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Brighstone Buzz

18th December 2009

www.brighstoneprimary.org.uk

NEWS FROM MISS JOHNSTON

Well, here we are at the end of the Autumn term. Where has the time gone! We had a wonderful afternoon last Friday, celebrating the end of our Tudor topic with a banquet which, (with the appearance of Henry VIII), really was fit for a King! The children enjoyed sharing their learning in food, dance and song and the costumes were simply wonderful. Thank you! Of course Monday afternoon saw our Tudor Nativity. I was delighted to see so many parents at the church and overwhelmed by the children's performance. They were absolutely fabulous and I'm sure there wasn't a dry eye in the house by the end. The County Press have joined us for both of these events, so keep your eyes peeled on the paper over the Christmas period. There was a wonderful atmosphere in school on Saturday when we held our Christmas Fair. The smell of mulled wine must have drawn in the crowds, as we made a profit of approximately £850. Thank you to all the BSA and members of staff who helped out before, during and after the event. This money will really benefit the school. We were also delighted to receive our walking to school grant this week, which the Eco-Schools Council have already spent! Incentives to support Walk on Wednesdays, as well as other walking initiatives have already been planned and the School Council will be talking to children about this after Christmas. Tuesday was another busy day! I was delighted that Panther Class asked me to accompany them on their hunt for Rudolph! Luckily, we found him and sent him back to Father Christmas, so all the presents should still be delivered on time. Phew! This was also the day we had our Christmas Dinner which was gorgeous! My huge thanks to Mary in the kitchen, who cooked 125 dinners in total for children, staff and the community. An amazing feat when I struggle just cooking for myself! My thanks also go to the MSA staff for working additional hours to be able to successfully complete this and the staff for helping to serve and supervise lunchtime play. A real team effort! I'm sure that all the children enjoyed the Christmas Party on Thursday afternoon. It was certainly very noisy so they must have been having fun! There are a couple of spaces now available for piano lessons in school with Beth Peckham. If you are interested please let Suzanne know or contact Beth on 525923. Lessons are £6 and payable per half term. Please find attached to this week's Buzz the termly newsletter from the Governing Body. I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy and restful Christmas break and I look forward to seeing everybody back at school at **8:25am on TUESDAY 5th January 2010**. Miss Johnston ☺

DIARY DATES

- 4th Jan . INSET Day. **SCHOOL CLOSED. FAB OPEN**
- 5th Jan . Clubs start this week. Please ensure that payment is made to the office by today. £6 per club.
- 5th Jan . Spring term starts at 8:25am.
- 6th Jan . Visit from David Pugh, Leader of the Council. To tour the school and meet with the Eco- School Council.
- 18th Jan . Governors School Reorganisation Working Group Meeting @ 6:30pm
- 19th Jan . BSA Meeting. 7pm . Tiger Class
- 23rd Jan . Family Fun Day!
- 26th Jan . School Council Meeting

Attendance

Well done if you have managed to avoid the recent rounds of illness. Hand washing is still crucially important and we would be grateful if you could reinforce this message with your children at home. Despite this, attendance percentages are:

- Panthers . 93.7%
- Leopards . 95.3%
- Lions . 96.7%
- Tigers . 96.3%
- Whole School . 95.6%

Well done to Lion Class. A very healthy bunch! We have set our school attendance target for 96% at the end of the academic year so we are nearly there!

MARY'S MARVELLOUS, MOUTH-WATERING, MOMENTOUS MEALS

MONDAY: SCHOOL CLOSED

TUESDAY: Mince in gravy, mashed potatoes, carrots and peas followed by shortbread and milkshake.

WEDNESDAY Roast Beef with trimmings, OR veggie burgers, roast potatoes, carrots and cabbage, followed by fresh fruit jelly and ice cream.

THURSDAY: Fish fingers, oven chips, baked beans & peas followed by arctic roll

FRIDAY: Pork and leek casserole OR macaroni cheese, roast potatoes, carrots, peas followed by apple brown betty and custard.

All the above subject to change. Cudités and fresh fruit are always available.

It will cost £49.30 if you wish to pay for dinners for the whole of next half-term.

Absence

A reminder that if your child is unwell and therefore unable to attend school, we require you to telephone or email the school by 9am to explain their absence. All other absence must be requested on a leave of absence form which is available from the school office or to download from the school website.

Thank You



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New Mobile Phone?

Will you be receiving a new mobile phone for Christmas? Will you have a new number? If so, we need to know! Please contact Suzanne if you have a new number to keep our emergency contacts and texting service as up to date as possible. Thank you.

WYB are currently recruiting new members and are holding an open day on 2nd January from 10am until 1pm at LA Bowl. The club is open to children aged 6-18. They will receive full coaching when they join the club and it is not important whether they have ever bowled before! The Open Day is for anyone who is at all interested to come down, meet the committee and other members and have a go at bowling if they wish. Further details can be obtained from Sarah Jackson (secretary): sarahjackson6@hotmail.co.uk

Clubs

A reminder that our new clubs are starting the first week back to school after the Christmas break. There is a charge of £1 per club, per week now in operation and payment should be made in advance to the school office by 5th January. Please contact Suzanne if you are unsure how much money you owe.

Family Information Zone

The Winter Activities Booklet from FIZ is available to download from www.wightchyps.org.uk. You can also pick up a copy from their shop in Newport, next to the Lord Louis Library. Alternatively you can call FIZ on 01983 821999 and they can pop a copy in the post or you can email them for a copy on: familyinfozone@iow.gov.uk

Mini Movers

On Wednesdays 9.30 - 10.30 there is a MINI MOVERS class at West Wight Sports Centre. This class is for parents with their pre-school children and provides an introduction to gymnastics and trampolining under the supervision of qualified instructor, Tracey Potgeiter. The really great news is that the Sports Centre is now working in partnership with West Wight Children's Centre and have been able to significantly reduce the cost of the session to just £2 (and £1 for siblings). Find out more at www.westwight.co.uk or by ringing 752168. The sessions start in the new year on January 6th 2010.

FAB

Amanda has some monies from the after school club outstanding and has requested that these are now paid weekly.

A reminder that from the 1st January costs for the after school club will be as follows:

2:45-3:45pm - £4

3:45-4:45pm - £3

4:45-5:30pm - £3

Whenever possible, please book your child into FAB in advance to ensure that our adult ratios are appropriate for the number of children attending.

Remember that we are open over the festive period and the INSET Day on 4th January. Please contact Amanda to book a place for your child.

Family Fun – 23rd January!!!!!!

We will be holding a family fun afternoon on 23rd January, to present taster sessions including the following:

- ✓ Hula hooping
- ✓ Skateboarding
- ✓ Pilates for children
- ✓ Cycle maintenance
- ✓ Remote control cars
- ✓ Relaxation sessions
- ✓ Art attack

More details to follow on this fantastic event, so book the date in your diary now. Likely to be from 1pm onwards.

Walk the Wight

We are delighted to be participating in Walk the Wight 2010 and would love to have 100% participation at Brighstone! Please find attached to this edition of the Buzz an application form and joining instructions for parents. Completed application forms should be **RETURNED TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE** no later than **29th JANUARY**.

The final walk itself will take place in 2010 on 16th May. Full details can be found in the joining instructions for primary school parents.

If you have not participated in Walk the Wight before, once you have returned your application form you will receive a walking map and stickers from us at school. You then have until mid-May to complete 22 walking units on the walking map. One unit is approximately 30 minutes of walking, so that could be as simple as walking to school and back. You then have the option of either completing the 4 mile walk from Freshwater Bay to Alum Bay on 16th May or you can walk another 4 units at any other time. Further details about Walk the Wight will be published via the Buzz in 2010.

Education City

If your children are looking for some online educational activities over the Christmas break, remember that we subscribe to Education City www.educationcity.com
Login name: 921Brighstone
Password: brighstone

Website

An excellent website with a variety of interactive activities.
Also, why not explore our school website: www.brighstoneprimary.org.uk We would welcome suggestions on how we can improve it further.

Security Improvements

We are delighted that the first phase of the works to improving security at the front entrance will be taking place on the INSET Day. We should shortly be able to see and hear when somebody is at the front door! As part of this work we are changing the school alarm system. We hope that this work will be completed by 8th January. If you currently have a regular letting contract with the school, please make contact with Suzanne shortly after the 8th, so that we are able to issue you with your new keys and fob to be able to access the school, including the pre-school (Rowan Room) and hall.