

Blundell's Preparatory School Newsletter

Volume 7, Issue 13

Friday, 11th June 2010

Sports Days

We were sad to have cancelled the Prep Sports Day because of the rather heavy rain. We are hoping for better weather for both the Pre-Prep Sports Day, due to take place at 2.00 pm on Friday 18th June, and for the reserve Prep Sports Day scheduled for Monday, 21st June at 2.15 pm.

Business Directory

As per the letter sent home on 28th May 2010, we would be grateful if you could send in any new submissions or changes for the Parent Directory by Friday, 18th June. We will assume that if we do not hear from you that you wish to remain in the Directory with your advertisement unchanged.

Parental Questionnaire

We have had some responses to our Parental Questionnaire and would be grateful to receive any more questionnaires that parents wish to send in. We are very interested in your comments and seriously consider all of them.

Summer Concert: Wednesday 30th June 7.00 pm

Please note that the Summer Concert is a **compulsory** event for the children in the Prep School and we welcome those families in the Pre-Prep who would like to join us. Please bring along a picnic supper which is eaten during the interval. The Summer Concert should finish by approximately 9.00 pm.

Pre-Prep involvement in the Summer Concert

We are delighted that once again all Year 2 pupils will be singing at the Summer Concert. In addition selected instrumentalists from Years 1 and 2 will also perform.

Arrangements for Speech Day - Friday 2nd July

Speech Day will begin at 2.00 pm on Friday, 2nd July. Pupils will attend normal school throughout the morning. Children will then be taken to the marquee by their teachers and will sit together as a group. Please could parents ensure that all children have their blazers and ties with them. Speech Day arrangements for Pre-Prep pupils will be issued in a letter from Mrs Filmer-Bennett. Please note that there will be no art club for any of the children on the afternoon of Speech Day.

The proceedings in the marquee will take about an hour and a quarter, after which afternoon tea for parents will be served. Children in the Prep School will report to a member of staff, on the playground, where they will be given refreshments. For all the Prep pupils the school day finishes immediately after Speech Day at approximately 3.45 pm, no clubs or prep run on this evening. Children are to be collected from their Form Teacher.

CAR PARKING – Those of you who have attended Speech Day before will be aware that there is a limited amount of parking space. Where possible, we suggest that parents and friends share transport, thus reducing the number of vehicles parking at school. It would be very helpful and very much appreciated if you could park where you are directed and not leave too much space between cars. Thank you.

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Year 6 Life Skills

Please note that following a change of venue Year 6 will now be participating in the Mid Devon Junior Life Skills course at the Devon Youth Services Centre in Tiverton on Thursday 24th June from 2:00 until 4:00 pm - not at Knightshayes Court as previously advertised. The course, run in partnership with a range of agencies including Devon and Cornwall Constabulary, Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service, and St. John's Ambulance, will see Year 6 involved in looking at all aspects of personal safety.

Beaford Arts Gifted and Talented Workshop

The following children took part in a special workshop at the Beaford Arts Centre before half term. They produced some wonderful work and were able to stretch their creativity further with some expert guidance.

Bunny Masters, Maddie Wright, Harry Olive, Emily Farmer, Clara Greenfield, Imogen Usherwood, Ralph Morris, Jasmine Mackay and Gus Gresswell.

Judo Grading

Congratulations to all the children who took part in the Judo Grading last Tuesday. Everyone worked hard and all have been successful in moving up one or two levels.

Extra Sport's Fixture

An extra three Cricket matches against Tidcombe Primary School will take place on Wednesday, 16th June for Year 5 and some Year 6 boys.

Opro Mouthguards

Please could any parent who would like their child to be fitted for a mouthguard please ensure that they have booked their child in ready for the fitting due to take place on Tuesday, 22nd June.

Year 6 trip to Kelly

The children in Year 6 very much enjoyed their week at Kelly Adventure Centre before half term. They were lucky to have great weather and certainly benefited from the team building exercises which took place throughout the week. The Year 6 EAG's will be coming home today. Year 4 now look forward to their adventure weekend in North Devon, starting next Friday.

The Arabian Nights

Year 6 have been working really hard on these plays and we are sure you will enjoy the show. The plays take place on Wednesday 7th and Thursday 8th July in Ondaatje Hall at 7.00 pm. Tickets are £3.00 per adult and £2.00 per child. If you would like to purchase tickets they will be available from School Office from Monday, 21st June.

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Pre-Prep News

Congratulations to the following children:

Swimming Awards

National Plan award- Tom Swain- stage 3

Freddie Labdon – stage 3

Thomas Russell – stage 2

Rainbow swimming award- Florence Chapman, 5 metres

Duckling award- Mia Ferrari- Relf, level 4 and Issy Swain level 1

British Gymnastics Proficiency Award

Lucie Spencer –level 6

Hot air balloon flight

Imogen Davy who flew in a hot air balloon over Luxor in Egypt.

Golden Book

Ben Wright for volunteering to referee a Year 2 football match when no one else would do it. This allowed all the children to enjoy a good game at lunch break under the watchful eye of a very knowledgeable referee!

All the children in Kindergarten for all their hard work and a very fine performance of The Litter Muncher.

Merryn Hogan for looking after another Nursery 2 child when he was knocked over during Ball Skills Club. Merryn was very kind and considerate towards the other child and really looked after him well.

Pre-Prep plays

Congratulations to all the children in Kindergarten and Nursery 1 for two excellent performances of the Litter Muncher and The Princess and the Magician. The children sang and acted with great confidence and both performances were greatly enjoyed by friends and families. Our thanks go to Mrs Charlesworth, Mrs McDowell and all other helpers for their hard work in putting these performances on before half term.

Forthcoming events

As the second half of a very busy term gets underway may we just remind parents of a few of the forthcoming events involving children in the Pre-Prep:-

Monday 14th June - Year 2 parents meeting with the Year 3 teachers, 4.30 pm in the Prep school hall.

Wednesday 16th June - Nursery 2 play at 10.00 am.

Friday 18th June - Pre-Prep Sports Day, 2.00 pm on the main field

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Wednesday 23rd June – Class Swap morning. This is an opportunity for children to move up to meet their new class teacher for an hour before moving into that class at the start of the next academic year. Any Nursery child who is not normally in school on that Wednesday morning is welcome to come in for the hour or for the morning to join in this special event. Please let your child's class teacher know if your child will be in for an extra session that day.

Tuesday 29th June – Form 1 play at 2.00 pm.

Wednesday 30th June – Summer Concert at 7.00 pm. This is a lovely family event. Bring a picnic supper with you and enjoy a wonderful evening's entertainment. Our Year 2 pupils will be singing and children who attend Fiddle Frolics and the Pre-Prep Brass Group will also be performing.

Friday 2nd July – Speech Day at 2.00 pm. Although the Pre-Prep children do not receive awards at Speech Day it would be lovely to see a good number of Pre-Prep parents in attendance. This is a whole school event where the Head Master outlines the highlights of the School year and talks of future developments. The Pre-Prep children in Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 will be singing a song at the start of the proceedings and they would be delighted if their parents were in the audience to hear them.

Summer Holiday Stage Academy at Blundell's Prep School

Razzamataz Summer Stage Academy is a fun-packed week of drama, dance and singing. The academy will include acting, street dance, pop singing, musical theatre, improvisation and script work. Students create a variety show in a week to entertain family and friends. Themes to include Wild West, Magic (using a Midsummer Night's Dream, Alice in Wonderland, Superheroes) and Masque. All students receive a certificate and goodie bag at the end of the workshop.

Dates **Week 1:** July 26th – 30th **Week 2:** August 16th – 20th

Please contact Anna on 01884 243325 or anna@razzamataz.co.uk for a booking form and further details.

Arts Award Qualification

Students who are 10 or over are able to gain their Arts Award qualification at Razzamataz. Arts Award is a national qualification accredited by Trinity Guildhall and Arts Council England. It is similar in style to the Duke of Edinburgh Award but focuses on arts challenge and leadership. Arts Award is offered at Bronze, Silver and Gold levels.

Arts Award Bronze can be attained during a Summer Stage Academy week, or any level can be completed during term time Razzamataz classes.

Full details available from Anna on 01884 243325 or anna@razzamataz.co.uk