

Dear parents, carers and children,

It was lovely to see everyone on Monday after the Easter holidays. I hope you all had the chance to spend some quality time with family and friends, and get out and about in the beautiful spring sunshine. While the Easter weekend is a perfect guilt-free opportunity to eat lots of chocolate, we must also remember the true meaning of Easter, and have the chance to pause, reflect, enjoy and celebrate the wonderful new life that is emerging all around us.



If you haven't done so already, please take the time to pop into the **Quay Arts** this weekend, where you will see our **Y6 children's artwork** as part of an exhibition about 'Relationships'. Schools were invited to create a piece of art around friendship, family, relationship with oneself or even linking to community and wider planet through the likes of the Island's UNESCO biosphere status or COP26 agenda. Our Y6 children chose to create a photographic piece of art focusing on 'hands': '*Hands are a cornerstone in any relation*-



ship. Whether touching or not, their actions have the power to soothe, support, defend and entertain. Year 6 have explored the different ways in which these are realised. Working with iPads in small groups against plain backgrounds, they created and posed a range of positions – often subtly re-aligning to capture the image that gave them the clarity and impact they were striving for. The final shots were tinted before printing; the uniformity of the colours contrast with and enhance the myriad of gestures and messages.' It is well worth a visit to see this beautiful piece of art as well as the rest of the exhibition. (You can also see photographs of it on our Facebook page.)



On Thursday 26th May we will be celebrating **Jubilee Day**. As part of these celebrations, the children will be taking part in a range of activities, including creating portraits of the Queen for the village library, having a 'street' party in the playground, taking part in country dancing, among other things. Everyone is invited to wear red, white and blue. Watch this space for more information.

Saturday 14th May brings **Wolverton Folk and Blues Festival**. This is a fun-filled day with lots of fabulous music and activities. The BSA are running a tea tent and children's craft tent and are looking for volunteers; if you are able to spare an hour or two, please contact the office or any of the BSA members. Money raised from the day is shared between Leukaemia Research and Brighstone Primary School, which is fantastic.



During Golden Worship this morning, we said a **fond farewell** to Heather, our wonderful school cook, before she heads off on her well-deserved retirement. Each class created a card for her, and we presented her with a bouquet of flowers and card from the staff. The Chartwells team also presented her with some lovely gifts, and the children said some heart-warming comments about the delicious meals that they have enjoyed. One phrase has stayed with me: "She cooks all the food with a smile". Thank you and happy retirement!

I hope you all have fantastic Bank Holiday weekend, and I look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday 3rd May.

Best wishes, Mrs Lennon and the Brighstone team



School Dinners

Children in Year R, 1 and 2 are entitled to a 'universal' free school meal everyday.

Children in Years 3-6 are charged at £2.15 per day.

Week 3	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Option 1	Mac 'n' Cheese	Chicken Noodles	Roast Pork	Meatballs	Fish Fingers
Option 2	Veggie Sausage	Veggie Balls	Pastry Slice	Quorn Hot Dog	Veggie Burger
Dessert	Oatie Biscuit	Fruity Flapjack	Ice Cream	Chocolate Cake	Crispy Crackle Bar





Koala	All of Koala class school dinner children for cutting up all of their own food.		
Polar Bear	Maddie - showing great perseverance and progress in Maths.		
Lemur	Devon - joining in with class discussions in English with thought-provoking questions and reasoning.		
Chimpanzee	Paige - for settling in so wonderfully and trying her best this week.		
Orangutan	Leila - for having a positive mindset in Maths.		
Bee-Haviour	Ruby - for being so super smiley always!		
Sports Bee	Lucy - for showing great sportsmanship.		

Whole school dates

Monday 2nd May: Bank Holiday Monday Sunday 14th May: Wolverton Folk and Blues Festival Thursday 26th May: Jubilee Celebrations (mufti red, white and blue)

Reminders Check our FACEBOOK page for updates! https://www.facebook.com/BrighstoneCEPrimarySchool



Attendance Matters!

Week Commencing 25th April Whole School attendance target: **96.5%**

Actual Attendance: **98.65%** Late marks this week: **6**



BUILDING RESILIENCE

Resilience is our ability to cope in the face of adversity, trauma or stress. This is something we begin to learn in childhood.



TOP TIPS

Here are some top tips for helping children build resilience.



Remember, bad feelings don't last, have a purpose and prompt us to do things differently.



Try to normalise setbacks. Help your child to see that it is not unusual to have difficulties in life.



Help them to see that problems can be solved.



Encourage young people to keep things in perspective – the problem is usually confined to only one part of their lives.



Remember the value of humour – laughing can be a great release (but only if it is well-intentioned).



Encourage children/young people to accept responsibility for their actions.



When reading stories, or discussing events, point out how people manage to overcome difficulties.



Remember that learning is often frustrating. Encourage children/young people to persist and believe they can get there.



Provide support. Help them to see there are people who care about them and can give them help and advice when needed.



Create a positive environment emphasising the importance of relationships and having a sense of purpose.

News from the Classrooms

Wightlink Green Fund Grant

We are delighted to share the news that we have been awarded a **Green Fund grant** from Wightlink, who invited all Island primary schools to apply for funds to assist projects which sought to conserve nature, enhance biodiversity, encourage recycling, reduce the use of plastics and water or save energy. We have been awarded £660 to create a wildflower meadow, native woodland, mini habitat and vegetable garden with a tumbling compost bin.

Thanks to the Woodland Trust Free Trees for Schools, a small copse of wild cherry, silver birch and rowan trees has been planted at the end of our playing field by children from Year 6 and Year 3.

We were able to do this thanks to the grant from the Wightlink Green Fund to buy tools and a 50% discount from Isle of Wight Compost to give the trees a good start with a giant bag of compost!

The woodland copse will provide food and shelter for birds and small animals and will eventually be further planted with wild flowers.





















News from the Classrooms

<u>Amey</u>

Yesterday Year 4 and Year 5 had a fantastic visit from Heidi at Amey who told us all about what happens to our rubbish and recycling. Heidi showed us videos of all of the different machinery used to process our rubbish and recycling, as well as talking us though all of the different elements of our recycling and how long different materials take to decompose. Did you know that a banana skin can take two years to decompose!? (We didn't.) A plastic bag can take 500-1000 years to decompose, which is why we all really need to reduce, reuse and recycle. We will be thinking about ways in which we can do this in the coming months.





















News from the Classrooms

Year 2 Forest Fairy Tale Walk

Today Year 2 went on a trip to Brighstone forest. They undertook lots of tasks including creating ephemeral art, den building, potion making, troll hunting and adjective finding. It was lots of fun and we're all going to sleep well tonight! (including the teachers!)

Thank you to Mrs Kathy Grogan for helping to lead the trip.

















Who are Brighstone School Association (The BSA)?

We are simply a group of parents and teachers working in partnership to raise much needed funds for our children. We meet about once every half term. Most of us have full time jobs and other commitments as well as our own families.

Chair - Katherine Harrison; Vice Chair - Franki Barker;

Treasurer - Sarah Cartmell; Secretary - Kate Cambridge

What do we do?

We explore fundraising ideas such as cake sales, mufti, bingo, community events, school discos and Mothers' Day shop, to name a few.

One of our biggest fundraisers is Wolverton Folk and Blues Festival and we desperately need volunteers throughout the day!

We then use this money to support your children's education and enjoyment, such as paying towards trips, buying Easter and Christmas gifts, and donating towards equipment such as a new trim trail for the playground (coming soon).

How much do we need to raise each year?

On average we need to raise about £5k every year!

How can you help?

Join us: you are already a member as your child goes to our school! You can attend meetings and share your ideas too!

Support us: volunteer to help at events, bake cakes for cake sales. If every parent helped at one event every year it would make an incredible difference!



Promote our events: Attend events and share via social media and word of mouth. Join us on Facebook and Instagram!!

