper School Cricket
Thu	11	Hazel Class Assembly
Fri	12	PE Cluster Sports Day
Mon	15	Y6/Y5 Bikeability – Course B
Wed	17	Y6/Y5 Bikeability – Course B
Fri	19	BEDSA Textile Recycling – 9.00am Sports Day
Mon	22	Y6 Athletics Festival, Malmesbury
Tue	23	Royal Wootton Bassett Academy Transition Day
Wed	24	Royal Wootton Bassett Academy Transition Day
Thu	25	Whole School Activity- Send my Friend to School
Fri	26	NextGen Class Photos Reserve Sports Days

**JULY 2015**

Thu	2	Willow Class Production
Fri	3	Oak Class Assembly Y6 Junior Good Citizenship
Mon	6	Start of WOMAD Rehearsals
Tue	7	Malmesbury Transfer Day
Wed	8	Malmesbury Transfer Day / Brinkworth Earl Danby's Transition Day
Tue	14	Hardenhuish Transition Day WOMAD Abbey Rehearsal and Concert
Wed	15	Inter-School Cricket Event
Tue	21	End of Term 6
Wed	22	<b>TD Day – Children not in school</b>
Thu	23	WOMAD Festival

*These dates are provisional and may be subject to change*