

Whole School News

Car Park

Please can I ask parents to drive with extreme care and caution around the school car park. The safety of the children is of paramount importance and to that end I would like to make you aware of the following points:

- As soon as you drive in to school please be aware that the speed limit is 5mph.
- Please stop at pedestrian crossings when children and parents are trying to cross.
- Please park your car in a parking space and be particularly vigilant when reversing out.
- Please do not use the dropping zones as a parking space, particularly during the 5.30pm pick-up.

I am exploring some options with regards to extending the car-park and the configuration of parking spaces but in the meantime, I would be grateful for your support in keeping it safe for the children.

Grandparents' Morning Monday, 29th January

We are very much looking forward to welcoming lots of grandparents on Monday. If there are grandparents who are planning to attend and have not yet informed us, could we urge you to let us know as soon as you are able to by emailing prep@blundells.org

Yoga Club Monday, 29th January

There will be no Yoga Club for children in both the Pre-Prep Club and the Prep Club on Monday, 29th January. Mrs Kitson is away and apologises for any inconvenience that this may cause.

Half Term Friday, 9th February

Half Term commences on Friday, 9th February at 3.40 pm in the Pre-Prep and 4.30 pm in the Prep School. There are no clubs on this evening but there will be After School Club in the Pre-Prep for those unable to be collected at 3.40 pm and Prep for those children in the Prep School unable to be collected at 4.30 pm. Please note that the minibuses do not run on this evening.

Donations for India

During the Easter holidays, Mrs Shelbourne, Mrs Nash, Miss Stone, Miss Butt and Miss Roberts are visiting Southern India, partly to go and support destitute and orphaned children at the Goodwill Children's Home (a boarding school for children aged 5-11 years) in the state of Tamil Nadu. Miss Roberts has supported this very worthwhile charity for a number of years and this visit will be her sixth one. She always looks to take things out for the children and therefore we would love to have everyone's help by asking for a few donations. Here are different items which they would like to take out with them: small toy cars, hair accessories (ones which are suitable for girls with short hair), yo-yos, fidget spinners, tennis balls, cricket bats and lastly, new toothbrushes. Please take any donations to the office or to Mrs Nash's room for Pre-Prep. If you would like more information about the charity, their website is: www.goodwillhomes.org.uk. Many thanks!

Prep News

Off Games

Please could we remind you that if your child cannot attend sport that either an email or a written message is required to come into the Office.

Years 5 and 6 Blogging

In Computing lessons this term, pupils in Years 5 and 6 will be learning how to 'blog'. This is an exciting area of the curriculum, which will soon be used in other subjects to promote collaborative learning. The children will be using the 'kidblog.org' website which allows teachers excellent levels of moderation. Staff will be able to monitor posts and comments, whilst members of the public will not be able to see the children's blogs. Talking to your children about their blogs over the coming weeks is highly recommended, and we would always advise that their access to the Internet at

home should be done in a supervised area. Mr Morris would be more than happy to talk to you about this if you have any questions.

Creative Arts Week

Thank you to all the parents who have offered to help during Creative Arts Week. You will be emailed later next week with days and times.

Speech and Drama Recital Cancelled Monday, 29th January

This was due to take place on Monday, 29th January but has been cancelled due to the illness of our Speech and Drama Specialist. We will be looking to reschedule for after half term.

Years 5 and 6 Tennis Sessions

There is the opportunity for tennis lessons starting after February half term with Mr Hope (the senior school tennis coach), before school on Tuesday for Year 6 and Friday for Year 5. These will be from 7:40am to 8:20am on the senior netball courts beside the astro. There is a small car park for dropping off. The children will be walked over to the Prep School by Mr Hope at the end of the session so they can change into their school uniform for the start of the day. The cost will be £25 for five weeks (cheques payable to Mr Hope). There are only 6 spaces available for each day. If there are any questions please contact Mr Swain.

Years 3 – 6 Number Day with Learning Outside the Classroom Friday, 2nd February

The children will be taking a variety of exciting activities during this day. We would be grateful if the children could wear the following clothes:

Year 3	School Uniform
Year 4	Home clothes suitable for outside (Please bring in school uniform)
Year 5	School tracksuits and Wellies (Please bring in games kit)
Year 6	School uniform (Please bring games kit)

Year 6 Animation Workshop Monday, 5th February

During Creative Arts Week, Year 6 will be visited by Ed Jobling who will be running superb workshops all about animation. On the Monday of that week, February 5th, Ed will be running an optional enrichment session after school which will provide a bit of background on the history of animation. This will run from 4.45pm until 5.30pm and it would be great if as many Year 6 pupils as possible could attend. Please could you let your child know if they will be coming so that they can notify their form teachers in advance.

Years 3 – 6 Pancake Races Tuesday, 6th February

These are taking place on Tuesday, 6th February at 3.30 pm in the Prep playground. All parents of children in Years 3 to 6 are welcome to join us for the races and then afterwards for a cup of tea.

Year 4 Drama production Wednesday, 7th February

Our Year 4 Play in a Day is taking place on Wednesday, 7th February. Parents are welcome to attend the performance at 4.00 pm in the Prep Hall. If possible the children need to wear ragged old clothes which are not colourful, (grey, dark green, black) ripped if possible. They will be playing an 1800's street child!

House Music Coffee Morning Friday, 9th February from 8.15 am

Our coffee morning assembly on Friday, 9th February will be featuring a selection of House Music from the previous afternoon's competition. All parents are welcome to join us

Effort and Attainment Grades Friday, 9th February

Effort and Attainment grades (EAGS) will be ready to view on the Portal on Friday, 9th February. If anyone has a query on grades or a problem with viewing them, then please do pop into the school office and the ladies will help put you in contact with the appropriate member of staff.

Pre-Prep News

Celebration Assembly Friday, 2nd February

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

Year 2 Drama production**Tuesday, 6th February**

Our Year 2 Play in a Day is taking place on Tuesday, 6th February. Could we ask that the children wear into school home clothes that they would wear when going to a party. Please ensure that these are suitable to be worn all day including play times. Parents are invited to attend the performance at 3.00 pm in the Pre-Prep Hall.