



Newsletter

2023-2024

Issue 8 – 12th January

Believe to achieve!

'Roots will grow down into God's love to keep us strong.' – EPH 3:17

This term's value focus is Respect

Message from Mrs Walch

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy new Year! I hope that you all had a wonderful Christmas break, and that you had the chance to spend time with family and friends. As I get older, it's more and more about that for me at this time. I spent my first Christmas without my Mum, and so it was a tricky time, but made better by seeing other family and friends, who helped to cheer me up.

Mrs Cross has started her phased return to work, and will be contacting some parents for meetings in the next week or so. I visited Mrs Pocock over the Christmas holidays and she is recovering nicely. I have passed on everyone's well wishes to her, and she is grateful that so many people are thinking of her.

Today and early next week, we will be sending out some absence letters to families where attendance has dropped to below 95%. This is as part of the government's push on addressing absence in schools, and for some families, you will be invited to a school attendance meeting (SAM). This is not for us to tell you off, so please don't think that; it is a way of us chatting together about anything we can do as a team for the benefit of your child and their attendance at school. When I held these meetings last year, they were well-received and resulted in better relationships with parents and an improvement in the child's overall attendance.

I'd like to draw your attention now to the curriculum area of our website. As a staff, we spent a long time last year developing our curriculum offer, to make sure that it is right for our children, and the best it can be. We are obviously going to be tweaking this on an ongoing basis, but you will see on the subject pages what we will be teaching, and in which year group/term. I am really proud of our curriculum offer now, and also of the huge amount of work the teachers put into making it such high quality. One plea, though, in terms of the writing curriculum - if possible, please don't read the books until we have read them in class! We like to share the stories together, and make predictions, and this is harder if some children have already read the books!

Take care and God bless,

Mrs Walch



UPCOMING DATES

Monday 15th January

Deadline for Primary School Applications

Tuesday 6th February

Elm Class Assembly - 9.00am

Wednesday 7th February

Safer Internet Day

Thursday 8th February

Willow Class Assembly - 9.15am

Friday 9th February

End of Term 3

Half Term - 12.02.24-16.02.24

The Value of Respect

Respect is a really fundamental value. Many golden rules say treat others how you wish to be treated, and respect is one of our school rules because of this. Of course, it's easy to say treat others how you wish to be treated, but quite hard to live by that, so this term we will be exploring ways in which we can do this. Respecting others is a huge part of making and keeping good relationships with other people, and feeling good about ourselves.

Pupils of the week

The following children have received certificates in the last few weeks: Ellie, Jaxon, Donovan, Jack, Angus, Sage, Eve, Kingsley, Teagan, Poppy B, Jesse, Lev, Freya, Tansy, Aina, Romilly, Xanthe, Pippa H, Ferne, Isla C, Lexi, Maille, Bessie
Well done, everyone!



Spotlight on ... what to do if you're not happy

At Brinkworth Earl Danby's School, we work really hard to make sure that we do a super job for all of our children. However, sometimes things will not go quite right, and at these times we would encourage you to contact us, so that we can make sure that we can improve our service to you and to our children.

If it is a query/question about organisation, please call or email our lovely office staff. They will be able to answer straight away, or find the answer and get back to you. We aim to do this as quickly as possible, and most are done on the same day or the day after, which we pride ourselves on.

If your query/concern is work or class-related, your first port of call is to speak with the class teacher. This can be face to face or via email, on the class email addresses. They will take your comments on board and try to find a resolution. If you feel that further discussion needs to take place, or you think that the matter needs to be addressed at a higher level (if you feel your query wasn't answered), at that point you would contact me on head@brinkworthearldanbys.wilts.sch.uk or Mrs Cross on sally.cross@brinkworthearldanbys.wilts.sch.uk. To make sure that we have all of the information we need, we may organise a meeting with you, or a phone conversation, so that we can understand the issue and actions already taken, and be able to take appropriate further action.

We also welcome positive comments, so if you feel that a staff member has done a particularly good job, or your child reports that something fantastic has happened, we'd love to hear about that too!

The above information is very much about your children and their education, but please, if you are not happy for other reasons, and you just need a friendly face and a cuppa (maybe even with biscuits!), then please call/email us and speak with us. You are never alone, and you as parents are just as much a part of the BEDS family as the children are. We take our commitment to you very seriously, and while we may not be able to give advice or solve problems, we can listen, and that it sometimes the first step to making a plan yourself.

Safety Update

We had a report this week of a small child being dropped off on the fast road B4042 in the morning. It seemed that the parent was giving the child the ok to cross the road, whilst they remained inside the car. The child ran across and turned back towards Malmesbury along the verge. We take safety seriously and whilst it may not have been any of our pupils, we'd like to take the opportunity to please urge all parents to ensure that any children dropped off to catch buses are safely dropped off at the bus stops. Thank you.

Staff update

Mrs Reeves has been appointed to teach in Year 2 as Mrs Dossett left at Christmas, and is teaching full time until Mrs Cross is back to full capacity, at which point they will job share. This allows us to have continuity for the children, and will help their learning. The class have settled into the new term well, and they even had a crime scene to investigate yesterday in history!



Flooding update

I would like to thank everyone who has helped, and continues to help, with the issues we are facing with the flooding or potential flooding. Many parents have been watching out for us, or letting us know the state of the brooks, which has been really helpful. Our lovely cleaners have been putting the flood defences in place as needed, including on New Year's Eve when further floods were threatened. A big thank you also goes to Mr Ody, who has provided us with some reusable sandbags, for if we are flooded again. Thank you to everyone for helping us to stay open and safe.

Y4 Residential Trip to Braeside

We have now managed to confirm our booking with Braeside for the Y4 residential trip. The trip will take place between 13th and 15th March 2024. Previous trips to Braeside have been very successful and we will be following a similar pattern this year. A letter with details will be sent out next week with further information and a parent information evening will take place shortly.



Linking to their theme of 'How things have changed', Beech have been sorting through items to recycle.



Reusing them for junk modelling.



We even had a 114 year old vacuum cleaner!

Peripatetic Music Lessons

Swindon Music Cooperative currently have some vacancies for brass and piano lessons. Lessons can be booked directly online at: <https://swindonmusiccoop.co.uk/online-application-form/>. The new piano teacher is due to start with us soon.

**Brinkworth Earl Danby C Of E Primary
School**

**SWINDON
MUSIC
CO-OPERATIVE
LTD**

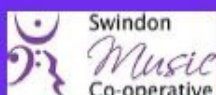
**1-1 INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC
LESSONS AT SCHOOL**

PIANO and BRASS

For more information on instrumental lessons please
contact us on 01793 781973 or email

info@swindonmusiccoop.co.uk

www.swindonmusiccoop.co.uk



Advance dates



Any updated dates in the future will be marked in red for you to be able to identify them easily..

Monday 19th February - Start of Term 4
Monday 19th February - Start of Birch Class swimming lessons
Tuesday 27th & Thursday 29th February - Parents Evenings, held at Upper Site for all classes
Tuesday 5th March - Jonathans Jungle Road Show - Lower Site - to be confirmed
Thursday 7th March - World Book Day
Wednesday 13th to Friday 15th March - Y4 Residential Trip to Braeside
Friday 15th March - Oak Class Assembly - 9.00am
Thursday 21st March - - Rowan Class Assembly - 9.15am
Tuesday 26th March - Easter Service - Whole School Day at Upper Site
Thursday 28th March - TD Day - Children not in school
Easter Holidays - 29.03.24-12.04.24
Monday 15th April - Start of Term 5
Monday 13th May - KS2 SATS week
Wednesday 15th May - Beech Class Assembly - 9.00am
Wednesday 22nd May - NextGen Class Photographs
Thursday 23rd May - Birch Class Assembly - 9.15am
Friday 24th May - End of Term 5
Half Term - 27.05.24-31.05.24
Monday 3rd June - Start of Term 6
Monday 3rd to Friday 7th June - Y6 Residential Trip to Morfabay
Thursday 20th June - Induction Meeting for Parents of new Foundation Stage children
Friday 28th June - Sports Day
Thursday 4th July - Brinkworth Earl Danby's Summer Fete - 6-8pm
Friday 5th July - TD Day - Children not in school
Thursday 11th July - Shuffle Up Day
Friday 12th July - Reserve Sports Day
Wednesday 17th July - End of Year Leavers Production - afternoon & evening performances
Thursday 18th July - Year 6 Leavers' Party
Tuesday 23rd July - Year 6 Leavers' Church Service - all of school at US in the morning
Tuesday 23rd July - End of Term 6