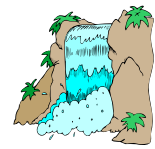




B.W.I. CE Primary School



BWI BUGLE

Mrs G.M. Westbrook, Headteacher

Friday 24th April, 2009

Dear Parent(s),

Spring has arrived with a flourish! It is lovely to see all the new buds and blossom on the trees - but best of all is the sunshine.

30 Year Anniversary

I am very proud to tell you that exactly 30 years ago today I began my career as a teacher. In some ways it seems a long time ago, but in others just a few moments. The first children I taught were 3 and 4 years old and it is strange to think that many will themselves be parents. I often wonder what they are doing now.

There are many words I could use to describe how being a teacher has made me feel: honoured; frustrated; proud; exhausted; happy; in awe are just a few that come to mind. Teaching is the most rewarding, frustrating, exhausting, but wonderful job that anyone could ever have. Even in challenging times, my love for my job has never wavered. Although I have seen many changes in 30 years, there has never been a day when I have wanted to give up and do something else. I wonder how many other people can honestly say the same. I have spent just over half of the 30 years at BWI and I have had many different roles here, but my role as Headteacher is definitely the best one of all, thanks to all of you. I doubt very much if I'll still be here in 30 years time, but I hope I still have many years yet to come.

BWI is Going Green....

...or hopes to, with the help of the School Council and an elected member from each class. Our school is in the process of registering with the Eco-Schools project and will be working towards achieving the first award by the end of this school year. Eco-School is an umbrella project encompassing many areas of the school environment and curriculum, such as: waste management; litter; school grounds; healthy living; energy; water and so on. It is run by a pupil team, with staff guidance and follows the recommendations laid out on the Eco-Schools website on: www.eco-schools.org.uk

The aim is to encourage pupils to take responsibility for their environment and develop an increased sense of awareness for their surroundings and themselves. In a wider context, pupils become more environmentally aware at a global level and are being prepared as caring citizens of the future. The School Council will update you with progress in chosen project areas over the year, but if you have a particular interest in this area and would like to be involved either occasionally or regularly, please speak to Mrs Stone directly. Mrs Stone is one of our HLTAs and can be contacted via the office.

New Children

Welcome to all new children who have joined us this term. We hope that you and your families already feel part of our school family.

Holiday Work

While you were on holiday over Easter, many things were happening in our school.

- The hall was re-decorated. Its' lighter shade of yellow really does make it seem as if the sun is shining all the time.
- In the front playground, Mr Coleman, one of our parents, has built our children a wonderful climb-in sandpit that has a roof. The children are longing to use it, and will be able to just as soon as the sand arrives. The front playground also has some new markings, chalk boards and magnetic boards, which all contribute to the Foundation Stage children's play. Thanks very much to Mrs Turner (Blue Class) for these ideas.
- More trees were pruned around the school, most noticeably outside Rainbows.

Added to the work that was done in February half term:

- installation of the Noah's Ark Room;
- decoration of Year 3 classrooms;
- pruning of other trees at the back and the front of our school;
- the building of a lovely decking area in the back playground by Mr Devenish, one of our parents;
- new steps outside Year 3

I am sure you will agree that all of these improvements help to make our school an even better place.

New Baby News

Congratulations to Mrs Blake and Miss Orlinska who are both due to have babies in the Autumn Term. The babies will be Mrs Blake's third, and Miss Orlinska's second. We are very pleased and excited for them.

Use of the Field

We have been making good use of the warm, sunny weather by going over to the field at lunch time. It is really important that your child brings a water bottle to school, as they will be needed at lunch time now the weather is getting warmer. Children will not be able to come backwards and forwards to school for drinks of water.

Summer Uniform

The BWI Summer uniform can now be worn if children would like to. By the next half term, it will be compulsory.

Elected Parent Governor

We still have not filled the vacancy for an elected parent governor. If you feel passionate about our school and would like to be a governor and make a difference, please come to the office for a form. You can also nominate someone else. Kathy Bailey (Year 5), John Phillips (Year 5), Neil Benjamin-Miller (Year 6 and Year 1), Mike Nye (Red Class, Year 1, Year 3) are all parents who are governors. They invite you to contact them for more information about what the role entails.

Prayer Box

You may be aware that there is a prayer box situated in the school foyer, but you may not know what happens to prayers placed in there.

We want to let you know that these prayers are prayed for by parents from BWI's school family on a weekly basis. As a school who upholds a Christian ethos we believe in prayer and want to encourage any children, staff or parents to feel free to place their prayer requests in the box.

They can of course be anonymous, but any prayer requests that are named will be sent a response card.

We hope you will be encouraged to drop in a prayer soon! If any parents want to become involved in praying, please contact the school office.

This message is from Mrs Britton who is a Red Class parent.

Granary Kids Holiday Club

Some of our children had a wonderful time over Easter, joining in the organised activities in the holiday club. If you are looking for child care over the next half term in May, or in the Summer holidays, and want to know the availability of places, do contact Poullette Jean-Jacques on 020 8868 5908

Noah's Ark Room

I mentioned the Noah's Ark Room earlier in the newsletter, but many of you may not realise what it is for. Most of you will have seen the Noah's Ark Room. It is situated in between the Year 2 and Year 3 blocks in the Key Stage 2 playground and has a beautiful painting of Noah and his Ark on the outside. The painting inside and outside was completed by staff, parents and children and designed by children. Their original designs are displayed in the window, if you would like to see them. Mrs Nuttall and Mr Pritchard were the main people who spent February half term in school making sure it was all finished for when the children were back.

So what is the room for? It is going to be a special space for our intervention groups. It won't just be for the children who need extra support, but for all groups that need to work in a designated space, not just in the corner of the classroom, in the corridor, in the staff room, or even in the entrance hall as has been the case before now. We are lucky with the size of our classrooms, but don't have any spare space to work with groups or individuals.

It is thanks to the organisation of Pat Taverner, one of our governors, that we are now the proud owners of the Noah's Ark Room. I know it is going to be a huge asset to our school.

Reminders

I am taking the opportunity to remind you about some of our rules and regulations, which make us the school that we are.

- School Uniform – please ensure that your child wears the correct uniform, which includes footwear. It is their smart appearance that make us the school we are.
- Jewellery – please remember that jewellery is not part of our school uniform and so shouldn't be worn.
- Hair – any child's hair that is shoulder length or more, needs to be tied back, for health and safety reasons. Fashionable haircuts need to be kept for holiday periods, not for school.

Class Photos

Next Friday we are having our annual visit from the photographer. He will do class photos, sport team photos, and a special pack of photos as the final one for our Year 6 children. Any haircuts might need to be arranged before Friday.

Drama Club

Some children in Years 3, 4 and 5 have been working very hard producing their own performance of Hansel and Gretel. Mrs Hazell wrote the play, and the children have done everything else under the directorial eye of Mrs Kimsey. We are looking forward to seeing the performance next week in school. I know their parents are too.

League Tables

On the BBC website you may have seen the information about last year's SATs results and where we were placed in the league tables for Hillingdon.

And Finally...

Don't forget that our teachers are more than willing to help you with any concern or worry that you might have. Please come and speak to them. Alternatively, ask at the office to make an appointment to speak to me. We are all here to do whatever we can for our children.