

2nd February 2018

Whole School News

We have decided to pop in an extra iLetter as the week ahead is very busy.

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.

Reception – Year 6 **Outdoor Learning Holiday Club** **26th, 27th, 28th, 29th March**

Information about this course is attached to this iLetter.

Years 2 – 6 **Cricket on a Sunday Morning**

Cricket on a Sunday morning will begin again after half term and if you would like your child to join these please contact Mr Swain on ss@blundells.org

Staff News

Mrs Diane Kimber has decided to step down from her role here at Blundell's Prep in July 2018 after more than 20 years of remarkable service to the school.

Diane joined the School in September 1997 and during her time here, she has worked across the Pre-Prep, most recently as a Year 2 Class Teacher and Academic Leader with the additional responsibility of managing the Early Years Foundation Stage. Diane is a member of the Prep School SLT and has played an integral part in improving standards of teaching and learning across the school, including the development of our tracking system, the strengthening of our curriculum, and the management of our Early Years provision.

Diane's true passion lies in the classroom and in working with the children, and anyone who is fortunate enough to have had their child taught by Diane would speak of her professionalism, her attention to detail and her high expectations for every child in her care. She is as hard-working a colleague as you could wish to meet and I know that I speak for all of us here at BPS when I say that Diane will be sorely missed.

There will be opportunities over the coming months for us to celebrate the contribution that Diane has made during her time at the school and to thank her formally for all that she has done, but in the meantime, I am sure that you will join me in wishing her well for the future.

Prep News

Years 4 and 5 **Reminder for Parents' Evening**

Thank you to all those parents in Years 4 and 5 who have returned their Parents' Evening request form. Could we ask that anyone else who wishes to attend Parents' Evening please to email their request by the end of today. The appointment times for this will be issued next week.

Years 5 and 6 Tennis Sessions **Spaces still available**

There is the opportunity for tennis lessons starting after February half term with Mr Hope (the senior school tennis coach), before school on Tuesdays for Year 6 children and Fridays for Year 5 children. 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 5 and 6 Young Voices DVD

An order form for the Young Voices DVD has been sent home with your child. If you would like to order one please could the order form and money be in by Friday, 9th February.

Prep during Creative Arts Week

English and Maths Prep will be set during Creative Arts Week and this will need to be completed on the night as set out in the Prep Planner. There will also be specific Creative Arts related Prep for the other nights which will be directed via the Form Teacher.

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 **3.45 pm** in the Prep playground. **Please note that this is a later time than published in the calendar.** 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 Play in a Day 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!

Years 3 – 6 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

Year 6 Jersey Tour Friday, 9th February

The Jersey tour will be leaving at lunchtime on Friday. The children will be taken by school in minibuses and children will require their sports kits including hockey sticks for the girls. These will need to be handed to our games staff.

Years 3 – 6 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

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.

Nursery – Year 2 Poetry Day Friday 9th February.

This year there will be a focus on poetry during story-times and English lessons. Children are invited to join in with one of the two competitions taking place and to come to school on Friday 9th February dressed as a character from a poem or a Nursery Rhyme. More information is contained within the letter sent last week.

Nursery – Year 2 Cold Weather

Please can you ensure that your child has a hat, scarf and gloves during this cold spell of weather.