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FRIDAY, 21ST APRIL 2017

BLUNDELL'S PREPARATORY SCHOOL INFORMATION LETTER

Whole School News

It was lovely to welcome back so many smiling faces to school this week for the start of the Summer Term. I do hope that you had a good break over Easter and managed to enjoy some time with family and friends. As always over the holiday there has been plenty going on at school. You may notice that the remaining windows on the south side of Milestones House have been replaced and what a difference that has made to the building. The grounds staff have been as busy as ever, preparing pitches for cricket and rounders, setting up the 30 tennis courts and getting the pool up and running, ready for summer swimming. There is a great deal to look forward to and I hope to welcome you to many of the exciting events that lie ahead.

Staff News

After 24 years of teaching at the school, Miss Jenny Purvis has made the decision to leave her post here at Blundell's Prep. As you will be aware, Miss Purvis has done a huge amount for the school over the many years that she has been here and her commitment to the children in her care has been exemplary. I know that her professionalism and kindness have been greatly appreciated by the many families who have seen their children benefit from her teaching and we will have the opportunity to recognise all that Miss Purvis has contributed to the school during the latter part of this term. We wish her all the very best for the future.

I am pleased to inform you that Mr Ben Martin will be joining us in September to teach English and Games in the Prep School to fill the position left by Mr Coomer's departure to take up a new post in Oman. Mr Martin joins us from West Buckland Prep School where he has worked for four years, teaching English, ICT and Humanities across Key Stage 2. He is also an experienced and passionate Games coach who will undoubtedly make a significant contribution towards our extensive Games programme here at Blundell's Prep. Mr Martin is very excited to be joining us and we look forward to welcoming him in September.

Summer Uniform

May I remind parents that summer uniform should now be worn by the children and this includes compulsory Blundell's Prep cricket shirts for boys in Years 4 to 6 to be worn for school matches. These items are not compulsory for boys in Year 3 although they may be purchased if desired. Boys in Years 4 to 6 are also required to wear white cricket trousers for school matches. Blundell's Prep caps are available for all children and these can be purchased from the school shop.
For further information on summer uniform, please go to: http://www.blundells.org/prep/home/uniform.html

Head Boy and Girl

We would like to thank Georgia Withey and Archie Joyner for all their hard work last term. Our Head Boy for the Summer term is William Maunder and our Head Girl is Florence Cave. We wish them well for the term ahead.

Normal School Day Monday, 1st May

The School will be open on Monday, 1st May for a normal school day (Bank Holiday). 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.

FOBP 2017 Summer Ball Saturday 24th June

The Friends of Blundell's Prep would like to invite you to the 2017 Summer Ball on Saturday 24th June for an evening of live music, food, drinks and dancing from 7pm with carriages at 1am. It promises to be a fabulous event and tickets will be available from Monday in the School Office and the Nearly New Shop. You can either purchase a table of 10 or request to join a year group table. Tickets cost £50 and include dinner and a welcome drink. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to speak to any member of the Committee. We look forward to seeing you on the dance floor for the social event of the year!

Prayer Meeting Wednesday, 26th April

This is taking place on Wednesday, 26th April starting from 7.45 pm at Mayfield House, 2 Tidcombe Lane. Please call Amelia Jerreat on 07967 716010 for further details.

Mamas and Papas Concert Friday, 12th May at 7.30 pm

The Mamas and Papas will be singing for Devon Freewheelers on Friday, 12th May in the Prep School Hall. Tickets are priced at £7.00 from the School Office.

Saturday Morning Tennis

We are again offering tennis lessons on Saturday mornings during the Summer Term. These will take place on the Astro between 10.00 am and 11.00 am for children in Years 2 – 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 two tennis coaches. 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

Prep News

Year 3 Visit to Buddhist Centre Tuesday, 25th April

On Tuesday, 25th April 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.

Year 5 and 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 Thursdays**. 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 the Senior School. Could parents please collect the girls from the Senior School pavilion at 6.30 pm. 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 with any questions.

Sunday Morning Cricket

Cricket training sessions are continuing to take place in the Senior School sports hall. Mr Swain welcomes anyone who would like to come along. Please contact him on ss@blundells.org if you would like further information. There is no need to book and attendance every week is not essential.

Coffee Morning Friday, 29th April at 8.30 am

Please do join us at our next coffee morning on Friday, 29th April. We warmly invite everyone t
o join our morning assembly.

Pre-Prep News

Cats Protection Monday, 24th April

On Monday 24th 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 24th April I am sure that the charity will be very grateful. Thank you very much.

Ballet Performance Thursday, 27th 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 27th 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 and 2

Year 1 Trip to Blundell's Chapel Thursday, 27th April

On Thursday, 27th April Year 1 will be visiting Blundell's Chapel to hear about its history. They will walk there and back.

Recorder Club

Mrs Small is unable to continue with Recorder Club this term but we are delighted to announce that Ms Lucy Cordon will take over the running of the club this term. Lucy is unable to start next week but Miss Purvis our Music Co-ordinator has kindly agreed to take the group next week in order to provide continuity for the children.

New pupils

We are delighted to welcome four new children to our Nursery this term. Eryn, Abigail and Posy have joined Nursery 1 and Evie has joined Nursery 2. The children have greatly enjoyed their first few days and are having a lot of fun with their new friends.

Year 1 trip to Tiverton Museum Tuesday 25th April

On Tuesday 25th April, Year 1 will be spending the day at Tiverton Museum finding out about what life was like for children in Victorian times. They will take lots of photos to share with us all on their return.