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# Brighstone Buzz

2nd January 2010

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## NEWS FROM MISS JOHNSTON

I cannot believe that it is Friday already! Where has the week gone! I'd like to start by welcoming the 3 new children who have joined our school this week. Emily in Panthers, William in Lions and Abby in Tigers. We are delighted that they and their families have joined us and hope that you will all make them feel extremely welcome. Work on the alarm and entry system has now been completed and I am currently seeking advice on how the main front door can be adapted to make it more secure from the inside of the school. I've had the pleasure of teaching in several classes this week and the children are completely enthused about their current learning. I've seen puppets, PowerPoint and PE, all equally fantastic! We are also starting to think ahead to our whole school topic Waste Watchers next half term, which will have an Eco theme and culminate in a whole school production (fingers crossed) before Easter. If you have any suggestions for activities, or know anybody who might be able to support this topic, please let your child's class teacher know. I have been working the Governing Body hard this week with 3 meetings, including ranking our admission applications for September and continuing to firm our plans for reorganisation, further details provided overleaf. We always welcome your comments and suggestions on how we can continue to make things even better at Brighstone. please feel free to talk to me or the class teachers at any time. Wishing you all a very happy weekend and I look forward to seeing many of you at the breakfast next Friday morning. Miss Johnston ☺

## GOLDEN NEWS

**PANTHERS** . Well done to Max for remembering the story of David and Goliath, also to Mica, Bess and Ada for having a magical mathematical moment with counting how many altogether. Reece has been bold and brave in PE, Eadie has achieved her 5 metre swimming certificate and Emily has settled well into her new school. What a super week Panthers!

**LEOPARDS** – Abigail has made fantastic progress with her reading and phonics and Lacey has been extremely brave and cheerful throughout her operation and recovery. It is lovely to have her back at school.

**LIONS** . Newspapers literacy group have working extremely well and independently this week. Also, Franky and Zoe have been undertaking lots of practice with their High Frequency Word Cards, which is really paying off! Superb!

## DIARY DATES

- 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan . Family Fun Day! 1-3pm
- 25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> Jan . Farmhouse Breakfast Week
- 25<sup>th</sup> Jan . Community Chef's visiting
- 26<sup>th</sup> Jan . School Nurse visiting re: healthy eating
- 26<sup>th</sup> Jan . Mary Case, Limerstone honey visiting
- 27<sup>th</sup> Jan . Sainsbury's visiting re: healthy breakfasts
- 29<sup>th</sup> Jan . 8:40am: parent/governor/staff breakfast and open forum in the hall. Bacon rolls will be served!
- 29<sup>th</sup> Jan . 1pm. David Pugh, Leader of the Council touring the school and meeting with the School Council
- 30<sup>th</sup> Jan . Feel Good Day. see flyer

## Family Fun Day – 23<sup>rd</sup> January!!!!!!

It's still not too late to make the most of this wonderful, family opportunity right on your doorstep! This event is being held at the school **tomorrow** between 1 and 3pm at a cost of just £3 per family, regardless of how many of you there are.

You do need to have pre-booked for hula hooping or bike maintenance but if you are desperate to do this and haven't booked a place, please contact Kay Smith, our extended schools officer on: 07545874435 and she'll see if she can squeeze you.

Other activities on offer include: art attack, skateboarding, remote control cars and relaxation sessions which you can just turn up and take part in.

I look forward to seeing many of you tomorrow.

## MARY'S MARVELLOUS, MOUTH-WATERING, MOMENTOUS MEALS

**MONDAY:** Egg and bacon flan OR vegetarian burgers, baked potato wedges, peas, baked beans, followed by peaches and ice-cream.

**TUESDAY:** Roast gammon OR margarita pasta, roast potatoes, peas, carrots followed by cherry fruit pie and custard

**WEDNESDAY:** Tuna pasta bake OR jacket potato and cheese, garlic bread, green beans, sweet corn, followed by fresh fruit jelly.

**THURSDAY:** Oven baked breaded fish fingers, oven chips, peas, baked beans followed by iced sponge.

**FRIDAY:** Roast beef with Yorkshire pudding OR cowboy hot pot, roast potatoes, broccoli, carrots, followed by lemon sponge and custard.

## Can you help Miss Johnston?

I am trying to find a ceilidh or barn dance group (with caller) that are available to perform at an event on the evening of March 27<sup>th</sup>. If you have a contact that you think could help with this request, please could you let Suzanne know their name and number/email or ask them to contact her directly. I'd be **very** grateful!

## Reminder

Please do not allow your child to bring their own toys to school as we cannot take responsibility for ensuring that they return home. Thank you.

#### Year 4 Residential Trip to Burley



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#### FAB

Attached to this Buzz is a letter to gauge whether there is a need for FAB Club to run during February half-term. We would love to run it but can only do so if there are sufficient numbers to cover the running costs. Please return your form by **1<sup>st</sup> February**. Many thanks.

The BSA met on Tuesday this week and are planning lots of fun events for the remainder of the academic year. These include:

Ask the Family quiz night towards the end of February/beginning of March;

A children and families Brightstone Got Talent show after Easter and of course the Summer Sizzler

If you have got any other ideas for events you'd like to see running or would like to get involved, the BSA would love to hear from you. Their next planning meeting (which is never more than an hour and usually involves wine!), will be held at the school on 10<sup>th</sup> February. All welcome!

#### Star: Track 2010 (Fun in Athletics)

I have received details about an event being held on: 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> February (half-term week) at The Fairway Athletic Centre, Sandown. It will be from 10am-2:30pm for 7-10 year olds. The cost for 3 days is £30, which includes a goodie bag.

If you'd like to see what fun athletics can be then contact Ray Scovell on: 405340 or email: [isleofwightac@btinternet.com](mailto:isleofwightac@btinternet.com) for more information and an application form.

#### Uniform

A small reminder about school uniform. I have seen some interesting shoes this week. School shoes should be Velcro, buckled or laced and in black or brown. Heels and wedges are not suitable for school and can pose health and safety risks to your child. There have also been several children without PE kits in school and plimsolls that do not fit. Please could you check your child's clothing over the weekend. Thank you.

**Walk the Wight** We are delighted to be participating in Walk the Wight 2010 and would love to have 100% participation at Brightstone! We haven't got there yet! If you haven't done so already, please return your form to the school office, no later than **FRIDAY**. If you have lost your joining form, please speak to Suzanne, or download one from the school website.

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 16<sup>th</sup> May or you can walk another 4 units at any other time. Further details about Walk the Wight will be published via the Buzz later in the year.

**EVERYONE CAN PARTICIPATE IN THIS BY SIMPLY WALKING FOR JUST 30 MINUTES EVERY WEEK – GO ON, FILL IN THAT FORM, GET WALKING, GET HEALTHY AND SUPPORT THE ISLE OF WIGHT HOSPICE.**

#### Reorganisation

I am pleased to inform parents that this week the Governing Body met to approve the staffing and projected financial structure for Brightstone School, for when it moves to become a through Primary School. I have submitted this information to the Local Authority, along with the new posts which I require for September 2010 and 2011. During March I will be seeing people with an interest in these posts, in line with the Council's redeployment policy. We will also be advertising for a Deputy Headteacher to join our team and this post will be open to existing staff, island and mainland candidates. We hope to have all positions filled by Easter. Class structure will be dependent upon the number of pupils received from Chale and as soon as this becomes clear, I will inform parents of how the year groups will be structured from September. This will change again in September 2011 when we retain our Year 6 pupils. With regards to accommodation for pupils, we are still in negotiations with the Local Authority and Diocese and hope to be able to let parents know where each class will be taught, again around Easter time. The governors' reorganisation working group are meeting monthly and I am attending frequent meetings with the Local Authority to ensure that we have a smooth transition when we retain our Year 4's as Year 5's in September. I am extremely excited about the approved staffing structure, which will be of enormous benefit to the children and families of Brightstone.

#### Farmhouse Breakfast Week - 25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> January 2010 - NEXT WEEK

The staff and children are looking forward to participating in Farmhouse Breakfast Week next week. During the week, we (and some outside visitors), will be talking to the children about making healthy eating choices, particularly at breakfast time and celebrating some of the wonderful produce that is available on the island. Each morning after collective worship, we will be providing a different breakfast for the children to eat (and in some cases prepare) and on Friday we will be offering a breakfast to you! Thank you to those of you who have offered to come in to help prepare breakfast next week-class teachers will be in touch with you to take up your offer! If you volunteered for Monday, thank you, but we have the Community Chefs in on that day, so will not need any further help. **We will not be having a golden assembly next Friday**, instead you are welcome to come in to the hall, have some breakfast and a cup of tea and just take the opportunity to talk to one another, some governors and members of staff. If you didn't complete and return your response slip to attend this last week, please alert Suzanne so that we can ensure that we have catered sufficiently! Our extended schools officer will be attending and is keen to hear your suggestions for further activities that we can hold at the school, as well as our school nurse if you would like to chat informally about any medical issues related to your child. Second hand uniform will also be available and we are kindly asking for anybody who would like to, to make a voluntary donation to the World Food Programme who are currently supporting the efforts to provide emergency food to those effected by the Haiti earthquake. I look forward to seeing you. ☺