

## Whole School News

Summer has arrived! Well that is certainly how it felt on Tuesday when we welcomed everyone back after what I hope was an enjoyable Easter break for all of our families. There is much to look forward to this term so please do keep an eye on this fortnightly iLetter as well as the school calendar on the website, and if you are able to join us for many of the events, you will be given a very warm welcome.

### Staff News

Some people will be aware that Mrs Pym has decided to step down as our Nursery One teacher at the end of this term. We very much hope that she will continue to be involved in the life of our Nursery when we return in September, but we will also take the opportunity to thank her for 31 years of remarkable service to the school during the latter part of this term. Mrs Nicholls has made the decision to retire at the end of the term after 14 years at the school working within the Pre-Prep and the Prep School. Sadly, she has not been able to return to work during this academic year and has taken the decision to step down and focus on getting well. Our hope is that we will be able to thank Mrs Nicholls in person for all that she has done for the children during our end of term events. Miss Brook is to leave us after 3 years working with our Kindergarten children in the Pre-Prep. I know that she will be very much missed by parents, children and colleagues but we wish her well for the future.

We are in the process of making new appointments to the school and will have more information to share with you as the term progresses.

### Saturday Morning Tennis

We are again offering tennis lessons on a Saturday morning in the Summer Term. These will take place on the Astro between 10.00 am and 11.00 am for children in Years 1 – 6. The cost will be £50 for ten weeks - this includes the half term weekends. The children will be split into ability groups and the lessons will be taken by three tennis coaches, all teachers at the Prep School. Tennis rackets are provided but children can bring their own. Cheques should be made payable to Blundell's Prep School.

All bookings and questions please contact Mr Swain [ss@blundells.org](mailto:ss@blundells.org)

### Coffee Morning **Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> April at 8.30 am**

Please do join us at our next coffee morning on Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> April. This coffee morning is for both Prep and Pre-Prep parents and we warmly invite everyone to join our morning assembly.

### Normal School Day **Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May**

The School will be open on Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May for a normal school day (Bank Holiday). Please note that there will be no Yoga or Dance Club on this evening. This is also the start of our Open Week and if you know of any families who would like to join us we would be delighted to welcome them at 9.30 am on any day during that week.

### The Circus is Coming! **Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> May**

We are delighted that Blundell's Prep will be hosting Happy's Circus, otherwise known as the "Greatest Little Circus in the South", on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May from 6-8pm. The show is focused at the Pre-Prep and Prep but children (and grown-ups) of all ages are welcome so please feel free to invite friends and family from outside of the Blundell's community as well. Tickets will be available from the School Office and are £8 per person or

£28 for a family of four. Babies under 2 go free.

Happy's Circus ([www.happyscircus.co.uk](http://www.happyscircus.co.uk)) has been entertaining families and schools for over 20 years from their big top all over the South of England. The show is suitable for all ages and includes international artistes, magical illusions, balancing acts, high wire acrobatics as well as slapstick humour from Happy and Pip the Clowns.

We would also like all the children to take part in a circus themed art competition to design the cover of the circus programme. The winner's work will be featured in the programme and they will be presented with a prize during the interval. Please could all entries be handed in to the office no later than Monday 25th April (slightly extended from the original date to give an extra weekend). We sent home some information about the art competition at the end of term but if you could remind your child we would really appreciate it. All the entries will be on display on the night so the more entries the better!

The circus will arrive during the morning and the children will be able to enjoy watching the big top go up on the school field.

At the end of the school day there will be a Hog Roast, pizzas, light refreshments and a bar available from 4.30pm on the Prep School playground and Happy's Circus start their performance at 6pm.

The Friends of Blundell's Prep

#### **FOBP Summer Cocktail Party          Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June FOBP**

We are very much looking forward to our FOBP Summer Cocktail Party. Tickets will be priced at £35 and will include a 2 course buffet. A top London DJ will provide the music and there is no need to book a table as tickets will be sold individually. Dress code Black tie and Cocktail dresses. **Please Keep The Date Free.**

#### **Prayer Meeting                          Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> April**

This is taking place on Wednesday, 27th April starting from 7.30 pm at Mayfield House, 2 Tidcombe Lane. Please call Amelia Jerreat on 07967 716010 for further details.

#### **Mamas and Papas Concert    Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30 pm**

The Mamas and Papas will be singing for Hospiscare on Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> May in the Prep School Hall. Tickets are priced at £5.00 from the School Office.

#### **Head Boy and Head Girl**

We are pleased to announce that our Head Boy and Head Girl for the term are Lochy Cronkshaw and Lucie Spencer.

#### **Large Photo of the School**

We have a large panoramic photo of the pupils and staff who were here in Summer 2015. It measures approximately 154 cm x 64 cm. If anyone would like this and would like to offer a donation which would go to a charity please place your offer in the Office by Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> May. It will then go to the parent who made the highest offer.

#### **Off Games/PE**

Please can we remind parents that if your child is unable to take part in Games or PE then we must receive either a note in the Office or an email to [prep@blundells.org](mailto:prep@blundells.org) explaining the reason and how long they expect your child not to take part. If this is not received they will be expected to take part.

#### **Opro Gumshields**

An email about this is attached.

## **Saturday Morning Cricket**

An email about this is attached.

## **Prep News**

### **Year 3 Visit to Buddhist Centre      Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> April**

On Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> May Year 3 will be visiting the Buddhist Centre in Exeter. They will leave after lunch and return by 4.30 pm. They will be travelling in minibuses and will wear their school uniform.

### **Visit to Pizza Express      Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> April and Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> May**

On Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> April 5CO and 5RO will be visiting Pizza Express, 5KE will be visiting on Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> May. This will form part of their Design and Technology and Food Technology studies. The children will travel by minibus and will wear school uniform. They will leave and return during the school day.

### **Ballet Performance      Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> April**

We would like to invite all of those parents whose children attend Ballet with Mrs Faiers-Lindley to come along to watch their child's lesson on Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> April at 4.50 pm in the Nursery Hall. You will get the chance to see the progress that your child has made since the beginning of the year.

### **Year 5 & 6 Girls cricket sessions are back!**

Following on from the previous two summer terms the very popular girls softball cricket sessions are returning. Paul Diamond, who is an experienced county and district coach, will again be running the sessions from **5.30-6.30 pm on Thursday's**. The sessions will cover all aspects of cricket with the focus being on preparing for school matches, of which there are several during the summer term. The girls will be collected by Paul from the Prep School and taken to Senior School. Could parents please collect the girls from the Senior School pavilion at 6.30pm. Girls will need to wear suitable school PE kit. Paul will provide any equipment that is required. The cost for each session will be £5 and this will be added to the school bill at the end of term. Please contact the school office if your daughter is interested in attending. Paul can be contacted directly on

07980 738802 or [pauldiamond124@btinternet.com](mailto:pauldiamond124@btinternet.com) with any questions.

### **Year 6 Production**

At the end of the Summer Term Year 6 will be performing The Wizard of Oz at Ondaatje Hall. If anyone has any props/costumes that they feel would be useful for us to borrow please contact Mrs Charlesworth on [tc@blundells.org](mailto:tc@blundells.org).

## **Pre-Prep News**

### **Cats Protection      Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> April**

On Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April two volunteers from Cats Protection will be visiting Kindergarten to talk to the children about the care of pets as part of our topic work. The charity make no charge to the school for visiting us but we would like to be able to donate some items that would be useful. If your child would like to bring in some cat food and/or cat toys on or before the 25<sup>th</sup>. I am sure that the charity will be very grateful. Thank you very much.

### **Year 1 Trip to Blundell's Chapel      Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> April**

On Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> April Year 1 will be visiting Blundell's Chapel to hear about its history. They will walk there and back.

### **Ballet Performance      Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> April**

We would like to invite all of those parents whose children attend Ballet with Mrs Faiers-Lindley to come along to watch their child's lesson on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April. You will get the chance to see the progress that your child has made since the beginning of the year.

2.20 pm – Nursery 2  
2.50 pm – Kindergarten  
3.30 pm – Year 1  
4.00 pm – Year 2

### **New Pupils**

We are delighted to welcome Hridhaan and Betty into Nursery One and Oliver into Year One. All three children have had a super first week and we are enjoying getting to know them.

### **Celebration Assembly**

We hope you have made a note of the date for our first Coffee Morning and welcome to Pre-Prep Celebration Assembly on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> of May. This is the first of two this term and we look forward to welcoming many Pre-Prep parents to this new event.