

Blundell's Preparatory School Newsletter

Volume 7, Issue 1

Friday, 18th September 2009

Start of Term

It is good to welcome the children back after the long summer holidays. It has been a happy settling in week and hopefully the children are starting to get back into the routine. Yesterday saw a fantastic start to the Rugby and Hockey season. All the children in Years 5 and 6 played in a plethora of matches which were wonderfully supported by parents. Over 160 match teas were served by our dedicated catering staff. Great to get everybody involved!

Car Park

Please can parents drive slowly and carefully around the car park. Could we also insist that all parents use the paths and zebra crossings when walking around the car park and when picking up your children. Thank you.

E-mailing of the Newsletter

We are now e-mailing the Newsletter to all parents for whom we hold the email address of. If you do not wish to receive the email then please contact the School Office. There are Hard copies for collection in the Office and it is posted on the Noticeboard every other week on a Friday.

Parent Liaison

We would be grateful if any parent who believes that they are a Parent Liaison Representative could contact the School Office. We will be inviting these parents in for a meeting and at the same time clarifying the role, deciding on the group and way ahead.

Choir

The move of Choir to Tuesday morning looks to be working well. To make things even more efficient could we please ask for children in Year 5 who are in Choir to come in slightly earlier to School in their games kit before the start of Choir. They have a P.E lesson that morning. **We would like to remind all children in Choir that they must register in the School Office as soon as they arrive in School on each Tuesday.**

Prep School Parent Information Evenings

Refreshments will be served and if a child is not in a club, or unable to be taken home they may join 'prep' where they will be allowed to read or draw if they do not have any homework.

Year 3 Monday 21st September at 5.00 pm

Parents will have the opportunity to discover more about the Year 3 curriculum. Mr Folland will give a short address and the Form Teachers will also be available. This is a good opportunity to put names to faces and learn more about how the Prep end of the School operates.

Year 4 Thursday 24th September at 5.00 pm

This will be an informal get together during which Mr Folland will give a short address and teachers will be on hand to answer questions. Parents will be informed about the Year 4 Residential Activity Trip taking place in the Summer Term.

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Year 5 Monday 28th September at 5.00 pm

This will be an informal get together during which Mr Folland will give a short address and teachers will be on hand to answer questions. Parents will be informed about the Year 5 residential trip to London taking place in the Spring Term during this meeting. We are also hoping that staff from the Senior School will visit to explain the process of entry to the senior end of the school.

Year 6 Thursday 1st October at 5.00 pm

Mr Ian Davenport, The Head Master of the Senior School will address parents about the Senior School and what it has to offer. This will also be a good opportunity to understand the exam and entry process that the Year 6 children will undergo this term.

Sketching Trips

As listed in the School Calendar over the next two weeks Year 6 will be taking part in sketching trips round and about in Tiverton and its environs. We would be grateful if the children could bring in a folding, portable seat and a Rain Jacket on the day of their trip.

Second Hand Uniform Shop

Please could parents note that there is a change in personnel in the Second Hand Uniform Shop. Mrs Debbie White will continue on and will be joined by Mrs Brenda Fewtrell. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Jayne Mettam for all her hard work and help over the past few years.

To contact the ladies please use the numbers below:-

Mrs Debbie White 01884 860270
Mrs Brenda Fewtrell 01884 849100

Morrisons Tokens

We would like to thank parents for collecting both Tesco and Sainsbury's tokens last term. We have ordered and are currently receiving a good range of playground, sport and gardening equipment for the children to use. We are now collecting Morrisons tokens so please do send them into the office where they will go towards collecting more gardening equipment.

Cups Back

Could we remind all children who won cups on Speech Day or at the End of term assembly to return them to the School Office as soon as possible. Thank you to all those who have already done so.

Leaving Early after a Sports Match

Please could parents and children, if wishing to leave school early after the end of a match, firstly seek the permission of the games staff and most importantly report the departure to the School Office. It is crucial we know who is attending after School Clubs and where the children are. We do prefer a child who should be attending a club to carry on with this commitment, but do understand if it is inconvenient for a return journey by a parent, or fatigue has set in!

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Uniform and Games Kit

Could we please ask that all kit is named clearly. Lost items have always been a concern and despite our very best efforts young children are often very poor at looking after their kit. In the Prep School, the children's kit will be checked on a regular basis during form time and a note will be sent home if any items are unnamed. We hope that this will limit the amount of time and anxiety that occurs over lost items.

Clubs

These have now started and if any child would like to stop a club please inform the School Office, in writing by Friday 2nd October. Please could any queries etc concerning clubs come in directly to the School Office and not the Form Teacher. We thank you for your help in this matter.

Harvest Festival

Children are welcome to bring in food as per the letter sent home on Friday 11th September. A Pre-Prep Assembly led by the Head Master, with parents invited, will be held on Tuesday in the Pre-Prep hall. Children are also welcome to bring in food to the Prep School for a Harvest Assembly on the Wednesday morning.

Coffee Morning

We are holding our first Coffee Morning of this year on Friday 2nd October from 8.30 am in the Prep Atrium. We would like to invite all parents to join us for an informal get together.

Pre-Prep News

Visit from Tiverton Gazette

A photographer from the Tiverton Gazette will be in school on Monday 21st September at 10am to photograph all Kindergarten children for their 'First Class' series. Could I please ask that all children wear WINTER uniform on that date.

Pre-Prep Harvest Festival and tour of Prep School

Both will take place on Tuesday 22nd September. We look forward to welcoming many parents to one or both events.

Pre-Prep dropping off times

Could we respectfully remind parents that pupils in Kindergarten, Form 1 and Form 2 should not be dropped off at their classrooms before 8.30 am. Staff need this time to prepare their classrooms for the day and to meet with other staff. Should you need to drop your child off earlier, we do offer a games club facility from 8.00 am in the Pre-Prep hall, which is run by Mrs Mitchell and Mrs Read. Please speak to Mrs Filmer-Bennett if you wish to book your child into this club as numbers are limited.

Pre-Prep Information meetings

Thank you to all parents who attended the Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 information meetings. We hope you found them useful. If you were unable to attend and would like to

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know what was discussed during the meetings please do not hesitate to contact your child's Form teacher.

Nursery Sponsored Trike ride

We are delighted to announce that last years Nursery 2 children raised £261 through their sponsored trike ride in aid of Shelter Box. This is a great effort by the children and we are extremely grateful to everyone who sponsored the children for such a worthy cause.

Congratulations to the following children on their success: -

National Swim Awards:-

Tom Swain - level 2

Emma Edwards - 10m Rainbow swimming award and level 2 swim award

Finlay and Alice Williams - 10m backstroke Rainbow distance award

Holly Nugent - 200 m Rainbow swimming award

Mid Devon Show Colouring Competition:-

Anna Maunder - 4th prize in Class 1

Hannah Al-Hussaini - 4th prize in Class 2

Ballet Awards:-

Elizabeth Honey, Anna Maunder and Imogen Davy for excellent work during the summer term

Climbing award:-

Laura Smith for climbing to the summit of Mount Snowdon on 16th July in three hours

Book Track:-

Laura Smith for her 50 book badge on Book Track

Equestrian events: -

Mia Butterfield special rosette for Handy Pony Event

Jasper Pring trophy for Handy Pony Lead Rein event

Dog Shows:-

Alex Curtis and Nathan White rosettes for dog handling at Knowstone Horse Fair and St Johns Fair

Gymnastics Competition: -

Rebecca Hamilton medal at Honiton Club gymnastics event

Judo Awards:-

1st white bar - Freddie Frankpitt

2nd white bar - Charlie Berry, Lily MacKay, William Honey, William Usherwood, Leo Dummett, Ben Wright, William Farmer, Ben Gresswell, Joseph Horsey, Freddie Johnston, George Humphries and Tom Greenfield

3rd white bar – Joss West

4th white bar – Harry Charlesworth, Milo Godwin-Coombs and Jack Swain

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5th white bar – Thomas Keyte and George Cochrane

White belt – Jasper Pring

Pupil of the term – Lily Mackay.

Certificates of Achievement: -

Thomas Russell for making a real effort in maths

Elizabeth Curgenvan for being a kind, thoughtful and helpful girl all year

Sophie Clough and Frances Hunt for giving their best effort in every subject throughout the year

Zoe Labdon for making steady progress in every subject in the curriculum

Thomas Keyte for improved listening skills and application to his work, making excellent progress in his academic work all year

Freddie Johnston for trying to concentrate on his lessons and finishing tasks on time

Luca Kemp for making real progress in maths during the year

Sparkle Menzies for taking an interest in every subject and producing excellent written work.

Alex Venner for excellent contributions to history, geography and science lessons

Edward Jolliffe for an excellent effort in handwriting

Lily Mackay for working quietly and reliably in all subjects during the year

Rebecca Hamilton for working hard and achieving well in all subjects

Golden Book: -

Leo Dummett for being helpful and courteous

Alex Pawson for being very helpful during the last academic year

Thomas Keyte, Jasper Pring, Molly Cross, Rebecca Hamilton, Dominic Vause, Harry Charlesworth, Tom Greenfield, Sparkle Menzies, Zoe Labdon, Sophie Clough, Grace Labdon, George Cochrane, Milo Godwin-Coombs, Alex Venner, Freddie Johnston, Frances Hunt, Luca Kemp, Luli Mountbatten and Serena Hay for helping with Pre-Prep recycling during the course of the year.

Ollie Butler for showing kindness and consideration to another pupil who was upset

Ben Wright being kind and helpful towards another pupil

Sports' News

Wednesday 16th September

U11A	Hockey	v	Kelly College	W
U11B	Hockey	v	Kelly College	W
U11A	Rugby	v	Kelly College	W
U11B	Rugby	v	Kelly College	W
U10A	Hockey	v	Exeter Cathedral	L
U10B	Hockey	v	Exeter Cathedral	L
U11C	Rugby	v	Exeter Cathedral	D

Thursday 17th September

U9A	Rugby	v	St Michael's	D
U9B	Rugby	v	St Michael's	W
U9A	Hockey	v	St Michael's	W
U9B	Hockey	v	St Michael's	W