

Whole School News

iLetter by email

The iLetter contains a wealth of information to raise awareness of the events happening in school and therefore in the run up to the busy Christmas period, it will be sent via e-mail as well as appearing on the Parent Portal. We hope that this will help to keep all parents up to speed with everything that is going on here at school.

Raising Money for Charity

The School's stalls at the Christmas Market, together with the profit from the sale of the Christmas Cards, has raised £1,591.41 for 'Blood Bikes' a charity which helps transport blood, organs and breast milk to those in need. We will be adding the collections from the Festival of Carols and the Carol Service to this amount before sending it off. Thank you to everyone for their support this year.

Fun@Blundells

Attached is the booking form for the Christmas Activity Course which is taking place from the 3rd to 6th January. If you are interested in your child attending, please do complete the form and return it as soon as you are able to.

School Photos

We have been asked by the photographers, Gilman and Soames, to remind parents to order their photos as soon as they are able, particularly if you are wishing to receive the order in time for Christmas. If any parents have lost their child's details, please contact enquiries@gillmanandsoame.co.uk or on 01869 328200 quoting the security password **blundells752et** and they can assist.

Absence from the Office

Beverley is going to be away from school for a couple of weeks as she will be having an operation on the 23rd November and hopes to return on Tuesday, 6th December. During this time Sarah Southgate will be helping Gloria to man the phones from 8.00 am to 9.00 am each morning and from 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm in the afternoon. Could we ask that you bear with the Office during this time and if you require a quick answer to a question that you phone instead of emailing.

Prep News

Speech and Drama Recital Monday, 21st November

Just to remind parents that all those children who take Speech and Drama lessons will be taking part in the Speech and Drama Recital which is taking place on Monday, 21st November at 5.00 pm in the Prep Hall.

Collection after Sports Matches

Could we remind parents that children may leave after a sports match with their parents only if a parent has attended the match and only straight after match tea. Those children not collected will then return to their sports session until the school day finishes at 4.30pm.

Junior House Matches

The Junior House Matches will be taking place on Tuesday, 29th November commencing at 3.15 pm. The children in Years 3 & 4 will all play during the afternoon. Parents are warmly invited to watch. Children will be able to leave once all the matches are completed and they have returned to School to collect their belongings.

Clubs

There will be no Clubs running in the Prep School on Friday, 9th December. However, there will be Prep for any child who is unable to be collected at 4.30 pm on Friday, 9th December.

Friday, 9th December, 4.30 pm: Festival of Carols – Choir Members Only

We are delighted to be holding a Festival of Carols with three local Primary Schools: Tidcombe Primary School, St John's Primary School and Two Moors Primary School. This will take place on Friday, 9th December at 4.30 pm in Blundell's Chapel. **All members of the Choir will be expected to take part** and will be taken directly from school to the chapel.

Parents are warmly invited to attend. The service will last approximately three quarters of an hour and coffee and cake will be served to the parents and children afterwards in the Marquee behind Big School (accessible through the Dining Hall). If you are a parent of a choir pupil and are unable to attend, we respectfully ask that you arrange for your child to be collected after the service from the Marquee. **Could we ask that all parents park at the Prep School. There are some major events happening at our Senior School and it is imperative that everyone coming to the Festival of Carols uses the Prep School Car Park.**

Prep School Christmas Performances

Performances for the Prep School will take place at the following times:

Wednesday, 7th December 10.00 am Years 5 & 6

Wednesday, 7th December 3.00 pm Years 3 & 4

Thursday, 8th December 10.00 am Years 3 & 4

Thursday, 8th December 3.00 pm Years 5 & 6

As the seating is limited could we ask for parents to only attend one of each year group performance. No tickets are required.

Tuesday, 13th December, 5.30 pm: Carol Service - All Prep School children to attend

The School Carol Service will be held in Blundell's Chapel. This is adjacent to the road, close to Blundell's clock tower. This will be held at 5.30 pm on Tuesday, 13th December and **it is compulsory for all pupils in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 to attend.** The Prep School pupils will be going straight from school to the Service after a 'Tea' which will be provided by the school. There will be no Prep or Clubs on this evening. Owls will continue, for Pre-Prep children only, as per normal. We would be delighted to see all parents and pupils, including those from the Pre-Prep, and any friends and relatives who would like to join us. **After the Service the pupils from the Prep School should be collected by parents from their form teachers outside the Chapel.** All Blundell's Preparatory School pupils should be in school uniform for the Carol Service.

Carol Service car-parking

Please could all parents park their cars on the Blundell's Preparatory School playgrounds or in the Blundell's Preparatory School car park and walk down to the Chapel. Parking at Blundell's will be extremely difficult due to a variety of functions being held there at this time.

Pre-Prep News

Celebration Assembly, Friday, 2nd December

We would like to welcome our Pre-Prep parents to our Pre-Prep coffee morning and Celebration Assembly on Friday, 2nd December at 8.15 am.

Children in Need.

Thank you for supporting our Children in Need home clothes day. Your child will be bringing home a sheet portraying Pudsey Bear with a grid overlay in their book bag today. Having spoken to the children about the charity they are keen to do some fundraising by undertaking jobs at home in return for a small coin such a 1p or 5p coin which they can stick on to their Pudsey Bear sheet. The children were full of wonderful ideas regarding the sort of jobs that they could undertake so you should hopefully have willing volunteers to set the

table, make beds, wash up and one even suggested mowing the lawn which might be a challenge at this time of the year! Sweeping up leaves, bringing parents breakfast in bed and cleaning shoes were other suggestions so prepare yourself for more help around that house next week than you have ever had before. We would ask that any child who wishes to participate in this fundraising scheme should bring their sheet back into school next Friday, 25th November.

Hoods and Hats

As winter is almost upon us could we ask that any child who does not have a hood on their raincoat brings in a hat to wear now that the cold and wet weather has arrived? With temperatures set to fall over the coming weeks, scarfs and gloves would be useful too

Nativity plays

We look forward to welcoming you to our Nativity plays over the next few weeks. The dates are as follows:-

Friday, 25th November at 2.00 pm - Year 2

Tuesday, 29th November at 2.00 pm - Year 1

Thursday, 1st December at 2.00 pm - Kindergarten

Friday, 9th December at 10.00 am - Nursery 1 & 2