



'Enjoying Learning Together'

30 September 2016

Dear Parent/Carer/Governors

Another week has flown by and it has been very busy in classes with excellent learning taking place. I have been blown away by two poems from Caitlin and Blaze, and Lola and Max in Year 6 which tell the story of the book they have been studying as a class.

It has also been lovely to see how great our children have been in supporting new arrivals into our school from a range of countries. I want to give special praise to Ellie and Dylan for really showing so much support in Year 5.

I have been looking around our classrooms this week, with a focus on learning environments. I have set our classes the challenge this week to create a display, in 'Together Time', which celebrates the diverse nature of the children. If you have any things at home which come from home countries that you would like to share, then please bring them in to class teachers.

Lots of classes are having trips and it is really important to ensure that you give your written permission and payment no later than the day before. If permission isn't given the day before a trip by 3:30pm, then unfortunately your child will not be allowed to attend the trip. It would be a dreadful shame if this was to happen.

The weather is very changeable at the moment so can you please ensure your child has a coat in school, with their name in it.

Can I also remind you all that if you bring a birthday cake into school, to share with other children, that it must be cut up at home as we are not able to do this in school.

Please check with the class teacher as there may be children with allergies in the class. We are not able to run activities for your child's birthday in the school day, this needs to be done outside of school.

Our 'Play Buddies' have begun this week and they have shown so much positivity and enthusiasm to the role. They will be looking out for anyone who maybe feels left out or shy. Hats off to Ben Boulton who came up with their motto 'Invite and Unite'.

Today we say "Goodbye and Good Luck" to Lisa who has worked in our Breakfast Club and as a lunchtime SMSA since 2008. Lisa is leaving us for pastures new and will be greatly missed. Don't forget us Lisa and when you collect your grandson from school, do come in and say "Hello!"

I hope you all have a lovely weekend. Stuart

R. This week the children have continued to explore the classroom through engaging in child initiated activities. They have done a great job at learning each other's names. The children have been sharing their special boxes throughout the week. We have all thoroughly enjoyed looking at and hearing about their special objects.

On Tuesday 4 October 2016, we will be holding a Reception parent meeting in our classroom from 3:00pm -3:15pm. There are a few things that we need to go through with all parents of the children in our class. We look forward to seeing you.

Y1. In Hazel Class we have been reading 'Goran and Ghyston the Bristol Giants'. We are really looking forward to going to the Suspension Bridge on Friday morning to see if we can spot any giants.

In Maths we have been learning to count in 2s and finding out if numbers are odd or even.

In Topic lessons we are learning about things that are alive, once alive and never alive.

Y2. In Chestnut Class we have been learning to add simple numbers using a few different methods. We've been practising counting in tens from any 2 digit number, e.g. $27 + 30$.

In Writing we've been making sure that we write complete sentences with all the right punctuation in place.

Our Topic lessons have shown us how the ear and the eye works, and we've been learning to present our ideas in a clear way.

Thank you for making sure that everyone was ready for PE with their kit - it's very much appreciated.

Y3. What a wonderful time we had at Cheddar Caves! We had so much fun and learnt so much in the process. The children were very well behaved and very supportive to each other. Meeting Cheddar man was quite a unique experience and so was dressing up as people from the Stone Age. The children were so inspired they may be asking you to return to Cheddar with them. We encourage you to go; it is well worth the trip.

Y4. This week we have been writing our own spooky story. We worked on it as a class making sure we added in lots of adjectives and a few similes.

In Maths we've worked on rounding numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000 to help us with estimating.

We also designed our own ancient Egyptian family and thought about what their lives would be like.

Y5. We have arrived at the final stage of the first 'Talk 4 Writing' journey of the year, where we will write our very own legend, inspired by the Greek mythology we have studied this term.

In Maths, we are applying some of the work we have done on place value to exciting problems about currency, and finding it much easier to add and subtract very large numbers as a result.

We are learning about the origins of democracy in History and appreciating the benefits of this system of decision making.

Y6. This week, we have finished our class book, 'Floodland'. It is fair to say that I have never seen a group of children get so much out of one text and be completely and utterly immersed and enthused about their learning. The work they have produced has been exceptional.

In Maths, we have been thinking about how to carry out calculations quickly, using different methods. With much perseverance, the children have got it and are using their new methods confidently!

Attendance Update

Data: Monday 26 – Friday 30 September 2016

Rocky the Attendance Dog		Punctuality Polar Bear	
Awarded to Y5 with 97.78% recorded for the week Well Done Y5 ☺		Awarded to Y2 who have again recorded ZERO late marks for the week – Brilliant Y2 ☺	
Class	% Attendance	Late marks recorded Before close of register (L)	Late marks recorded After close of register (U)
R	95.00%	1	3
1	95.42%	2	1
2	95.65%	0	0
3	95.20%	2	0
4	91.40%	1	1
5	97.78%	1	0
6	88.89%	0	1
257 minutes late for school this week which is just over 4 hours of missed learning due to solely to lateness, with the exception of our Y2 class.			

Y4 – Trip to the Museum

Next week on Tuesday afternoon, the class will be visiting the museum. The children will be leaving after lunch and will be back in time in time for the end of the school day. As this is a walking trip, consent is not required.

We are looking for a parent to volunteer to accompany the class on this trip, please see Dave or email: st.michael.p@bristol-schools.uk your help would be much appreciated. Thank you.

On Monday 10 October at 3:20pm you are welcome to pop into the classroom from 3:20pm to see the small film clip resulting from the work the children did whilst in Y3 (last year) with Codsteaks.

Y5 – Trip to Caerleon

At the time of writing this newsletter, there are **7 children** who have not returned trip admin (consent & payment) for next Wednesday's trip. Please ensure we have received all admin by: Tuesday 4 October at 3:30pm. Trip admin will not be processed on the day of a trip.

Flu Vaccination Leaflet

Children in Y1 Y2 and Y3 were recently given a flu vaccination pack. The deadline 23 September has passed to return forms; however, due to the lack of forms being returned, NHS has extended the deadline to Monday 3 October 2016. A member of the team from Boots in Broadmead will collect all forms we have, so please return to the school office on Monday morning. Many thanks.

Child's Name**Child's Ethnic/Cultural Details**

Country of Birth	Nationality
First Language	Home Language
Ethnicity	Religion

The Department for Education (DFE) requires us to complete a school census three times during the academic year. Next Thursday is our first census of this academic year and we have been asked to collect the additional data (see the table above). It will be most appreciated if everyone could complete and return the data as soon as possible (email is fine) so all information can be correctly entered. Many thanks.

Story Box

The Friends of St. Michael's (FoSM) have kindly agreed to meet the cost of an upcoming performance by Story Box for the whole school of 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. The children will enjoy this performance in January 2017. Many thanks to FoSM.

Dates for Your Diary

Tues 4 Oct	Y4: OUT trip to the Museum. This is a walking trip so consent is not required.
Tues 4 Oct	Reception: Parent meeting in the classroom at 3:00pm
Wed 5 Oct	Y5: OUT trip to Caerleon. Consent and Packed lunch required.
Mon 10 Oct	Y4: Parents welcome to the classroom at 3:20pm to view the small film clip from last year (Codsteaks)
Wed 12 Oct	Y6: OUT to Central Library for a performance. Back to school for lunch, so normal lunch arrangements apply.
Fri 21 Oct	End of Term 1 Usual time: 3:15pm
Mon 31 Oct	INSET DAY 1 School closed to all pupils
Tues 1 Nov	INSET DAY 2 School closed to all pupils
Wed 2 Nov	Start of Term 2 Usual start time: 8:45am