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Newsletter 38

20th July 2018

Dates for your Diary

Tue 24 th July	Year 6 Games/activities afternoon
Wed 25 th July	Year 6 Leavers Assembly @ 11.00am Year 6 finish @ 12.00 Term Ends @ 1.30pm
Thu 26 th July to Fri 31 st August	SUMMER HOLIDAYS
Mon 3 rd September	INSET DAY
Tue 4 th September	Term Starts (Breakfast Club open from 7.30am)

This Week's Author, Reader & Mathematician of the Week

Congratulations to:

Author of the week

KS1 2BC Roman & KS2 3S Marwah

Reader of the week

KS1 1B Bella & KS2 4C Max

Mathematician of the week

KS1 Rec WR Maddison & KS2 3D Ollie



Breakfast Club from Mrs Stanley

Well the end of term is nearly here and no more early mornings for a while! We have had a great time at Breakfast Club and enjoyed all the activities. Today's 'French Breakfast' was to celebrate France winning the World Cup. Thank you very much to all our Year 6's who have helped at Breakfast Club especially with the pets and helping with the little children. Good luck in your new schools.

Breakfast Club opens at 7.30am every morning and we hope to see as many of you as possible for breakfast and then enjoy an activity. Have a lovely Summer Break and see you in September. Any questions please ask to speak to Mrs Stanley.

Headteacher's Message

Yesterday's curriculum evening was based on the theme of 'peace.' Work on display from each class, included poetry, art work, biographies, origami, wind-chimes and much, much more! It looked amazing and highlighted just how talented and hardworking our pupils are. Thank you to everyone who turned out for either of the sessions - they are always such lovely evenings.

Thank you for your patience regarding the new classes for September. Over the last few years, there have been frequent headlines in the national press referring to a 'teacher recruitment crisis.' This may sound like an exaggeration but it is, in reality, an accurate reflection of the current climate that schools around the country find themselves in. As you know, we have a number of teachers who are leaving us next week and we have had a number of vacancies to fill. I would like to reassure parents that, despite the increasingly difficult recruitment picture, we will only employ teachers who we feel are good enough to give pupils at Bowmansgreen an excellent education. I want the best teachers at Bowmansgreen and we will not employ teachers just to make up the numbers. Because of this, we have been very careful to wait for the right teachers to come along and then match them with the classes that we feel are the best fit for them.

Although we have teachers for every class in September, we made our most recent appointment only yesterday and we are still recruiting which is why there has been a delay in confirming the names of teachers and classes. I apologise if it has left any of you feeling anxious and uncertain but it is essential that we get this part of the process right. We have some fantastic new teachers joining the team and I am very excited and confident about the quality of teaching that all of your children will receive in September.

On that note.... we will also have some other exciting news to share in September. Although we are not yet able to share the results of our Key Stage 2 SATs with parents, I can confirm that they are significantly better than last year, so much so that we are likely to be one of the most improved schools in Hertfordshire. Watch this space in the autumn term for the actual facts and figures. You will be even more proud of our amazing pupils!

Music Exams from Mrs Street

Quite a few children took music exams last week at the school. As we had so many, the examiner came to visit us which is very unusual for a primary school! Many took their first exam, the Prep Test. For this, they had to play three exercises from memory and two pieces, one with piano accompaniment or as a piano duet. Ruby EG, Ruby N and Hudson took the recorder Prep Test, Eva took the violin Prep Test. Mikail, Jack, Jacey, Samuel, Dylan and Seyawash all took the piano Prep Test. In year four, Jacey, William, Charlotte, Aimee, Kiera, Ella, Avril and Nathandria all took the singing Prep Test. Year four have been learning the songs for this, (Lazy Sunday Afternoon and The Haunted House) in class. Jacey also took grade 3 recorder (she had three exams on the same day!) and Elissa took grade 4 recorder.



The examiner was very impressed with the high standard of performing, especially as all of the Prep Test exercises were performed from memory and all of the children played confidently, musically and in tune. The examiner also said that it was unusual to hear such good recorder playing. Well done to all of the children for their hard work practising and for performing so well!

The Special Recognition award in the U21 Elite Sports Performer at the St Albans and District Sports Award evening went to an athlete who has excelled in multiple disciplines.

Lily is an exceptional basketball player, having represented the County for the past three years. Lily currently plays for the East of England U11 squad as well as the U12 and U14 Oaklands Wolves squads. Lily is also a member of the School's Football, Hockey, Athletics and Cricket teams and also captained the Girls Netball squad in a local league against external clubs.

Lily is a Sports Ambassador for Bowmansgreen Primary School, regularly encouraging and supporting the other girls and younger children to get active and involved in sports. In addition to this, Lily is a Black belt in Taekwon Do, passing her grading at just 10 years old, making her one of the youngest members at her club to earn this grade. This year she became a National Double Silver medallist at the South East Open Taekwon Do competition.



Congratulations Lily!

Home Learning

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for supporting your child with their home learning during this academic year. There have been some fantastic pieces of work produced! In school, we have seen that home learning is having a positive impact on the children's learning, as they have the opportunity to consolidate key concepts and skills. There will be no home learning set for the summer holiday. However, below are links to some useful websites that the children may want to use during the holiday to continue to reinforce key mathematical skills and concepts.

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/ordering-and-sequencing-numbers>

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/kids-activities/fun-maths-games-and-activities/>

<https://www.timestables.co.uk/>

Claire Golding, Deputy Headteacher