

St Briavels Primary School

Newsletter



No. 37 24th November 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am so glad that I at least managed to see the children in Monday's collective worship as this week I have been out being updated on educational and Ofsted developments and have missed being with the children. My collective worship was focused on happiness and being 'bucket fillers'. That is, doing kind and good deeds to fill someone's invisible bucket with happiness and understanding if you are unkind to others you are dipping into their happiness bucket and removing happiness. Children heard the message that you can't fill your own bucket by dipping into someone else's! It's part of helping our children to continue to think about treating each other kindly so we can be a successful team and enjoy coming to school.

On the Ofsted note, I am aware that they will be thinking about paying us a visit as it was 2011 when we were last inspected. The goal posts have moved since then and the 'Outstanding' label is harder to gain, however we are working hard towards ensuring that we are the best we can be and that we have all the statutory requirements in place. We are using support from the local authority to improve our teaching and learning and staff are excited about the new possibilities.

Thanks to those who have already supplied slippers for their children, it is definitely helping that children remove their muddy shoes. I have had further feedback from parents and the suggestion that we look at making better use of our front space for playtimes. I am exploring how to make this area safe and secure so we could do this, as always with consideration of the funding implications.

I am aware it is almost (but not quite, shhhh!) time for us to mention the upcoming festivities and wanted you to know that the performance from KS1 this year has been changed from the previous years' script based plays. This year I have asked Miss Farr and Mrs Marshall to be courageous and so, we have taken an inclusive, child led approach enabling the children to have greater input into the creation and production of the performance. This has been so that this fabulous opportunity has greater impact on all areas of our children's learning and enjoyment. I look forward to your feedback!

Sarah Helm
Executive Head teacher
The Wye Forest Federation

Science Week

Over the next few weeks, each class will be taking part in an electricity science week. The children will be using their scientific enquiry skills to answer questions about electricity and circuits. The younger children in school will be thinking about how to stay safe around electricity and how we use electricity each day.

The older children will be experimenting with circuits, finding out how they work, how they can expand them and whether other materials can be added to a circuit to make a bulb light.

We will share some of the photographs with you, we look forward to an exciting few weeks!

Dates for your diary:

PTA Christmas Fair

Friday 1st December

Playgroup—Christmas photo booth

9-10am—Monday 4th December

KS1 Christmas Production

2pm—Thursday 7th December

6pm—Friday 8th December

KS2 Xmas Theatre –

Monday 11th December

Early Years Christmas Production

2pm—Monday 11th December

Christmas Dinner

Thursday 14th December

Christingle and End of term

Friday 15th December at 1pm

Church

Term ends at 2pm.

PTA Christmas Party

Friday 15th December 2pm

End of Term

**Monday 18th December – Tuesday
2nd January 2018**

Inset Day –

Tuesday 2nd January 2018

Back to School -

Wednesday 3rd January 2018

Half Term

Monday 12th February—Friday 16th
February 2018

Inset Day -

Monday 19th February 2018

Back to School -

Tuesday 20th February 2018

Children in Need

**Well done everyone. We
raised a fantastic £184.80**



Speedwell Class Trip

On Tuesday 21st November, Speedwell class visited Cadbury's World as part of their topic on the Maya civilization.

We learnt about the history of the Cadbury family and how long they had been producing chocolate.

We had a talk about the Mayan civilization and their role in inventing chocolate. We were shown a copy of a Maya codex and how long they were!

Tao enjoyed being dressed as a Maya Chieftain and Victor had a go as a birthday treat.

We had a fantastic day, came away with quite a lot of chocolate and lots of ideas to follow up in the next few weeks in school



Lunchtime

Healthy Lunches

Can we please remind everyone that packed lunches should be a Healthy Lunch.

Change4Life suggests that a healthier lunchbox should:

- Be based on starchy carbohydrate e.g. bread, or potato
- Include fresh fruit and vegetable/salad
- Include protein e.g. eggs, fish, beans, cheese or dairy
- Include a side dish such as a low fat low sugar yoghurt
- Include a drink such as water, skimmed or semi skimmed milk, sugar free or no added sugar drinks

For more information—[www. Change4life.org.uk](http://www.Change4life.org.uk)

Please be aware that we will no longer provide a bin for packed lunch contents as we feel it is important that you are aware of how much your child has eaten.

Mid—day Supervisors

**We are in need of some MDS support.
We have need of relief MDS, so that we
can call on people when we have MDS's
off sick.**

****Help needed****

**We do need some support for two
weeks—8-15th Dec and 3-5th Jan.**

**Do you know anyone who would like to
come and help the children at school?**

Foxglove Class Trips

Foxglove visited the castle as part of our local geography / history topic. Will said ' we learned all about the blood-thirsty medieval times and how the castle was the centre of the forest.' Ophelia thought the gory facts about life back then made the trip really interesting and memorable.



Foxglove Class Trips

We are really enjoying our day so far at the Heritage centre - Florence said " I really enjoyed making chimney towers from old charcoal stacks - using the logs in the forest. "

We then learned all about free mining in the forest - Harry G enjoyed learning about the conditions in the mines and they all enjoyed pulling each other in the hods across the museum!





CHRISTMAS FAYRE

*Usbourne Books Anny Claire Crafts Urchin Jewellery
Snow Queen Cinderhill Farm Bronllan Crafts
Chateau BonBon Forever Living Briony Bell
PLUS*

*Class Stalls including Christmas Tree Twig
Decorations, Marshmallow Snowmen, Christmas
Wreaths and wrapping paper, Pony Bead and Monkey
Nut decorations, Christmas labels and cards and a
Christmas Cinema to keep the little ones entertained
while you shop!*

*And not forgetting the Christmas Café serving mulled
wine, hot chocolate, cakes and mince pies, the
Christmas Hamper raffle, Father Christmas
and MORE!*

*Friday 1st December from 3.10pm in the School Hall
Shop 'til you drop!*

Well, the Apron and Book Bag orders are in! After much sticking of lovely drawings (which as we have A LOT of children in the school was a bit of a challenge!), we're really pleased with the results and we're confident you're going to LOVE them. We'll let you know when they're back so that you can collect your orders, but in the meantime, if you haven't paid for them yet, please get that money in asap.

And what can I say about the Mum's PJ Party? It was a REAL giggle, so thanks to all who came along and giggled so much. Everyone had so much fun that we're going to do it again in the New Year, so watch out for dates after Christmas.

And don't forget, if you haven't booked your little ones in for the Christmas Party (hot dogs, ice cream and Elf!), then please do that asap by letting me or the Office know. Please bear in mind this is a PG film, and that if your child is in Bluebell class, you'll need to accompany them! The cost for the party is just £5 per child, and it will take place on the last day of term (Friday 15th December) straight after the Christingle Service.

So, lots to get excited and a bit Christmasy with!

Jo and the PTA Team.

St Briavels Christmas Medley
Sunday 10th December 2017
5.30pm until 7.30pm
St Briavels Church

*St Briavels People's Choir
St Briavels School Choir
The Beaujoladies and more!*

*Adults £5 Children £3
For tickets call 07584 119592 or
email jmdavies@yahoo.com*