

NEWSLETTER

26 May 2017

This week at Fair Furlong



Year 5 to Stratford

- Year 5 had a wonderful day on Thursday visiting Stratford-Upon-Avon and learning all about how William Shakespeare and the Tudors lived. We visited his birthplace and found out that young Tudor children were strapped into bed at night to stop them getting out!



We also had a chance to do our own Shakespearian acting, went on a boat tour down the River Avon, and saw Shakespeare's 'New Place' - the house he bought when he returned to Stratford from London. The children had exemplary behavior and made all of us proud, even with the long coach journey and the hot weather! Well done all Y5!



Caribbean Breakfast & Lunch - Friday

morning the children were treated to a lovely tasty Caribbean breakfast which included plantain and malt loaf and at lunchtime they had spicy jerk chicken. It was delicious and the children (and staff!) seemed to thoroughly enjoy it!



Y4 Ancient Greek Day - On the last day of term Year 4 dresses up as Greek

gods, goddesses and even the ruler of the underworld! We researched the gods and goddesses and made Greek pots from clay! In the afternoon we played Greek games and tasted some Greek food including: vine leaves, pomegranate seeds, olives and tatziki! We have really



enjoyed learning about the Greeks and loved pretending to be them for the day! Thanks to all the families that came in to join us in the afternoon too and for all your support with the costumes.



POLLING DAY SCHOOL CLOSURE - We are sorry but because the government have called an election we have been informed that Fair Furlong will be used again as a Polling Station on Thursday 8th June. School will be closed for all pupils and we're very sorry for the inconvenience caused but it is beyond our control.

Healthy Schools Design A Healthy Dessert Competition



Caterlink the company who run our school lunches ran a competition for the children to design a healthy dessert. Thank you to everyone we really appreciate your enthusiasm. Here are the entries:

And the winners are: Kaiden and Blake Bayley who will receive a certificate and have their recipe added to the school menu.

Next term kicks off with Healthy & Safe Week - We're very pleased to let you know that on the Friday of Healthy and Safe Week (June 9th) our children will be visited by Olympic athlete Heather Fell. Heather, a modern pentathlete, won a Silver Medal in Beijing 2008 and a Gold Medal in the Rome World Championships in 2012.



All classes will complete a fun circuit with Heather when she visits. If you, friends or family would like to sponsor your child for this, please fill in the sponsorship form on the back of the newsletter with your name and donation amount. Please only let people you know sponsor children and don't allow them to collect money door-to-door. All money raised will go towards our PE activities and equipment for the children.

We thank you for your support and very much look forward to meeting Heather!

Manchester Arena

I am sure, along with us your thoughts this week, have been very much with the children, young people and families and all those affected or involved in the bombing in Manchester.

In school we have tried to deal with questions the children have had about this sensitively. We have not made it a focus for discussion or learning but made sure there has been space and time available when children have wanted to share their thoughts or comments. Generally our response has been to listen and reassure. Where there has been discussion, especially with our oldest children we have talked about how this is a very unusual and extreme event. We have also discussed how all the right people including the police are looking after the families involved and making sure it is investigated and the right things happen next. We have focused on trying to help them not worry about those involved or incidents like this.

The following website: <http://educateagainsthate.com/> is definitely worth a look if you would like some more help in answering questions and supporting your child at home with this topic. There is a section aimed specifically at parents of primary aged children with tabs with common areas of concern on you can click on for more information.

If your child exhibits particular anxiety regarding this event then do please share this with their class teacher so we can keep an extra eye after the break.



The best attendance last week went to New Forest and Brighton Pier, well done to both classes who enjoyed the party table Monday lunchtime.

Attendance



KS1 Position	Class	% Attendance	KS2 Position	Class	% Attendance
1 st	Jarvik	93.8%	1 st	Balmoral	96.9%
2 nd	New Forest	93.7%	2 nd	Caernarfon	96%
3 rd	Fingal's Cave	93.3%	3 rd	Tintagel	95.2%
3 rd	Penzance	93.3%	4 th	Stonehenge	92.7%
5 th	Glastonbury	88.7%	5 th	Forest of Dean	92.4%
6 th	Ullswater	87.3%	6 th	Brighton Pier	92%
			7 th	Snowdon	88.8%
			8 th	Balmoral	88%

Attendance	Comment
99% - 100%	Outstanding
97% - 98%	Excellent
95% - 96%	Great (School attendance target is 95%)
93% - 94%	Satisfactory
Less than 93%	Must do better



Would you like to have your say about homework?

We are looking for some parent volunteers to come and work with our governors to decide how we approach homework from next September. If you are interested in coming to contribute your ideas please register your interest in the school office by the end of term. The meeting will be on the morning of 12th June.

Fun in the Playground - This week we've had some new playground



equipment delivered which was at the request of the children following a recently completed playground survey.



Merit awards awarded for outstanding achievement during Term 5:



Enthusiasm: Roxanne Hazel; Darcey Mountain; Mason Spencer; Samantha Sherwell; Mason Swatton; Lucas Dumphy; Nathan Powell; Kian Talbot

Challenge: Ruby-Mae Mosby; Olivia Leaman; Brooke Money; Chloe Chant; Sophie Griffin

Trust: Liam Bateman; Faith Rhodes

Respect: Ashton Trott



AWARDS: Maths Badges: Ashlee Neale; Beau Lilley; Payton McGill; Zak Barnes; Anthony Moseley; Shelly Skinner; Casey Parker; Alfie Horlock; Rylie Corfe; Kyle Williams; Keigan Harding; Lashonda Burke; Rihanna Dibble; Crystal Coggins; Mitchell Phipps; Lily Brace; Lily Bourton; Lily-Grace Beacham; Layla Sherwell; Millie James

Spelling Badges: Callum Evans; Molly Fry; Jimi Malin; Ellis Bewick; Bella Godfrey; Keigan Harding; Adam Naser; Jake Pullin; Riley Slane; Roxie Weaver; Layla Sherwell; Tyler Brunsdon; Victoria Grzeszczuk; Kaylan Nichols; Aiden Viner; Grayson Wooten; Kyle Williams; Lola Collins; Zosia Radziewicz; Harrison Weber; Beau Lilley; Ella Steadman; Max Matlacki; Lewis Priddis; Melissa Pfister; Ian Brugora; Zak Barnes; Liam Bateman; Ava Fry; Lacie Perryman; Leo James

Bronze Awards: Ford Griffin; Ella Steadman; Reisha Davis; Talia Thomas; Mia Hatchett; Riley Wescott; Riley Cummings; **Silver Awards:** Tilly White; Lacie Perryman; Freya Grist; Ava Fry; Shayly Davis; Oliver Naser; Ryan Naser; Shayden Henry; Kaleb Barnes; Mia Gurstzyn; Cooper Wiltshire; Lily Watts; Becca Evans; Cherise Thomas; Liam Souch; Jack Doyle

Gold Awards: Damilola Akinbo; Chloe Summers; Madison Banfield; Kiera Pullin; Lashonda Burke; Mitchell Lewis; Navaya Devey; Neyasha Henry; Conner Priddis; Ashton Haddow; Ruby Talbot; Ruby Portingale; Kaiden Bayly

Readers of the Term & received an Amazon voucher: Cameron Swatton; Jesse Hoare; Zachary Campho-Smith; Amelie Sanderson; Neave Bird; Riley Slane; Woody Jewell; Ellie-Mae Gill; Millie James; Jake Jones; Lily-Grace Beacham; Kacey Carpenter; Damilola Akinbo; Cassie Hollis

Lunchtime Legends: YI Glastonbury

Homework Heroes: Portia Nash; Layla Sherwell; Jagoda Jastrzebska; April Kissoon; Max Matlacki.

Golden Good Manners Table: Leisha Thatcher; Cassie Hollis; Shannon Storr; Aiorus Udra; Oliver Naser

Menu for the week beginning 5 June 2017 - Week 3:

Monday: Ham & pineapple pizza : cheese & tom pizza : salad bar

Tuesday: Roast turkey & roast pots : vegetable wraps

Wednesday: Meatballs: Jacket pots with cheese & beans : salad bar

Thursday: Roast chicken & roast pots : vegetarian wellington

Friday: Fish fingers & chips : cheese & pot swirls : salad bar

School Dinners - As from the 1st of June Caterlink has raised the cost of a school lunch to £2.05.

Merchants' Academy staff will be here from 3.15pm on Wednesday June 14 for year 6 children to try on and order uniform.



Adult Use of Facebook

Over recent weeks there have been multiple incidences of the school in general and school adults being talked about in abusive terms on social media pages.

Firstly, we would like to say a huge thank you to the large number of parents who have posted positive comments in response to this thoughtless criticism.

All the staff who work here care very much about every single child here and the reputation of our school. However, we are realistic and we know we do not get everything right 100% of the time. We feel that it would be impossible for any school to make such a claim. However, we really do do our best and it's certainly not from the want of trying.

We would ask that people consider very carefully before posting a comment on social media. Unlike a private conversation that you might have with a friend an online post is written and despite your privacy settings inevitably finds its way to multiple other people and more than likely to the individuals that are being criticised.

If you have concerns or complaints then do please come and see us. We have a really good track record of resolving issues for families. We may not be able to report back to you individually on cases ongoing investigation particularly when they don't pertain to yourself. However, this does not mean that the information you have shared has been ignored. It may well be that we are in conversation with the police, social services and other agencies but in those cases it would definitely not be appropriate for us to share that information with you.

Our questionnaire surveys, the wonderful comments we receive from our families and visitors all give testament to the vast majority of people being extremely happy with our school and staff support for children. Unfortunately, it is the 1% of people who tend to make the most noise and attract negative publicity for the school, so once again, we really appreciate those of you who share your positive views to counteract this.

If particular families continue to be dissatisfied then they are of course entitled to transfer their child to a new school. We are the only LA maintained primary school in the immediate area. For transfer to a maintained school families would need to complete a mid-year transfer form which is available on the Bristol City Council website or the school office will be happy to help. To transfer one of the local academies then you would have to approach the school direct because they handle their admissions independently.

Thank you for your support in this matter – we really do value the warm and productive relationship we have with our families. By working together we know we can achieve the best experience at the school for your children and ensure that all adults conduct themselves in a professional manner.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 5 June	Term 6 starts
Monday 5-9 June	Healthy & Safe Week
Thursday 8 June	Polling Day - School Closed for everyone
Wednesday 14 June	Merchants' Academy here for uniform ordering
Monday 3 July	Phase 3 Sports Morning
Tuesday 4 July	Phase 2 Sports Morning
Thursday 6 July	Reprts home
Friday 7 July	Inset Day
Tuesday 11 July	Y4/5/6 Performance
Wednesday 12 July	Y4/5/6 Evening
Monday 17 July	Open / World day
Thursday 20 July	Last day of Term 6 (Friday 21 July Inset day - school closed to pupils)

Inset days for school year 17/18

4 & 5 September all children back Wednesday 6 Sep

Tuesday 2 January

Monday 23 Tuesday 24 July - Friday 20 July last day of term



Letters this week - Y6 Life Skills

This week was *Mathletics week* which meant our Olympic Mathletes were at your school. We had a parachute, some beach balls and even some football. It was an unbelievable week! This week everything was sports related as we took our maths adventures to a whole new level! Our Olympic Mathletes came dressed in their sports gear...these guys are so sporty they make Jess Ennis and Mo Farrah look like a pair of pensioners who brought stilettos instead of trainers to a work-out!

Here's what the children did: Parachute Games - After hearing "parachute games", the children were very relieved to find out they weren't going to be jumping out of a plane this week. (Our 'Magical Maths Plane' is currently undergoing repairs...maybe next time!) Rather, they'd be holding an edge of our giant parachute and answering maths related questions. We have many activities that we play with this. The first is numbering the children with certain numbers (these can be small if we want an easier game, or larger for a harder game). We then ask the group questions, and if your number is the answer you must run under the parachute to the other side! - We then add in large foamy dice to make things more interesting, and play a 'number patterns' game where we number the children in a pattern, they close their eyes while one child goes under the parachute, and when they open them they decide as a group which number is missing.

We have quite a variety of activities to make sure they are appropriate for each year group. Great stuff! Beach Ball Maths - Standing in a circle, a beach ball is

thrown into the air. Children must catch it, and then see where their thumbs land on the ball. There are different numbered regions on the ball, so the activity leader will then shout an instruction and the child must answer it. It could be as simple as "add your numbers together"

or, it could be harder "multiply your numbers together, and subtract the number of legs on a cow" - or, perhaps "subtract your numbers, and name a shape with that many sides"

As always, questions are appropriate for all ages. Reception children get more basic questions than the year twos, and Key Stage 2 get different questions again. **Goal** - We had a (foot)ball with this game today! The children have to split into pairs to play a football based board game against each other. They pick teams, roll the dice and have to solve the sum given to them in the top corner of their board. Each correct answer gets them closer to their opponent's goal...and the player with the most goals at the end wins. |Key Stage 1's must recall and use addition facts to 20 fluently, and recall and use multiplication/division facts for the 2, 5 and 10 times tables. Key Stage 2's must recall and use multiplication facts for the times tables up to 12×12 . For those mini maths genius', we have goal boards with multiples of 13, 15, 20 and 50. It was a tense game for each year group, but our final winners did mathematically well. Well done guys!

It was an absolutely cracking week this week. Only problem is, we're aching now...they wore us out! Look forward to seeing everyone again next week, Emil Dowdeswell, Head of looking after worn out staff. 01174058118 P.S. Next week is 'mind boggling puzzles' week. Seriously, these puzzles are TOUGH! Make sure the children bring their thinking cap!