Brunswick Park Primary School e-Newsletter 12

Friday 2 December 2016

Tel: 0207 525 9033 **www.brunswickparkprimary.co.uk**

December's value is Peace

Dear Parents and Carers

I cannot quite believe that December is already upon us! The decorations are up, and Chantelle and Kelly have been dressed in their Santa hats whilst making the school look festive and celebratory at this special time of year. Key Stage 1 pupils have been rehearsing for their wonderful (and very funny) production of A Midwife Crisis for performance on 14 and 15 December. You are in for a treat! There is a ticket allocation of 2 per child for 1 production, and you will find details of how to get them below in this Newsletter. Our value this month is Peace, in recognition of the spirit and messages of Christmas and of the importance in these difficult times of treating each other with respect, courtesy and tolerance. Without respect, courtesy and tolerance, our values from September to November, there can be no peace, and without peace the world becomes a dangerous place. We must do all we can to bring it about and teach the children its importance.

Please do take a good look at our website www.brunswickparkprimary.co.uk for plenty of information and news about the school and what the children are doing and learning, including results of our recent parental survey (also on this newsletter) and we look forward to our Christmas Jumper and Celebration Clothes Day in aid of the charity Save the Children and to the FoBs Festive Friday Event on 16 December. I am sure there will be all sorts of flashing lights and festive designs, so please get dressed up and come along!

Wishing you all the very best for a peaceful and enjoyable weekend

Susannah Bellingham

Key Stage 1 Christmas Production

Rehearsals for our fabulous production of A Midwife Crisis (a hilarious new nativity due for delivery in December) are going very well indeed. You can come and see it at the following times:

Wednesday 14 December at 10.00am and at 2.00pm
Thursday 15 December at 10.00am and at 2.00pm

Performances are in the Main School Building in the Middle Hall. Because space is limited, there is a ticket allocation of 2 tickets per child for 1 performance only. This provides a fair opportunity for parents/carers of all children involved in the production to see it. Tickets are available from the School Office from Monday 5 December. Thank you for your support and co-operation, and we look forward to a wonderful show.

Healthy Weight

Brunswick Park is a Healthy School, and the children are served nutritionally balanced meals at lunchtimes in the Bistro. To support our work on healthy eating and nutrition, we are hosting 2 Healthy Weight Assemblies given by Yancy Jensen, a Specialist NHS Nurse. Look out for Healthy Food leaflets in your child's Book Bag. Next Term, Yancy will host a workshop in school for parents and carers about hidden sugars and fats in food.

School Photographs

Photographs have arrived and proofs have been distributed to all children. If you would like to receive photographs before the end of Term, you need to place an online order by **Monday 5 December**. You can choose for photographs to be delivered to the school free of charge, or pay for them to be delivered to an alternative address. If you would like support to place your online order, please come to the Main School Office on Monday morning after 9.15am where staff are available to help.

Parent/Carer Survey

During November, we conducted a survey of our Parents and Carers, and have put the following information on the School Website under the Whole School News Tab. We asked you to score 8 statements out of a possible scale of 10. The lowest possible mark on the scale was 1 (strongly disagree) through 5 (neither agree nor disagree) through 7 (agree) with responses of 8+ being 'strongly agree'.

We received 85 responses, from families with children in year groups from Nursery – Year 6, representing a good cross-section of our school community.

The results for each statement are in the brackets below:

1. My child enjoys school (9.3) with 10 being the highest possible scaled score
2. I think my child is doing well (9)
3. Brunswick Park is a safe place (9)
4. The school gives me enough information about my child's education (9)
5. It is easy to speak to my child's teacher (9.4)
6. I think the school listens to what I have to say (9)
7. I understand the role of school governors (8)
8. Brunswick Park gets good results (8.6)

Some Parents/Carers chose to include comments.

A sample of the comments include:

"She has just started Reception and is really enjoying it"
"She has settled in well and I am impressed with her progress"
"I believe I get information regularly and am kept up to date via email (Parentmail)"
"The teacher is always available before and after school"
"Even when she is sick, she still wants to come to school"
"It's a very, very safe place"
"Never a problem to get him to school"
"Really coming on this year with Mrs R"

Parents and Carers tell us they are happy with the amount of information they get, and the different formats like Parentmail, the school website and newsletters. Some parents requested a bit more notice for whole-school events. We ensure that all key information is put on the first newsletter of the term to meet this request.

A pleasing number of Parents and Carers felt confident that they understood the role of governors in school. A small number of parents new to the school wanted to know a bit more about the role of governors. Please look out for a planned 'Meet your School Governors' event early in Spring Term to meet this request.

A grateful thanks goes to all Parents and Carers who helped us by taking part in the survey. Please also remember to use your 'Right to reply' on our fortnightly newsletter. We value your constructive feedback.

FoBs Festive Friday and Christmas Jumper Day

This year, The FoBs Festive Friday After School Celebration will take place on Friday 16 December and will be combined with Christmas Jumper Day. We are asking for donations of £1 to raise money for the Save the Children charity. So dust off your Christmas Jumpers and your celebration clothes for a day of festive fun!

In School, classes are making a WISH BOX that will be placed under a Christmas Tree on Festive Friday. Children will write or draw a wish to put in their class box. This could be a wish for someone else, the School, the local community or the world. It can also be a focus on saying 'thank you'. The wishes will be read out on Festive Friday by the children of each class.

Year 2 Multiskills Event

Andrew Payne, our specialist PE Teacher, and Year 2 staff took a group of Year 2 children to the Multiskills Sporting Event at Bacon's College on Thursday 17 November. Having competed against other schools in Southwark, Brunswick Park's Year 2 team finished a glowing 3rd overall. Well done!

Nursery Bedtime Stories event

Following the success of last week's Reception Bedtime Stories day, the Nursery decided to host their own, on Wednesday 30 November.

Biscuits were baked from scratch, hot chocolate was made, and everyone came to school in cosy nightwear, with their special teddies and comforters. The children enjoyed a day of soft lights, story-telling and cuddling up in cosy spaces. Parents and Carers joined us to share books, biscuits and hot drinks. We had a very special day! Thank you to all the Parents and Carers who joined in to make it extra-special.

Sharing favourite story books in a calm environment is an excellent way to encourage a love of reading, as well as enjoying a calm and quiet time with your child. Please look out for ***other family events in the Spring term.***

Safety in the Nature Garden

The Nature Garden is showing the beautiful signs of winter, including a rather icy pond. It has been mentioned that children have been testing the surface of the pond with their feet.

In light of this, under no circumstances are children allowed to enter the pond without an adult. Parents and carers should be super-vigilant of their own children and others when in this area.

The Nature Garden is a community space and it is not the responsibility of the School's to manage or supervise the area.

Pupil Survey – the results are in!

Throughout November, Ms Inniss-Griffith conducted a pupil survey for children from Years 1 – 6, asking them questions about their lessons, their friendships, and how safe and happy they felt in school.

The results confirmed for us that:

- ***the vast majority of children feel happy and safe in school – 94% of the children agreed with this***
- ***they know which adults to go to if they need support – 87%***
- ***that the children enjoy their learning and activities and get the right help to improve it – 95%***
- ***the teachers are fair and have high expectations of the children throughout the day – 93%***

Children told us that most of their friends behave well, but that there is still some work to do on helping all children their do their best at all times. This will be a focus and will be measured again in our next pupil survey.

A special thanks goes to School Council members, Parent Volunteers Mrs Oshileye and Mr Koffi, and to our Year 6 ambassadors who counted results and shared findings in their classes.

Reminders to all Parents and Carers

Correct School Uniform:
Please ensure your child comes to school in the correct uniform. All children must wear black shoes, black or grey school trousers or skirts and socks and Hijabs should be plain white, black or grey.

Punctuality:
Please ensure your child arrives to school on time every day as arriving late is embarrassing and missed learning time affects achievement and stops your child from reaching his or her potential.

Parking:
Cars must NOT be parked in the Ambulance bay on Picton Street. Parking carelessly puts children at risk.

Safeguarding Information

The designated team for Safeguarding at Brunswick Park Primary is Susannah Bellingham, Fiona O'Malley, Andrea Inniss and Karen Smith. If you have any concerns about any child, please contact us.

We are committed to Safeguarding all children and members of our school community and take all concerns seriously.

Attendance update for the week ending 25 November 2016

School attendance for this week is 96.5%
Congratulations to 1B for 100% attendance this week!
Whole School Attendance Target = 96%

For your information, key school policies are available on request from the School Office and can be downloaded from the school Website under the 'Our School' tab.

Please check the website for further details about what children have been doing and learning in school.

Missed a newsletter? All newsletters are available for download from the School Website under the 'News' tab.
http://www.brunswickparkprimary.co.uk

Right to Reply:

2/12/16: Please use this to give us constructive suggestions or comments, including your name and your child's class and hand it to the School Office Staff. Thank you.

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