

Berewood Primary School
Kentidge Way
Waterlooville
Hampshire

Friday 26h February 2016
Spring 2.2016

Berewood Bulletin

Head teacher up-date

Dear Parents and Carers

This must be one of the shortest half terms we have had for some time, with just three weeks and four days until the Easter holiday begins. But somehow short terms don't seem to come with less work– it seems to me we just try to pack the same amount into less weeks! I am sure it feels the same to you too, although it is lovely to see the days getting longer and the sun getting warmer.

And what exciting things are going on in our school. Just before half term we recognised e-safety day with the children working for the day in their Houses rather than their classes, solving problems and exploring how we can keep ourselves safe on-line. There is a lovely report from Miss Broadbridge of the day's events and some photos of the children at work on our website.

Other exciting events have included several tips and visits, including a visit by our reception classes to Staunton Farm this week, the start of a short series of swimming lessons for years 5 and 6, and a planned trip to The Sustainability Centre for years 3 and 4 in March. I am also looking forward to seeing our Key Stage 1 children return from the Science Museum in London with stories and information about flight.

In this Berewood Bulletin please note some additional diary dates for this term.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Sue Patrick

Head teacher



Diary Dates

Thursday 3rd March: World Book Day

Saturday 5th March: Grounds Day

Friday 18th March: Sport Relief

Wednesday 23rd March, PTA meeting, 7pm

Thursday 24th March: Last day of Spring term

Monday 11th April: First day of Summer term

Monday 2nd May: Bank holiday– school closed

Monday 9th May: start of Y6 National Curriculum tests

Monday 30th May: start of half term

Friday 24th June: INSET day please note the change from 6th June

Wednesday 20th July: last day of Summer term

Parent and Carers Questionnaire

I like to send home a formal questionnaire each year, to help us consider what are our key priorities for the future and what we have been developing well, as well as asking the same questions which are asked as part of an OFSTED inspection so that we can pick up any concerns or strong responses as soon as they arise. A questionnaire is attached to this newsletter. Please return your comments to the school office.



June INSET date change– Please don't forget!

The summer term INSET day will now be on Friday 24th June rather than Monday 6th June, as previously stated. Please let me know if there are any issues for you around this change of date.

Parent Evenings

I am so pleased to hear that nearly all of our parents were able to come to the recent parent consultations, or have had meetings with the class teachers over the last couple of weeks. I do hope you found them useful in supporting your child's learning and progress.

Learning Dimensions

At the last Head's Update I was joined by Mrs Nelson and a group of Y6 pupils to share with you our developments around Learning Dimensions. A useful document has been prepared and will come home to you over the next few days. Please take time to read it and to talk with your children about the different dimensions and how they might use them in their learning.

Thank you to Mrs Nelson to leading this positive development for our children.

Starting the new term safely!

As we start the new half term, I would like to again make those same requests regarding the roads around school and parking when you drop off and collect your children. It would make a big difference to everyone's happy start to the day and to the safety of all our children if everyone observed the following requests some of which you will recognise from the previous Bulletin:

- If you are parking to the side of the school, please do not climb over the gates and fences to access the school building
- Never park on zig-zags and double yellow lines around the building, or on the corners of junctions
- Keep the disabled bays available for those who need to use them
- Always remember that the current speed limit on the development is 10mph
- Be aware that on occasions the road will narrow due to building work and that this will interrupt the flow and speed of traffic

The developers are trying to keep construction traffic to a minimum at the start and end of the school day and will respond to any concerns that are raised with the school.

Cavern of Conundrums at Crookhorn College

On Wednesday 24th February, eight children from Year 2 travelled to Crookhorn College to take part in a morning of activities and challenges, competing against five other local primary schools. The children worked really hard and were a credit to our school. We didn't come first this time, so we sadly had to return the trophy we won last year, but it was still a fun morning and the children thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

"We made our own chocolate with sprinkles and it was yummy."

Bonita Hardie, Oak Class

"I liked doing the melting activity because you got to choose what to melt and it was interesting."

Farrell Maple-Rose

Attendance Matters!

Our current attendance is 95.7%

This has dropped slightly over the past few weeks, as so many of the children have picked up coughs and colds, but I am sure with the brightening weather attendance will again pick up.

Attendance below 90% is considered persistent absence and means that we will need to contact you to consider how we can work with you to improve this attendance.

Governor News!

On Wednesday 24th February we were joined by our governors for their termly visit. Their focus this time was to look closely at the learning and progress of our children with an emphasis on years 2 and 6. The governors met with staff and pupils, shared the most recent developments in our assessment systems and visited classes.

Their final meeting this term is on Thursday 10th March , 4.30pm, when they meet for a full Local Governing Body meeting.



Berewood Primary School– on our journey to excellence!

