



Dear Parents and Friends,

I hope that you are enjoying the variable October weather.

Changes

A warm welcome to some new members of staff. Jenny Andreadelis, mother of Marilie, is now working with us four lunchtimes a week as a SMSA. Jenny has worked as a teacher of English in Greece.

We have also increased our teaching assistant support by appointing Rebecca Davies and Kerry Kelley who will work four mornings between them. Rebecca was a parent at this school before moving to New Zealand and training as a teacher. On her return she has worked at a local school supporting children one to one and in small groups. Kerry has recently taken a NVQ and has experience of supporting children in a range of schools.

Real new arrivals

Welcome to two special new arrivals to this amazing world of ours. Amelia is the sister of Matthew and Harry and daughter of Michael and Debbie. She was born on Friday 20th September. A day later Robert Evans arrived, brother to Polly and son of Mrs Evans and her husband Tom. Congratulations to both families!

Congratulations

On the theme of new arrivals I would like congratulate Mrs Edmund and her husband James on the news that they are expecting a baby. The stork is due to arrive in March. Max is very excited!

Class Six parents and children can be reassured that as usual we will take great care over our recruiting to ensure that the transition is smooth and positive.

Our First Term



It's been a real pleasure to see the new Reception children in Class One gain confidence as they get used to being in school.



Thank You!



A huge thank you to everyone who helped the Friends with their fund-raising this year. Thanks to their generous gift of £3,000 we now have one visualiser and one ipad for each class. These will help make learning even more exciting and relevant.



I am deeply grateful to James Nash who has given many hours of his time to create a beautiful new prospectus for the school. James worked very closely with school staff to develop a prospectus that truly captures the feel of the school. Thanks also to professional photographer Neil Griffiths who took some of the photographs and to Dr Austen who worked on the text. James is now working on our school website which should be online before Christmas.

New School Council



Our newly elected School Council made an enthusiastic start as they gathered for their first meeting on Monday 17th September. Ursula Franks, Louis Bush, Freya Millhouse, Beaujan Archer, Mollie Richardson, Ollie Kohut, Matilda Ward, Noah Turner, Orson Oliver and Anna Treharne were all elected by their classes.



Many thanks to last year's Council who completed their term of office by giving our new representatives a warm welcome and awarding them their School Council badges.

The Council have started with the project of transforming our IT Suite into 'The Discovery Room'. This project is led by Parent Governor Dr Helen Sheppard and the children contributed some excellent ideas including Freya's suggestion to create a display of different stones, rocks and fossils, Others wanted a historical timeline of Kings and Queens and liked the idea of having a model of the solar system.

We want to have an engaging room in which children are encouraged to marvel at the wonders of the world, to explore the past and to learn about explorers, scientists and inventors. In short, to become the sort of people who help create the future. As part of this project some children who have demonstrated exceptional curiosity will be invited to join the 'Discovery Club' led by Helen.

I am grateful to Iain and Frances Robertson for a leaving gift that will enable us to buy

some encyclopaedias for the Discovery Room.

Visits and Visitors

Big Ted



On Monday 7th October Big Ted visited the school to remind children about his Wigs and Hats day. He was introduced to each class. Thanks to Governor Steve Treharne for encouraging Big Ted to come to the school!

French Visit

On Tuesday 15th October Anne Bertinchamps from Poitiers brought a group of teenagers to visit the school. They are learning to be teaching assistants in France, and worked with children in two classes.

Royal High Author visit



It is always good to hear an inspiring speaker and our Year Six girls enjoyed visiting the Royal High to hear David Almond, author of 'The Boy Who Swam with Piranhas'. The Royal High Registrar Lynda Bevan gave them a short tour. She was impressed by the girls and described them as 'inquisitive and confident'.



I am grateful to Pari and Gill who took our young people.

Celtic Hill Fort



On Friday 27th September Class Four put on their walking boots and climbed Solsbury Hill while travelling 'back to Celtic times'. Olivia described the 'dark woods, narrow paths and open fields with clover and flowers. Pelagia wrote that she felt 'super tired' after the climb, but also proud.

Lots of children enjoyed the view from the top. Maria enjoyed looking for Celtic artefacts, and the moment when they thought another tribe was coming to attack them. Mollie enjoyed seeing her class so happy, and learnt that it is good to have layers when walking so you don't get too hot. The children had to work hard to make the descent but had an amazing experience!

Roman Baths



Class Four have been studying the Romans. As part of their topic they visited The Roman Baths on Monday 21st October. The class thoroughly enjoyed dressing up as Romans, designing mosaics and handling two thousand year old artefacts. The class were impressed with the many baths and the great statues. Class Four had great fun dressing up as Romans.



Fergus designed a mosaic whilst at The Roman Baths

The Toy's Party

Class One have been getting to know the Oxford Reading Tree story characters whilst reading "The Toy's Party". In the story, Kipper makes an amazing cake with some interesting ingredients: baked beans, sugar, jam and cornflakes!



The children read the story together, wrote lists to remind Mrs Kirby what to buy and then had a go at making the cake with Mrs Hoskin. Mrs Fenna even cooked it for the children to use in the role-play area to re-enact the story. They are doing really well and we are all proud of them!

Class Two traffic survey



To fit with their topic on Transport and Travel this term, Class Two completed a traffic survey in the village. They were very surprised to see so many cars passing by, as well as vans and a lorry. The children thought the road was much busier than they had predicted and were unaware that so many people were out and about whilst we are busy in school!

Dry Arch Bake Off



On Friday 18th October Class Two went to Dry Arch. Daragh Keane wrote 'We made bread and we went apple picking. We fed the

pigs and saw the turkeys. We ate the bread and had a fun time at Dry Arch’.

Orienteering

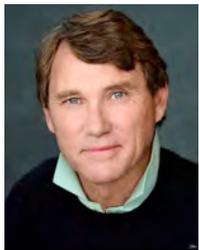


Class Three enjoyed an orienteering exercise in the school field. The children had to look closely at different photographs and work out where they were taken, this led them to a letter. Once they had collected all the letters it spelt out their new topic 'Where am I?'

Every lesson counts



By the nature of things newsletters tend to focus on the stand out days and events but every day and every lesson is important in building strong educational foundations.



Author's talk on Admiral Arthur Phillips

On 25th September the children in Class Five and Six attended the annual Service in St Nicholas Church for Admiral Arthur Phillips, the first Governor of New South Wales, effectively the founder of Australia. They heard an engaging talk by Michael Pembroke who is a writer, naturalist and judge of the Supreme Court of NSW. His latest book, 'Arthur Phillip: Sailor, Mercenary, Governor, Spy', is a biography of the first Governor of NSW, detailing Phillip's life story and some of his forgotten achievements, including his espionage work for the British Government. The reading was given by the Australian Consul-General Ken Pascoe. The service is a unique annual event

and one of the many things that makes the school the special place it is.

Thinking of Others



We enjoyed Harvest service on Monday 7th October. Every class contributed and in the course of the service we were encouraged to appreciate food from around the world, and that locally grown, and the value of sharing what we have with those who have less.

The Harvest Festival collection raised £78.92 for the superb Dry Arch community allotment that the school uses frequently and greatly appreciates.

Sport and Fitness

Year 5/6 Football Festival



On Tuesday the 22nd of October, our school Year 5 & 6 team competed in a Football Festival. They felt it was really enjoyable! They won one game, lost one and drew three. Well done!

Competition Winner



Lare in Class One had a wonderful time Meeting the Mayor at the Mayors Parlour. She won her age range in the Firework Poster Competition. Lare won a wonderful 1st prize

certificate for age 4-5, as well as an Art set, complete with pastels and Oil Paints in a wooden box, and a bank account. We are all very proud of her.

Wigs and Hats

On Friday 18th October we celebrated Ted's Big Day Out. The children enjoyed dressing up in wigs and hats. We raised £127.92. Every penny will go towards the RUH Cancer Care Campaign

Shoes for Lesotho



Local resident Marion White came into school on Tuesday 22nd of October and told us a surprising fact. In Lesotho some children are unable to attend school simply because the uniform requires them to wear shoes. We may complain about the price of children's shoes but this cost is impossible for many families, and is enough to deny many children an education. Shoes also help the children to travel long distances over challenging terrain. Marion's daughter is arranging for a shipment of shoes to be sent to Africa. Your cast offs could change a child's life. Many thanks to Marion for a surprising and inspiring assembly, and for donating some books for Kenya!

Television Stars

The Maylors



Many Bathampton families enjoy keeping fit and the Maylor family are definitely a good example! All six starred in a Channel 4 programme about the Markel Castle

Triathlon. The triathlon is based at Hever Castle in Kent and featured elite competition as well as the world's largest children's triathlon. Harvey, Kara, Laurie, Elise, Enya and Maria were shown at various points in the triathlon, as well as talking about their love of sport. Well done guys!



Director

The Maylors are not the only family with TV credentials. Otto Bathurst, father of Eric, Ursula and Lester received high praise for his directorial work on the recent series 'Peaky Blinders'. He was responsible for the first three episodes and brought powerful cinematic direction to the highly rated post watershed drama. Otto has a great CV with TV programmes such as Black Mirror and NY-LON, and is considered to be a name to watch out for. We are hoping that Otto can be persuaded to give a talk to the children about the art of directing.

Learning about the abacus



A few weeks ago Joe Ovigne went to a Bath Royal Literary and Science Institute workshop and loved it. The BRLSI are keen to involve enthusiastic learners between the ages of 8 and 18 in all aspects of science and technology by linking up with local universities.

Workshops are once a month (on the second Saturday afternoon 1pm - 4pm) and only cost two pounds. These workshops give children and young people a chance to practice study, research and learn presentation skills. Advance booking is required via coolbookings@brlsi.org.

Community

We are continuing to collect tins and dried food for 'Foodbank', which provides food and signposts support for local people in financial crisis. We have a collection point in the school entrance hall. This is especially important during the challenging financial climate.

Buddies

We received a lovely email from Basil Nankivell recently'

I thought that you might like to hear how the Bathampton buddy scheme progresses beyond the school. Jim's just started at Ralph Allen, and he came back yesterday talking about Eli's buddy, Belouis Archer, now in Year 13. Belouis made a point of coming over to Jim and his group of friends saying that if they had any problems or needed help settling in then he was happy to look after them. It's lovely to see that the nurturing spirit given to the pupils at Bathampton School carries on into secondary school.

Many thanks
Basil

Paul Burden emailed ' We had a really good Barn Dance in the marquee on Saturday 14th Sepember, arranged by the church and we had Kev Humphries on the bar with profits going to School Friends. He was brilliant, and I think there should be quite a reasonable donation heading for the School Friends' . Many thanks to Kev, Paul and everyone at St Nicholas who worked on this project.

Diary Dates

Bathampton Primary School
Together on a learning adventure



Diary Dates

October

Friday 25th End of Term 1

November

Monday 4th Start of Term 2

& Parent/ Teacher interview fortnight.

Wednesday 6th 'Fairytale & Fables' Workshops for Classes One, Two and Three

Thursday 14th Class Five trip to Bristol Zoo

Thursday 28th Class Six to Ashmolean Museum Oxford

December

Wednesday 11th KS1 Christmas Service (Classes One, Two and Three) time TBC

Governors' Meeting 7.15 p.m.

Friday 13th Class Two Party

Monday 16th Class Four Party

Tuesday 17th Class One Party

Wednesday 18th KS2 Christmas service (Classes Four, Five & Six) time TBC

Thursday 19th Class Three, Five & Six Party

Friday 20th End of Term 2

January 2013

Monday 6th Start of Term 3

Friday 31st INSET Day 4

February

Friday 14th End of Term 3

Monday 24th Start of Term 4

April

Friday 4th End of Term 4

Tuesday 22nd Start of Term 5

May

Monday 5th May Day

Friday 23rd End of Term 5

June

Monday 2nd INSET Day 5

Tuesday 3rd Children start Term 6

Monday 9th Ironbridge Residential (Years 5 & 6) back
Wed. 11th

July

Tuesday 22nd End of Term 6 for children

All term dates available online

www.bathampton.bathnes.sch.uk/calendar

Job Opportunity!

We now have an excellent Crossing Patrol Officer each morning. We are keen to recruit someone for the afternoon.

15.05 - 15.35, 30 minutes per day term time only. Application forms for current vacancies are available on www.bathnes.gov.uk;

Key Dates

Monday 4th November Children return

Wednesday 11th December 2.00 p.m.
Christmas Service Classes 1,2 & 3

Wednesday 18th December 2.00 p.m.