

Blundell's Preparatory School Newsletter

Volume 6, Issue 11

Friday, 13th March 2009

Music Changes

Due to the Year 5 Trip to London next week we have changed some of the days on which music will be taught. Mrs Berry will teach on Tuesday instead of Thursday and Mrs Tucker will teach on Tuesday instead of Wednesday. Mrs Day will teach her Year 5 pupils as normal on Tuesday and all her other pupils on the Friday.

London Trip Year 5

We are sure all year 5 pupils will enjoy their three day trip to the capital. Amongst other things, the pupils will experience museums, The Globe Theatre, The Lion King, and will also sleep a night on The Golden Hind!

Tea-Time Concert

This was a delightful concert with many children involved. Parents were able to see a selection of ensembles from the House Music Competition. Well done to all the children.

Joint Blundell's Prep and Blundell's Senior School Concert

Well done to all our pupils who performed in the joint concert on Tuesday evening. The choir sang beautifully and individual musicians and our orchestra also played wonderfully well in front of a large audience. This was a long and tiring evening for many of the children, but it was also good for the children to see and play alongside some outstanding talent at the Senior School.

Darwin Day

All the children seem to really enjoy our theme days. This was no exception with the pupils relishing the opportunity to splash paint all over our School Hall, by designing Darwin's Tree of Life. The pupils also enjoyed art workshops, drawing and pressing plants, creating humans of today and tomorrow using ICT and recreating Darwin's "thinking walk," which he took every day studying wildlife. The pupils were also treated to a professional story teller who brought Charles Darwin to life in front of their eyes. Drama workshops also told the story of Darwin's adventures on the ship "The Beagle" on his journeys around the world. The children worked in year groups and rotated around the activities on offer. Thanks go to Mrs Jeffs and Mrs Shelbourne for their imagination in bringing these days to life, but also to all of the pupils who immersed themselves in creativity and worked so well together.

Comic Relief Day – Crazy Hat Competition

The children in the Prep School created some wonderful crazy hats donating £1.00 to Comic Relief. Many of the children put in an immense amount of work with some spectacular results. The winners of the form competition were Edward Olsen, Issy Fraser Harvey Wilder, Vincent Goodwin, Hannah Carthew, Nathan Green, Laurie Dawkins, Sophie Bateman, Daniel Pyle and Lola Watt and the overall winners were Georgina Pitts and James Tierney-Jones. Well done to all the children.

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Science Week

Pupils have also been enjoying Science week. As well as Darwin Day pupils will enjoy the Paradox Theatre Company with a science show for all pupils on Friday.

End of Term

School breaks up for Easter on **Friday 27th March**. Pre-Prep pupils and siblings at the Prep end of the School will be ready to be picked up at **3.30pm**. All other Prep pupils will be ready for pick up at **3.50pm**.

Easter Service

On the last day of term, Friday 27th March, we will be holding an Easter service as normal in the Blundell's School Chapel at 9.30am. The Prep School pupils will be attending. All parents are welcome to join us if they wish and the service will last for approximately half an hour.

Tesco and Sainsbury Vouchers

Thank you very much for all the vouchers that are coming flooding into the office. Please keep them coming as the School Council are very excited about looking into things we may be able to purchase for the playgrounds.

Adam Night Family Event - A Comedy Hypnosis Show: Saturday 21st March

We would like to draw attention to this fun night of entertainment and posters are on the School notice Board. £2 of every ticket sold (£10) will go to the Head South Charity Cycle Ride in aid of the School and Devon Air Ambulance. Our thanks go to Mr Lodge for his support in this. Tickets are also on sale from the School office.

School Changing Rooms

Please can we respectfully request that all parents do not enter the pupils' changing rooms without a member of staff present. Parents are welcome into the School, but we would ask that they mention this to the office before entering the main pupil areas. This is for the safety and protection of the children as well as the adult! The lost property box is located outside of the library and resource room, near the old parent entrance to the School. Thank you.

Newsletter Changes

This will be the last Newsletter to be sent home as a hard copy with the children. From the start of the Summer Term those parents who have handed in their e-mail address will have the Newsletter e-mailed to them. For those who do not wish for an e-mail to be sent it will be available as a hard copy from the School Office, on the website or on the School Noticeboards. Other letters will continue to be sent home via the children in the normal way.

Effort and Attainment Grades (Prep School)

The Effort and Attainment Grades for Years 3 and 4 will go home on Friday 20th March and Year 5 & 6 on Monday 23rd March.

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Pre-Prep News

Congratulations to the following children who have received swimming certificates: -

Edward Brain - Grade 2 Duckling award
Maisie Cross - Grade 3 Duckling award
Alex Pawson – Grade 4 Duckling award
Joseph Horsey – Level 4 National swim award
Molly Cross – Level 5 National swim award
Sparkle Menzies – Level 5 National swim award
Imogen Davy – Levels 4 and 5 National swim award
Eve Nugent – 25 metre award
Laura Smith – Stage 5 National Plan award for swimming.
Tyler Read – completed a course with the Eels at Swim School

Skiing Awards

Congratulations to Alex and William Venner on achieving their skiing awards from ski school.

Equestrian Event

Congratulations to Grace Trebble and her pony 'Cosford Vanity' for coming second in the Open Lead Rein event at the BSPS Area 136 show.

Book track

Congratulations to Laura Smith on reaching 25 books on the track.

Certificates of achievement

Congratulations to Ben Wright for always working enthusiastically and showing great interest in everything he does and to Charlie Hutchinson for making excellent progress with his reading and the content of his written work.

Pre-Prep Party

A huge thank you to everyone involved in the Pre-Prep party at the end of last month. A record number of Pre-Prep children attended and the event was greatly enjoyed by many children.

Pre-Prep Parents Evenings

My thanks to all parents who attended the Pre-Prep Parents Evenings last week. It was good to have the opportunity to meet with so many of you and I hope you found the evenings useful and informative.

Year 2 Football and Netball fixtures

My thanks go to Mr Swain and Mrs Nicholls for arranging this fixture with Kelly College. The children greatly enjoyed the afternoon and all played very well. We were delighted to welcome so many parents both from Blundell's and Kelly College and we hope you enjoyed seeing your children in action too. This looks set to become an annual event as well as being a very popular one.

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Science Week

The children have greatly enjoyed the activities organised for Science Week. The workshops with Sally Jackson on minibeasts and materials were very exciting and we all learned a great deal from them. Form 1P children presented a very informed Assembly on recycling at the start of the week based on work, which they had undertaken earlier in the term on recycling. The week ended with a very exciting science show from the Paradox Theatre Company, which the children thoroughly enjoyed. Finally thank you to all parents who encouraged and supported their children in the building of their boats and designing of their posters. Judging the entries was not an easy task as each one was so different and well constructed. My thanks go to Miss Purvis, our Pre-Prep science co-ordinator, for all her hard work in putting together such an enjoyable week.

Results from Model Boat Competition:-

Congratulations to the following children –

Best Decorated Boat

Nursery 1- Merryn Hogan
Nursery 2 – Tariq Al-Hussaini
Kindergarten – Kit Barnes
Form 1 – Grace Chapman
Form 2 – Tom Greenfield

Best Designed Boat

Nursery 2 – Millie Westcott
Kindergarten – Abigail Horan
Form 1 – Ben Robinson
Form 2 – Olivia Rhodes

Recycling Poster Competition

Nursery – Lucie Spencer
Kindergarten – Alice Williams
Form 1 – Emma Edwards
Form 2 – Lily Mackay

We were delighted to have Sally Jackson help with the judging, as there were so many wonderful entries.

Red Nose Day

We had great fun today seeing all the children in their crazy hats. Thank you to all who participated and brought in money to support this worthwhile charity.

Easter Fayre

The Pre-Prep Department will be running a cake stall at the Easter Fayre next Saturday and would be most grateful for any donations. You can leave them with Mrs Filmer-Bennett on Friday 20th March or bring them along to the Fayre on the Saturday morning.

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Sports' News

Our congratulations go to Ben Steer and Jack West in Year 6 for their selection to the National U11 Prep School Barbarian side to play Welsh Schools later this month. This is national recognition for two fine young players. They were selected after the final trial last Sunday, when they helped to defeat the North and Midlands for the South Regional side at Rugby School, The boys played on the ground where William Webb Ellis picked up the ball and ran to initiate what we now know as rugby.

South West Champions

For the first time in our history Blundell's Prep are South West Rugby Sevens U11 champions. They won the event after beating Millfield in a thrilling final two tries to one. A great achievement lads.

Stover Cross Country – We won the U11 and U9 Boys and Girls races and the Overall Shield. This was a great effort by the children.

Tuesday, 3rd March

Netball	U9A v West Buckland	W
Netball	U9B v West Buckland	L
Football	U9A v West Buckland	L
Football	U9B v West Buckland	L

Wednesday, 4th March

Netball U10 Tournament at Millfield, 3rd in the pool, a good effort.

Netball	U11A v Stover	W
Netball	U11B v Stover	W
Football	U11A v Stover	L
Football	U11B v Stover	W

Larkman Cup Cross Country

Blundell's Prep pupils won three out of the four events. Well done.

Saturday, 7th March

Boys Hockey U10 Tournament at Millfield, 3rd in the pool, a good effort.

Rugby U11 7's Tournament at The Down's, 3rd overall, a great effort by the boys.

Wednesday, 11th March

Football U11 Tournament at Exeter Prep 3rd overall. Well done to the boys.

Netball	U10A v Wellington	W
Netball	U10B v Wellington	W

Thursday, 12th March

Football U9 Tournament at Exeter Prep, 3rd overall.

Netball U9 Tournament at Exeter Prep, 4th overall.

A great effort by both teams.

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Friends of Blundell's Preparatory School News

SUMMER BALL – FRIDAY 26 JUNE 2009

Since we circulated information about the forthcoming Summer Ball there has been a lot of people expressing interest in coming either in small groups or taking a whole table – this is brilliant and we are very glad lots of you want to come. If you are not planning on organising a whole table that's fine as smaller groups can be put together and is not a problem at all.

Ball plans are being finalised and the event is taking shape so we wanted to give you a bit more information before you put your money on the table.....

First, a few facts

- tickets are £40 each (one person)
- tables of 10 (a few of 12)
- pay bar (with real ale as well as wine and bottled beer!) (cash and cheques only)
- hot, sit down meal with waitress service
- live band – Dave Can't Dance
- Caricaturist
- Magician
- Raffle

Although some people have asked if they could reserve tables there is so much interest that we think the fairest way is to put the tickets on sale after Easter and it is dealt with on a “first come first served basis”. By doing this there is time to get cheques collected and people will be in a position to make a firm commitment. Cheques should be made out to Friends of Blundell's Preparatory School. **So even if you have expressed interest and put your name down for a table you will need to buy the tickets to guarantee your places.**

Tickets will first be on sale in the second hand uniform shop which we will open specially for this on Wednesday 22 April from 8.15 am and on Mondays (morning) and Thursdays (afternoon) thereafter when the shop is open. Please don't ask to reserve and pay later as there should be enough time between now and 22nd April to make firm plans and have the money available.

If you buy tickets and for whatever reason can't go then the Committee will try and find someone to take your ticket – we will run a reserve list – although we can't guarantee to do this we will try.

Hopefully this is all clear but please get in touch with a member of the Committee if you have any questions.

Friends of Blundell's Preparatory School

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Dear All

Thank you so much for all those who kindly supported the pre-prep party, not only the children for attending and hopefully all having a great evening, but to all the members of staff who really did roll up their sleeves and get stuck in, very much appreciated.

Let's hope all the Prep School children have as much fun at the re-scheduled School Disco this evening. Not too late if you want to turn up, tickets can be bought at the door.

Remember if you are interested in getting more involved with the Friends of Blundell's Preparatory School committee, you would be most welcome, please do contact any of the committee members or the School office to indicate your interest.

Just a reminder about the Easter Fair:

Do come along to the Easter Fair, Saturday 21st March, 10.00 am until 12.00 Noon.

Lots of fun and exciting activities and stalls to visit. Easter Egg Hunt, Refreshments, remember to get that last minute gift for Mothers Day! Pet show for small caged animals, bring them along.

Also if anyone is able to bring a cake for the stall, very much appreciated.

Look forward to seeing you there.

The Committee

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Family friendly entertainment

AS SEEN ON TV!

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VOLUNTEERS MUST BE OVER THE AGE OF 18 & CAN REFUSE AT ANY POINT TO CONTINUE TAKING PART