



Volume 12, Issue 14
16th December 2011



Brighstone C.E.
Primary School



Brighstone Buzz

www.brighstoneprimary.org.uk

NEWS FROM MISS JOHNSTON

We've made it! The end of term is here but it's by no means been a quiet finale! Saturday saw our Christmas Fair, which was incredibly busy! We are delighted to have made over £900 profit and I'd like to thank everyone who was involved in either the planning of this event, or helping on the day. We've had two superb performances of Hosanna Rock from KS1 and are all very much looking forward to the KS2 Christingle this afternoon, which the children have planned and will be leading. Our KS2 Choir braved the elements on Tuesday morning to perform in Newport and the children have all enjoyed their Christmas parties! I'd also like to extend a warm welcome to Julia, who has joined our learning support team in Year 3 this week and also many congratulations to Rachael, our Year 4 Learning Support Assistant, who attained the Childhood BA Hons degree last week. We would like to wish Mrs Saunders well as she begins her second placement at Shanklin Primary after Christmas and welcome Miss Jenkinson into Year 4 until the beginning of March, in her place. A note for Year 1 parents that Miss Brough is having a minor operation during the Christmas break and hopes to return on 9th January. We wish her well and a speedy recovery. Mr Yendall and Mrs Pierrepont will cover her class during the first week back. I'd like to finish with some thanks. Firstly to all of you for your kind cards, gifts and Christmas wishes – they are all very much appreciated. And finally, to the staff. We have a wonderful team who work exceptionally hard to provide the best for your children and I would like to thank them for their hard work this term. I wish you all a wonderful Christmas and looking forward to seeing everyone back at 8:25am on Tuesday 3rd January 2012. Miss Johnston ☺

KS2 Award Winners Below:

Literacy – Jennifer, Krystal, Alex and Lydia H

Numeracy – Olivia, Franky, Tom H, Lily-Mai

The Arts – Tom F, Joe, Caitlin, Ellie W

Sport – Luka, Meisha, William M, George M

Progress – Ethan, Lydia M, Harrison M, James WI

Special Achievement – Megan, Jack G, Tye, Heather

Diary Dates

FAB OPEN – 19th to 23rd December: Booking required

3rd January – Children return to school @ 8:25am

5th January – Gymnastics Club

6th January – Epiphany Day (see attached)

6th January – Year 4 parents meeting for March residential trip.

Straight after school in the Year 4 classroom

12th January – Steve Beynon and Cllr Cousins visiting

12th January – Gymnastics Club

16th January – Spring term clubs start

17th January – Forest Schools sessions begin

23rd – 27th January – Farmhouse Breakfast Week

27th January – Community Breakfast @ 8:40am

3rd February – Coffee and chat @ 8:40am

10th February – 3rd payment due for Year 6 residential trips

13th – 17th February – Half-term

20th February – School Closed: INSET Day

Christmas Draw in aid of our school!

A chance to win a festive hamper, courtesy of Brighstone Village Stores. **THANK YOU!** Tickets £1. Draw to take place on 24th December. All proceeds to the school. Tickets available to buy in the village shop.

Lateness

I am sad to say that there are a minority of parents who persist in bringing their children late into school most days and Education Welfare are growing extremely concerned. Therefore the Education Welfare Service will be undertaking several unannounced late sweeps in spring term. Every minute that a child is late, is a minute of lost learning time. We do understand that everyone has the odd day where things just don't work out but please work with us to ensure that your child is in school at 8:25am every morning. Thank you.

HAPPY, HEATHERS, HEALTHY, HEARTY MENU

MONDAY: School closed

TUESDAY: Roast beef and Yorkshire pudding, OR macaroni cheese, roast potatoes, green cabbage and cauliflower, followed by chocolate sponge and chocolate sauce

WEDNESDAY: Grilled sausages and gravy OR veggie burger, jacket wedges, sweet corn and coleslaw, followed by cherry cookies

THURSDAY: Fish fingers or cheesy leek jackets, oven chips, peas and baked beans, followed iced bun

FRIDAY: Roast turkey and stuffing, OR sweet potato bake, roast potatoes, green cabbage and broccoli, followed by pineapple upside down cake

Also homemade bread, crudités and fresh fruit are always available.

A jacket potato option is also available to children in Years 4, 5 and 6.

All the above are subject to change -Dinners now cost £1.85 per day
or £53.65 for every school day NEXT half-term

Farmhouse Breakfast Week

23rd to 27th January 2012

Please put these dates in your diary. We already have a number of visitors planned to come in and work with the children, as well as our now legendary community breakfast from 8:40am on 27th January. All welcome! We look forward to celebrating this week with you and your children.

What have we done?

We're always pleased to receive feedback from parents and try to respond to it wherever we can. This is what we've done in answer to some of your questions/comments from the summer parent survey and during this term:

My child travels on the school bus and can't attend after school clubs – We have asked children who travel on the bus what clubs they would like to do and are planning a club to be held in Shorwell in the Spring term and Chale in the summer term.

I don't know how to help my child learn how to read – We have just invested £3000 in new books and resources and recently held a coffee and chat opportunity to provide parents with support information. If you were unable to attend this event, please see Miss Brough or Miss Capelin for further information.

I pay for FAB using a Childcare Voucher Scheme and do not know how much I owe – We will be providing parents who pay using 'salary sacrifice' with 3 monthly statements, in order to keep you to date, from the new year.

I don't have access to the internet at home, so my child cannot use Bug Club or Mathletics – If this is the case, please contact Miss Capelin, as we can provide out of school access through our Breakfast Club facility and would be pleased to help you.

The KS2 children lose too much time at Christmas practising for the play – We have responded to this and therefore only produced a KS1 Christmas play this year. KS2 have instead planned and will be holding, a Christingle and Carol Service, which has required much less learning time to be utilised and linked directly to our RE curriculum.

I don't like it that all the gates are locked and that I can't get onto the school site during the day – I'm afraid this is not going to change. The Governing Body have actioned this in order to meet Ofsted safeguarding requirements. If you can't get in, it means that other people cannot either. A recent pupil survey illustrated that the children feel very safe at the school, particularly as a result of putting the new fencing and gate at the front of the school. Your child's safety is paramount to us.

I don't know when school trips are taking place and how much they will cost far enough in advance – At the beginning of the school year we sent home a flyer detailing each school trip and the expected cost. This is still available via our website. Parents are welcome to pay in installments prior to the trip if they wish. Please contact the school office for further information.

I don't know when events are happening at the school – I endeavour to publish these to parents via the Buzz several weeks in advance and then follow-up with a reminder text, just prior to the event. All events are also listed on the calendar tab of our school website, along with all other letters etc that are sent out on the info page.

Please move the new Early Years playground gate – This was done during October half-term

I'd like to come into my child's class more often – We have taken this on board and are trying to provide a range of family learning events; the next is the 6th January. We would also welcome parents to hear children in classes read. Please contact class teachers for further information of appropriate times etc. An enhanced CRB check will be required.

Now the school is bigger, Miss Johnston is often busy and I can't see her immediately – Yes, I am I'm afraid! However, we do have a strong senior team in place who can help you if the class teacher cannot and I am unavailable. A reminder of their responsibilities is listed below. Appointments can be made with staff directly or via the school office. Appointments can also be made with me via the school office if you do need to see me. I'll return to the gate as soon as the awful weather disappears!

Mrs Pugh – Deputy Headteacher. Leader for Standards, Outcomes and Behaviour.

Can be seen before/after school or during the school day on Fridays. Contact Mrs Pugh (Year 5) if you wish to see her.

Miss Brough – Leader for Literacy and New Technologies.

Can be seen before/after school. Contact Miss Brough (Year 1) if you wish to see her.

Mr McGouran – Leader for Mathematics.

Can be seen before/after school. Contact Mr McGouran (Year 3) if you wish to see him.

Miss Capelin – Leader supporting families, community and extended partnerships, including FAB and Breakfast Club

Can be seen before/after school or during the school day on Friday mornings. Contact Miss Capelin if you wish to see her.

Mrs McQueen – Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator and Designated Teacher for Looked After Children.

Can be seen before/after school or during the school day on Thursdays. Contact Mrs McQueen (Year 4) if you wish to see her.

Mrs Denness – Secondary School transition. Contact Mrs Denness (Year 6) if you wish to see her.

I hope that this information has been helpful to parents.

FAB location during the Christmas break

Due to the final installation of our new fire alarm system, please note that FAB will be held in a different venue for part of the week, next week:

Monday 19th, Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21st - Hall

Thursday 22nd & Friday 23rd – Usual venue, Reception Classroom.

Any queries or to book please contact the school on: 740285

Epiphany Celebration Day – 6th January 2012

We will be celebrating Epiphany throughout our first week back at school, culminating in a special celebration day on Friday. KS1 will be focusing on gifts and KS2, great journeys. We would love to welcome parents to come and participate in some of the children's learning on this day. Please see the attached flyer. Please sign in at the school office and you will be shown to your child's class.



Worship Theme:

Christmas: Love

Weekly Prayer:

Thank you, Father,
For this celebration of Christmas
When Jesus came to bring light and
love to the world
Thank you for fun, for getting
together with friends and family.
For presents and games and things
to eat and drink.
Thank you that you want us to
celebrate and have fun at Christmas
time.
Thank you that we're all invited to
the party.
Amen