



## Term Three Newsletter 2013

Dear Parents and Friends,

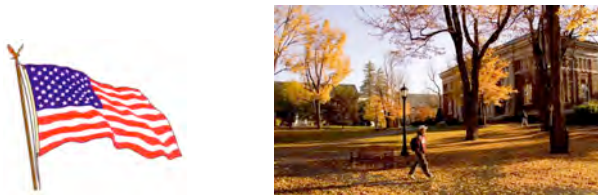
Congratulations to Cheryl and Tim Cook on the safe arrival of Daisy, a sister for Noah and Jesse!

We have said goodbye to Mrs Book PGCE trainee teacher from Bath Spa University, who has been working with children and teachers in Class Five this term. She has had a very successful experience and we wish her all the best in her future career.

### International Visitors



We have enjoyed a visit from Anna Mestre, and Laura Barastegui from the University of Vic in Catalonia, Spain. They are preparing to teach English in Primary Schools in Catalonia and have been with us for three weeks. They have been very interested in the English education system and have worked very enthusiastically in classes. They gave a memorable assembly about life in Vic.



A warm welcome to Sarah Kornacki from Bates College, Maine, USA. Ms Miller will be with us most Tuesdays from 5<sup>th</sup> February until 7<sup>th</sup> May. Bates College was founded in 1855 by abolitionists. Sarah is on the Advanced Studies in England course which is based in Bath. We are always pleased to have visitors from abroad to build links with the wider world.

A warm welcome to our trainee teachers from Bath Spa University; Mr Flynn in Class Two, Ms Bluck in Class Three, Ms Mulcahy in Class Four and Ms Morris in Class Five. They will be with us one day per week until the last week of April.

### New Class

The school is beginning the process of recruitment for our new class. The new Class Five will arrive this coming September and be based in the classroom next to Mrs. Edmund's in the Elliot mobile classrooms. It will initially be a Y4/5 class. Mrs. Edmund will teach Class Six which will be a Y5/6 Class. Bath is an attractive area to teachers and we are anticipating getting significant interest in the post.

### Snow Fun!

The children greatly enjoyed the snow which fell in mid-January. They made the most of having a field of snow at school to explore and play in, building the usual snow men and women. There was a surprising craze for snow chairs and at least one snow fort!



### Entrance Exams

Well done to the Year Six children who took entrance exams to various independent schools, and passed. We have had some very positive comments about our pupils from King Edwards and Prior Park Schools.

It is also a real pleasure to hear from Bathampton children who left last July and are doing well at the new schools. A number of parents have mentioned that their children are enjoying Secondary School and doing well academically, often being placed in the top sets.



On Friday 1<sup>st</sup> February Class Four had an Action Aid morning. The children wrote to Sue afterwards thanking her for the workshop. Evie wrote 'My favourite part of the morning was when we dressed up. I loved the clothes that I wore'. William enjoyed the 'brilliant slideshow about the village of Chembakolli and about how the villagers live in the forest'. Lizzie enjoyed making garlands, and was interested to know how villagers make real ones out of flowers. Rebecca was surprised how long a sari was when unrolled, and now feels that she knows a lot about India.



### Wessex Water Workshop



On the 7<sup>th</sup> of February 2013, Class Five had a visit from Gillian Smith, who works at Wessex Water. Some people may not have heard of Wessex Water but there is an HQ in Combedown.

At this workshop, Gillian taught us about the water cycle; how to conserve water and showed us about Sewage waste, by making something called "Sewage Soup". Finally, we performed a "Flush or Bin" experiment about how a toilet flushes. We had a great morning and learnt lots about water.

By Luke Bundy and Olly Howard

### Hannah King in Kenya



In January 2013 Hannah King, a past Dance Teacher at our school, is doing some life changing work in Kilifi on the coast in Kenya for three months. She will be working in Kalifi Primary School and Kalifi School for the Deaf. On 22<sup>nd</sup> February we will have a Mufti Day to raise money for Hannah and the school.



### Awards for All Equipment in School



The children will soon have an opportunity to try out our amazing new play equipment bought with the 'Awards 4 All' funding that Emma Naysmith won. Poddely is designed to give children the freedom to learn through imaginative play, and is especially helpful for maths, science and design technology. The set includes a colourful variety of cubes, prisms, interlocking tiles, chutes, light filters and other accessories to encourage creative play and learning across the curriculum. The equipment is based in a large storage pod with lockable wheels and a waterproof cover.



We also have a fun solar powered stop clock by the field for races and maths investigations.

## Cracking New Books!



We are about to get a real boost to our stock of reading books.

We are buying sets of Pearson Bug Club books which will stretch from Reception to Year Six, and will include a wide range of good fiction and non-fiction books, some graphic novels and a smattering of e-books. The new books use modern and well known characters such as Wallace and Gromit. This will improve and expand our reading scheme, giving the children more variety, also increasing our colour band system. The Friends have generously contributed £2262.47 and with government match funding and a good deal from Pearson we will get over £4,000 worth of new books with the Friends' donation.

On behalf of the school staff and children I would like to thank the Friends and everyone who has given generously to Friends events.

## Dress up for World Book Day 2013



On Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March we are celebrating World Book Day. We would like to invite your child to dress up as a book character. Any character will do!

It's just for fun. No money need change hands!

## Sport and Fitness

Congratulations to Lottie Millhouse and William Metcalfe who have been invited onto the Gifted and Talented PE course run by our local cluster of schools. They will have the opportunity to attend five sessions at St Marks, from which some of the group will go on to the Bath University Easter School

## Safeguarding

In order to protect the children effectively we are always looking at ways to improve security. From the start of Term 4 we are going to ask visitors to use a lanyard with a visitors' badge to make these more visible. We will also be asking parents who bring children in late and who wish to take them to class to wear a lanyard to ensure consistency.



A polite reminder that no vehicles are permitted to stop within the area of the markings during the times and dates the restriction is in force, even for picking up or setting down of passengers. A person has been observed parking on the zigzag lines and even doing a three point turn outside the school which is highly dangerous.

It is also important that the double yellow lines near the bridge are respected as this helps keep the children safe.

Finally could dogs be kept clear of the gate to avoid worrying children. Many thanks!

## Sainsbury's School Vouchers



Families have kindly donated these vouchers in the past and the company is running the deal again this year from now until 22<sup>nd</sup> May.

**We are having a real focus on punctuality after the holidays and will be trying to ensure that no child is consistently late!**

**Please give children the best chance of succeeding by making sure they are in school on time!**



## Diary Dates

Please transfer these dates to your diaries and calendars! This especially applies to INSET Days. We rely on parents doing this in order to be prepared for what is coming up!

### February 2013

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup>** End of Term 3

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup>** Start of Term 4

Official Opening of the New Playground Equipment  
& Start of Parent/teacher interview fortnight

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup>** Friends' Meeting 9.00 a.m.

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup>** Mufti Day (£1.00 per family) in aid of Hannah King and Kalifi School in Kenya

### March

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup>** Class Three Anglo- Saxon morning  
& Friends' Quiz Night

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup>** Recorder Music Celebration @ Moorlands

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup>** World Book Day: **Dress up as a Book Character!**

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup>** Class Four Indian Feast  
& Class Five Cross Country @ St Marks

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup>** Ms Johnson returns

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup>** Dance Umbrella @ The Forum

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup>** Red Noses welcome!

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup>** Class Four to Dry Arch

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>** Easter Service 9.30 a.m.  
(Confirmed)

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup>** End of Term 4

### April

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup>** Start of Term 5

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup>** French Pen Pals in school all day

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup>** Penpals get together @ The George

### May

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup>** Bank Holiday

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup>** May Y6 SATS Week All children must be in school. (No sleepovers please in the week prior to the 13<sup>th</sup>)

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup>** September 2013 Intake Parents Meeting 6.45 for 7.00 p.m.

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup>** Class Photos

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup>** End of Term 5

### June

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup>** INSET Day 4

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup>** Start of Term 6 for children

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup>** Class Two Singing Event

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup>** Open Morning

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup>** Science Day: Forces

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup>** Tagtails Tournament @ Home

**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup>** Class Five 'Tennis-Cricket' @ St Marks

### July

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup>** Sport's Day (Option One)

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup>** Class Five to Lifeskills Centre

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup>** Secondary Invasion Day/ School Induction Afternoon

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup>** Sports Day (Option Two)

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup>** Optional parent/ teacher interview opportunities if required after school

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup>** End of Term 6 for children

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup>** INSET Day 5



