

Blundell's Preparatory School Newsletter

Volume 7, Issue 2

Friday, 2nd October 2009

Newsletter e-mail or hard copy?

We are receiving one or two comments from parents about the emailing of the newsletter suggesting they would prefer a hard copy. We would really like to cut down on paper if at all possible, and so would like to continue our email policy. It seems such a waste not to use this way of communicating. A hard copy can be collected from the office and the newsletter will also be on the School notice boards and website. More enquiries are coming into the office and to staff about information clearly laid out in the newsletter so please could we urge parents to carefully read the newsletter in either a printed form or on screen. Many thanks.

Individual School Photographs: Tuesday, 6th October

Tempest Photographers will be taking individual photographs of children in the Pre-Prep and Prep on Tuesday 6th October. Brothers and sisters will be photographed together and individual photographs will also be taken. We are sorry but we will be unable to include older siblings from the senior school.

Boys should wear their normal trousers or shorts, long sleeved white shirt, tie and v-necked sweater. Girls should wear their grey skirt, white long sleeved blouse, tie and v-necked sweater. If your child is in the Nursery and it is not their normal day and you would like a photograph taken then we would be grateful if you could bring them in between 9.00 am and 10.30 am. We will slot them in between other children while you wait. The photographs will take place in the Pre-Prep Library.

E-mails

We have an increasing amount of e-mails from parents arriving each day for the Office, for Mrs Filmer-Bennett and for members of staff. Please be aware that it may take some time before the e-mail is answered and this is not a method of communication to use if a piece of information is needed fast or a rapid response is required.

Clubs

We hope that all the children have now settled into the clubs of their choice. The three week trial period has now finished and we therefore do not expect children to change clubs unless there are exceptional circumstances. A term's notice is now required if a child wishes to give up a club.

Geography Trips Year 4

On Monday, 12th October Year 4 will be walking to a local river. This again will take place in school time.

Proclamation of the Fayre

Blundell's Prep will once again be represented by the children in Year 3 at the Proclamation of the Fayre. This will take place at Coggan's Well in Fore Street Tiverton on Thursday, 8th October at 10.30 am. The children will be accompanied by their class teachers to hear the Proclamation read by the Beadle which is followed by the distribution of the pennies.

schoolstrader.com

Please remember that School Trader is a free ads site for school communities.

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Entry to Senior School

As stated at the Year 6 information evening if your child is in Year 6 and you are wishing your child to enter the Senior School you will need to register your child with them. Forms are available from the School Office or on request from the Senior School Office.

Dogs on the Premises

Please note that we do not allow dogs on the playing fields and playing areas of the School.

Uniform check/ Missing Uniform

The children looked very smart on their return to school. However, there are a few children who still appear to be without certain items of uniform. We will be carrying out uniform checks in both the Prep and the Pre-Prep regularly. Letters will go out stating which items are missing or unnamed. Please could parents purchase any missing items and ensure that all items of clothing are named.

Despite our continual encouragement and clear systems within the changing rooms, we still appear to have children in both the Pre-Prep and the Prep School going home with other children's uniform. Could we urge parents to check that their children have their own items and return any that do not belong to them as soon as possible. If kit is clearly named it makes a huge difference.

Parent Liaison meeting

Suddenly we seem to have quite a few representatives and we have become unclear who is in this group. The aim is to have one representative per year group not one per form. This person can then form their own group. As a School, we also feel the reason behind the setting up of this group has become muddled. It is purely meant as a social contact for new parents. Can all those who feel they are a part of this team meet with Mr Folland on Tuesday, 13th October at 8.30 am – 9.15 am.

Harvest Festival.

Thank you to all parents who sent in contributions of food and toiletries for our Harvest Festival. The goods were safely delivered to and gratefully received by the clients at St Petrocks in Exeter.

Stomach bug.

We have a number of children who have recently been affected by a stomach bug. If your child has been affected and has suffered from sickness or diarrhoea please keep them at home for **48 hours** to ensure that they have fully recovered before sending them back to school.

Associated Board Piano Exam results

Zara Cameron	Grade 1	Merit
Bethany Mettam	Grade 2	Merit
Annabel Cox	Grade 1	Merit
Harriet Nash	Grade 2	Merit
Tabitha Pring	Grade 1	Merit
Charlie Brown	Grade 1	Pass
Summer Law	Grade 1	Merit
Hannah Carthew	Grade 1	Pass

Summer Term 2009

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Friends of Blundell's Prep News

Welcome to the start of the Autumn term, and to the delightful weather we are now experiencing since the holidays are over! We have great pleasure in welcoming the new members to the committee and of course a big thank you to those who have relinquished their term in office at the end of the Summer term for all the support and help over the last few years.

EVENTS TO BOOK NOW! **BONFIRE NIGHT Friday 6th November**

Gates open at 6.00 pm with Fireworks at 7.00pm. Tickets are kept at the same price as last year £4.50 which includes a hot dog. However if you wish to purchase on the night they will be slightly increased to £5.00 per ticket. Burgers available at an additional charge. There will be an exciting display as in previous years and the traditional bonfire. Come along with the family and enjoy Vin Chaud, Hot Chocolate, Sweetie Bags for a fun social evening. Tickets available soon from the School Office. We are again this year calling for volunteers to help marshal on the night for a limited time period, please indicate your ability to help below. Please note that children will only be admitted with an adult and adults are expected to take responsibility for their children throughout the event. Parking is likely to be limited, so please park where directed and allow extra time for a walk from the Main school parking area.

BONFIRE NIGHT – MARSHALLING

I am able to help marshal on Bonfire Night Early Evening 6.00 – 6.45 6.45 – 7.30* Please delete as appropriate.

Name:.....

Phone Number:.....

Dates for the Diary **Christmas Bazaar – Saturday 5th December**

We are looking for someone to do face painting at the Christmas Bazaar. If anyone feels that they are able to help with this please contact Louise at lmw@blundells.org

Accounts

If there is a willing parent to assist with an audit of the Friends of Blundell's Prep Accounts, please contact the School Office, not to demanding I am assured.

Many thanks.

Arctic Mariner

This summer two local Royal Marines Kevin Oliver and Tony Lancashire navigated the ice-strewn central Northwest Passage in an open boat powered only by oar and sail, to inspire, raise awareness and provide funding for using sailing in remote location to rehabilitate those injured serving their country. They sailed, rowed, dragged the 17 ft open boat over 1400 miles from Inuvik to Gjoa Haven, encountered sailing experiences of 9ft swells and 25 knot winds, Grizzly bears, got stuck on ice drifts, met some amazing people and more, come and listen to a light hearted presentation with a short film supplemented with a glass of wine on Saturday 7th November, Blundell's Prep School Hall, 7.30 pm. We would be delighted if you could attend this informal evening, but to assist with catering, please let Kevin know by email kev@arcticmariner.org if you and any guests would like to attend.

Kevin Oliver

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The Three Peaks 24 Hour Challenge – by Ali Spencer

The Three Peaks 24 Hour Challenge - one minute a germ of an idea, the next we have a team of eight (Aideen Bateman, Ali and Phil Spencer, Charlotte Swain, Debbie and Stu White, John and Lou Wilder), a minibus (kindly donated by NDC - for all your data collection needs...) and a driver, Pete. We're on our way to Fort William, 541 miles from Tiverton. 4.00 pm and we're off up Ben Nevis, Three Peaks caps at a jaunty angle and walking poles firmly in hand. It's a beautiful evening and we're looking forward to the view from the top. What view? By the time we reach the peak it's bitterly cold and we can see absolutely nothing. Around 4.00 am Pete expertly negotiates a salaam of sleeping sheep as though he were The 'Stig' and we arrive at the foot of Scafell Pike (I say Scar Fell, you say Scary Fell...). It's still dark and we set off with our head torches lighting the way. The weather closes in and we are lost, scouting around in the low cloud before regaining the track to the top. Dawn breaks and we can see... absolutely nothing.

We know the 24 hours is out of our reach now and so have a more leisurely journey to Snowden. We reach our last peak in miserable weather and, you guessed it, can see absolutely nothing! We make our descent and 27 hours of blood, sweat and tears since we set off in high spirits at Ben Nevis, we fall exhausted, dishevelled but triumphant into the minibus.

We're very proud to become 'Three Peakers' and all our efforts were worth it to raise money for the Devon Air Ambulance Service.

Sports Results

Wednesday, 23rd September

U10A	Hockey v Taunton	L
U11A	Hockey v Taunton	L
U11B	Hockey v Taunton	D
U11A	Rugby v Stover	W
U11A	Rugby v Stover	W

Thursday, 24th September

U9 Rugby Festival at St Peter's	Won 3 Lost 1
U9 Netball Festival at St Peter's	Won 2 Lost 1 Drew 1

Wednesday, 30th September

U11A	Hockey v St Peter's	W
U11B	Hockey v St Peter's	W
U10A	Hockey v St Peter's	W
U11A	Rugby v St Peter's	L
U11B	Rugby v St Peter's	L
U11C	Hockey v St Peter's	W

Thursday, 1st October

U9A	Rugby v Exeter Prep	W
U9A	Hockey v Exeter Prep	W
U9B	Hockey v Exeter Prep	W

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SWINE FLU Important notice



Do you think your child has swine flu?

Do they have a **high temperature** (38°C or above) and **two or more** of the following symptoms?

- Cough or shortness of breath
- Loss of appetite
- Aching muscles
- Runny nose/sneezing
- Diarrhoea/vomiting
- Tiredness
- Limb or joint pain
- Sore throat
- Headache

If so, please do not bring them in!

Please take your child home and contact either:

The National Pandemic Flu Service
www.pandemicflu.direct.gov.uk
Tel: 0800 1 513 100/Minicom: 0800 1 513 200

OR your GP if

- Your child is under 12 months old
- Your child has underlying health problems
- Their condition is still getting worse after five days
- Their condition suddenly gets much worse at any time



Swine flu is generally mild and most people recover at home.

For more information on swine flu visit www.nhs.uk or www.hpa.org.uk

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Pre-Prep News

Book Week.

Following another very successful and exciting Book Week we would like to thank all parents for their support with the various events. My thanks also go to the staff for all their hard work and to Mrs Connolly in particular for the endless hours spent organising the week, bringing so much pleasure and enjoyment to the children.

Congratulations to the following children:-

Golden Book.

Elizabeth Curgenvan for organising the Kindergarten girls in some enjoyable games at playtime.

Freddie Frankpitt for showing thoughtfulness and consideration towards the younger children in the Pre-Prep.

Lucie Spencer for always willingly helping to tidy away after Owls without being asked to do so.

Beatrice Rhodes for looking after another child in her class who was upset, displaying kindness and thoughtfulness.

Swimming awards.

Emma Edwards- 25 metre Rainbow swimming award

Sophia Fields – 10 metre Rainbow swimming award

Bethany Keedwell – National swim award level 2

Evelyn Hogan – National swim award level 1

Tennis success.

Ben Wright on gaining a tennis academy award at La Manga Club.

New challenge.

Noah Sanders Dutton for successfully hand milking a cow.

Certificates of achievement.

Jon Robinson for working really hard over the summer holidays on his school work.

Rocco Hartley for trying hard with all his lessons and making many new friends at his new school.

Cycle Sunday.

Congratulations to Ellie Salisbury and Grace Chapman on receiving Head South T-shirts for completing the most number of laps on Cycle Sunday in aid of Head South.