



Dear Parents and Friends,

Changes



Afon Edwards brought in a very special visitor recently. His new sister, Elvie Rose, was born in the Easter holidays. Afon is a very proud big brother. Congratulations to parents Tom and Wendy and sister Shosha!

We are delighted to have made a series of appointments recently; as previously announced but to recap, in September Mrs Lake will be our new Deputy Head teacher, Mr Leonardi will be teaching in Class Five, and we have also appointed Mrs Hoskin as 0.5 Maternity Cover teacher for Class One. We have not yet completed our recruitment for the new KS1 teacher. I am grateful to the staff and Governor team who helped with these appointments.

Open letter from Ms Johnson.

*My recent sabbatical from school has provided an invaluable opportunity to reflect on life. After twenty three and a half fulfilling years at Bathampton, I believe that now is the right time to have a change of direction.*

*These days, it seems to be very much in vogue to announce one's 'retirement'. Like certain sporting celebrities, I too want to 'go out at the top' whilst also putting some of my skills to good use in the years ahead. I hope to be able to continue to inspire and share my musical passions with others so don't be surprised if you hear of my continued (part-time) involvement in music education. It will be good to enjoy a less frenetic pace of life whilst pursuing current and new interests in greater depth!*

*As Bathampton School 'grows' and with the advent of a revised curriculum, I believe that this is the ideal time to make way for others to take up these exciting challenges.*

*Sincere thanks to all of you who have spoken in person to me recently; many of you have made me feel quite emotional. Your support over the years is indicative of the community spirit that is such a feature of Bathampton School.*

BATHAMPTON PRIMARY SCHOOL notice

This is to confirm that on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2013 the proposal to expand Bathampton Primary school was approved. The reasons and main factors for the decision include as follows:

The school has good educational standards with an OFSTED rating of Outstanding and is popular with parents. Creating additional places in this school with proven good standards will make it possible for more parents to access this high quality education for their children.

Success in Year 7

It is always a pleasure to hear about the successes of our leavers. Lorenzo Montani and Elise Maylor, who left Bathampton last year, have both done very well in their first year at King Edward's School. They received the distinction of getting a 'Headmaster's Commendation' for 'working to a very high standard in every subject'. The Head's letter praises their 'committed, diligent and successful approach which has resulted in a super academic report'

It was a pleasure to have a visit from ex-pupil Millie Romer and her parents recently. Millie had a chance to say goodbye to Rosie, the Guinea Pig she gave to the school, before Rosie passed away during half term. Now we need to find a new companion for Poppy!

Key Dates

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June Main Open Day 9.15

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July Summer Fair

# French Visit

On Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April we were visited by pupils, parents and staff from The Lime Tree School, Ville France. It was very exciting for the children to meet the penpals that they had been writing to for some time.



After a tour of the school the French children practised their English by giving a fascinating presentation about their school and surrounding area.



There was a Tag Rugby session led by two coaches from Bath Rugby. A picnic lunch in the school field gave the penpals an opportunity to chat.

The afternoon walk saw the children, in the company of Class Five, being taken for a walk around Bathampton; meanwhile the school hall was being converted into a tea house by parent helpers. Parents had been busy cooking and had provided cakes and scones.



As the French children, their parents and penpals filed back into the school hall they were confronted with tables laden down with a “real English Afternoon Tea”.



Outside, at the back of the school, the grounds were full of children who had been invited to “stay and play” and they were doing just that under the eye of some friendly members of staff. Activities on offer included football, Poddley and crafts.



No trip to England is complete without a visit to the pub and the following day a large number of Bathampton parents and children met with our visitors for an evening at The George. There was an opportunity to try out our language skills and some parents ended up exchanging contact details. This photo was taken after many of the families had left!

Here are some comments from our French friends

Aude's mum.

After a wonderful day together in your school, I'm going to keep a special memory of the warm welcome that we received, smiles on everyone faces, English pupils' discipline and respect for each other with calm and enthusiasm. Each moment was an enriching experience full of emotion.

I'm sure that my daughter Lise will remember this day for the rest of her life.

Lise's mum.

I'm going to have the image of children from both sides of the Channel playing together in a beautiful English school. What a great image.

Valérie, Sacha's mum

It made us want to come and live here: the welcome was so warm, the school has a perfect mix of learning and fun (une école ou se mêle le savoir faire et le savoir être) ... and the sun.

Axelle's mum

What we remember from this trip is the warm welcome from the teachers and the children. We fell in love with the English school system and the freedom of the children in the playground, their respect to others, how they welcomed our children to go and play with them. It was very moving to see the ease with which our children played with their penfriends and to see how overjoyed they were at meeting each other, the lack of language was no barrier.

Anne-Edith and Hervé: Julia's parents

#### Head's View

From my perspective I was struck by the amazing way that the school community seemed to reach out so warmly to our visitors and did everything possible to make the experience a success.

Congratulations and thanks to Ms Ovigne and to Joanne Leroux of the Lime Tree School for organising the visit and thanks also to the staff, children and parents for helping to make the visit so successful. An outstanding effort!

#### Henry VIII Visit



Class Three had a special visitor to culminate their work on the Tudors, namely Henry VIII! True to form, Henry was exceedingly large, rather loud and a little scary.

First he told the children his life story, including the amazing set of events that led him to the throne. Next he talked about his wives, including telling us who was his favourite and then he completed his talk by revealing how he spent his later years.

After break the children presented Henry with a Tudor dance. Henry, not to be out-done followed this up with a rendition of Greensleeves (telling us that he didn't compose it after all) from his authentic Tudor Recorder. Next we had a quick demonstration of Tudor Jousting. An amazing degree of dexterity was shown by Cameron S., Alex K. and Woody who just claimed victory against the girls Maria, Lee and Isabelle.

The morning was completed by a short question and answer session. The children had thought of questions already which included: Who was your best friends? Where were you born in England? Did you ever get hurt? All in all it proved to be an extremely interesting and entertaining morning.

#### History comes to life @ Holburne Museum



Class Three has an amazing trip to the Holburne Museum and had an opportunity to try out some period costumes.

*Class Four trip to Kev and Cathy's smallholding*

Class Four have visited the local smallholding at Candywood Leys. Visits are pitched at different educational levels with "hands on" livestock learning for the youngsters through to "off-grid technology" for the upper years. Look out for Cathy with her petition at the school gate next term. Parents may wish to support her in providing what is for us a valuable educational resource.

*Where does our food come from?*



Class Two paid a visit to the Dry Arch project on 16th April. Whilst there, the children looked at the food growing in the field and polytunnel. They were kept busy planting butternut squash and dwarf beans and clearing an area of ground of stones so that it is ready for planting. The children really enjoyed cooking in the open air and baking focaccia in the clay oven. The trip was possible due to the kind help of Tania Orgill, Emma McGuiness, Lenka Caine and Hannah Isaac (who prepares the gardening things on a Sunday for school visits).

*Class One are full of beans!*



Class One has been learning about growing this term. We have had lots of fun planting a variety of seeds and watching them grow. We have also been looking at the story of Jack and the Beanstalk. We have acted it out, used puppets and made up dances. They have also had challenges to create beanstalks using a range of equipment.

Class One have also been having lots of fun in 'Letters and Sounds'. We have been writing and using our sounds in wonderful ways! We have written with a wide range of fun materials, we have even been writing in glitter!

*Dinosaur revived in 2D Shapes*



Class Two have been enhancing their understanding of 2d shapes by creating Poddley dinosaurs in the playground, and indoors as well!

*Lace making*



Did you know that we have twelve children learning lace making? Mrs Huntley has over thirty six years experience and has been teaching adults and children for twenty five years. The children usually make simple Tape Lace pictures, but soemtimes progress onto geometric Torchon Lace which has more complex stitiches. The children comment that its fun and exciting but takes lot of patience.



*Accident Forms*

We are aiming to slightly reduce the number of accident forms we send out this term. It has been identified that sending slips for very trivial accidents makes it harder to spot patterns. We will continue sending slips for bumps on the head or more serious knocks and bruises.

# New Pond

## Parent power



On Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> of April a truly amazing bunch of parents turned up and got dug into the task of creating a new pond. As the photos make clear it was a challenging task with some tough digging, clearing and heaving of materials. Emma Naysmith and Tania Orgill had agreed the design, and everything went according to plan, with some expert adaptations by Dan Hedges to ensure the safety grid levels were correct.



The old pond was drained and cleared after some backbreaking and mucky work and is now ready to be landscaped into a quiet garden for imaginative play and relaxation.

The new pond is now filled with water and finished. The shape will soften as plants grow and as the marsh area fills with plants. There are now frog and toad tadpoles (released by Class One) and water snails. Parents Pip Knight, Jenny Franks, Emma Naysmith and Tania have kindly donated items for the pond. Tania is planning to plant a few of the free trees from Woodland Trust between the fence and the pond.

The children who came and helped got a chance to drive around the field in the back of a pickup belonging to Matt (Wilf Warren's dad).



## Head's view

We want children to experience freedom to explore and moments of awe and wonder and this should get more fascinating as the pond matures. Seeing groups of children kneeling by the edge of the pond at break times now is a real delight. Thanks to everyone who helped in any way for giving our children an inspiring place that will be there for years to come.



## Anti-Bullying Certificate and letter

*Mrs Skurczyński kindly sent me the report from your School Council meeting on March 5<sup>th</sup> and I was really interested to hear about all the work you have been doing on your treasure boxes and gems, with the help of Mr and Mrs Huntley.*

*It was lovely to receive a photo of you all with the Treasure Boxes and I really liked your ideas about how to use them, for example using the little plastic skulls for poor behaviour and stressing the importance of teamwork and positive behaviour.*

*I am enclosing a certificate for you all to acknowledge all your hard work.*

*Well done to all of you for such great ideas and brilliant anti-bullying work*

*Best wishes Kate Murphy*

Chair of the B&NES Anti-Bullying Strategy Group

## BATHAMPTON BRILLIANCE



Here is a taste of a longer match report concerning a match against Bathford by Ollie Howard who has a career as a sports journalist ahead of him!

Bathampton beat Bathford in dramatic style, here's what happened.

In the first ten minutes of the game, there were some good chances, Luke made a terrific save after diving on to the ball with three players running on to it. At last the deadlock was broken, Olly put through Tom with a stunning through ball and he coolly finished.

Not so long after that, Bathford put off an attack, the player made a stunning pass and with no hesitation, the striker scored into the far corner with perfection.

After that, Bathampton had a throw quite near the 18 yard box. The long throw master Will threw the ball just outside the box and Olly calmly hit it to the bottom corner. Then, the half time whistle blew. After some good advice at half time, Bathampton started brightly

Bathampton started well when Florian made a key pass to Will, he slipped, but that didn't stop him striking it beautifully into the top corner.

Bathampton held on for a long time with Jim, Jamie, Adanna and Davide making some excellent clearances. ...

Bathford didn't have much time to score so the final whistle blew. Bathampton heads were held high after a dramatic victory.

Reported by Olly Howard

Ms Ovigne watched and thought it was the best Bathampton game she has seen. She thought the children played brilliantly as a team and made her feel very proud. She was particularly struck by Adanna, who is currently our only girl team member. She made a great contribution to the game in defence and attack.

### *Up and coming footballers*



This team played against Swainswick on 1st May and did really well.

### *KwikCricket*



On Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May, Bathampton Primary School participated in a Kwik Cricket Tournament. Our first game was against St Stephen's B where unfortunately, we lost 226-237. Our other three games were quite successful; we beat Peasedown St John B and Westfield; however our defeat was against 2012 champions Saltford A. We advanced into the quarter-finals and played Peasedown St John A. Once again, we beat them narrowly. Then we went into the semi-finals and played Trinity. We lost by 2 runs by a decision. Everybody played really well. Thank you to Will, Davide, Olly, William, Florian, Jude, Lucas, Noah, Sacha and Neo.

Report by Olly Howard and Davide Montani

## Year Two Skills



On Monday 20th May the children in Y2 went to St Marks School to participate in an afternoon of fun, multiskills activities organised by Brendan Rouse and Steve Leonard, PE teacher at St Marks. These involved golf putting, ball kicking and a fun obstacle course, amongst others. The children had a fantastic time and one of our teams came third in the overall competition. This yearly event is always worth attending and we look forward to joining our cluster schools for forthcoming events for the KS2 children.

## Rugby Most Improved



Well done to Gus Disney who was the Bath Rugby Under 8's most improved player for 2012-13.



## Rugby Scholarship

It was a thrill to hear that ex-pupil Charlie Howard was won a rugby scholarship to Millfield School where he will join Max Knight who won a scholarship to the prep school last year. Charlie will have an opportunity to experience focused rugby coaching and develop his skills. We already have two ex-pupils who have played for Bath Rugby with the Lilley brothers Mark and Sean, Charlie is a highly committed player and a name to watch out in the future.

## PE Kit

A reminder that children need their PE kit in school every day. We are keen to use the field so children will need suitable outdoor shoes such as trainers.

# Diary Dates

## June

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup>** Martial Arts demo by Mike Ball

& Class One to Warleigh Lodge Farm

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup>** Class Two to Candywood Leys Smallholding

& First Reception 2013 afternoon visit

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup>** Class Five to Candywood Leys Smallholding

& Class Four Dance in School Hall

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup>** Class Two Singing Event @ Widcombe Infant School a.m.

& Bathampton Choir to Bath Schools Music Event @ The Forum (Rhyme, Rhythm, Rock and Roll) Time to be confirmed

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

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup>** Year One Phonics Screening Week

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup>** Class Three Birds of Prey visit

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

& PGCE Students complete placement

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup>** Year 3 and 4 Tagtails Tournament @ Home

& Class Five to Dry Arch & last swimming session

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

& School Council Reps to Primary Parliament @ Guildhall

& Class Four to George Field

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup>** Outdoor Maths Morning

**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup>** Class Two to Wookey Hole

### July

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

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

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> Second New Intake evening meeting  
6.45 for 7.00

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

& Possible Class Four assembly 9.15 (TBC)

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup>** Class Three to Bristol Zoo

& Class Five to King Edwards School Workshops

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup>** Summer Fair 2-6 p.m.

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

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup>** Orchestra Concert after school 3.30 -  
4.14 in School Hall

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

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 11<sup>th</sup>** Performance of  
'Zoom'

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup>** Class Three to Victoria Art Gallery

& KS2 Disco (Y3,4,5 &6) 4- 5.30 p.m.

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup>** Leaver's Service 9.30 a.m.

**End of Term 6 for children**

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

St Nicholas Holiday Club again this year at  
church, Tuesday 23rd July to Friday 26th July.

First two 2012-13 INSET Days Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> and  
Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September

Year 1 and above start school on Wednesday  
4<sup>th</sup> September

Reception children start on Monday 9<sup>th</sup>  
September

School dates online at

[www.bathampton.bathnes.sch.uk/calendar](http://www.bathampton.bathnes.sch.uk/calendar)

A reminder that the Mobile Library visits the  
village every other Thursday. They are keen  
that we use this superb facility! Next two visits  
are 13<sup>th</sup> June and 27<sup>th</sup> June.



Love the  
new pond.  
Thanks  
guys!