

## Whole School News

### Appointment of Head of Pre-Prep from January 2019

I am delighted to tell you that Mrs Laura Clifford has been appointed as our new Head of Pre-Prep, taking up that post in January 2019. Mrs Clifford was the stand-out candidate within a strong field and is delighted to be joining us here at Blundell's. She will bring with her a wealth of experience within the sector, having previously held the position of Head of Pre-Prep at St. Peter's in Lymington. Before that, Mrs Clifford was a member of the SMT at Knightsbridge School in London, teaching across the EYFS and KS1. Since leaving St. Peter's to have her two boys, Leo and Bertie, Laura has set up her own educational consultancy, 'Little Learning Seeds', which provides support for families across our region.

Blundell's is well known to Mrs Clifford and she impressed us at interview with her passion for Early Years and Pre-Prep education, as well her knowledge of the marketplace. I know that she is very excited to be joining the team and is looking forward to getting to know everyone over the coming months.

Mrs Clifford will be joining the Pre-Prep from September 2018, taking over responsibility for the EYFS as well as some teaching within the department. Mrs Filmer-Bennett will continue to lead the Pre-Prep with Mrs Clifford shadowing her in order to ensure the smoothest of handovers in January 2019.

There will be an opportunity for you to meet Mrs Clifford during the Summer Term and to offer her a warm welcome into our school community.

### Nursery – Year 6

### Summer Uniform

Both summer caps and summer dresses are now in stock.

### Year 1 – Year 6

### Notice for Music Lessons and Speech and Drama Lessons

Please can we remind parents that if your child wishes to cease Music or Speech and Drama lessons for the Autumn Term 2017, notice is required by the First day of the Summer Term. If you wish for your child to start a new or additional instrument, an invitation to do so will be in an iLetter during the first half of the summer term. Please note that you cannot swap from one instrument to another, a term's notice must be given

### Reception – Year 6

### Easter Service

Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March 9.30 am

The Easter Service is taking place on Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 9.30 am at Blundell's Chapel and will be attended by children from Reception to Year 6. All parents are welcome to attend. It will last for about 40 minutes.

### Nursery – Year 6

### End of Term dates

Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March

### Term ends on

Pre-Prep 3.30 pm (and siblings in the Prep School)

Prep 3.40 pm

Please note that there are no Clubs, Owls or minibuses running on this evening.

### Reception – Year 6

### Easter Outdoor Workshops

Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> March – Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> March

Please note that there are still places available for our Easter holiday workshops taking place on the 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> March. The closing date for signing up for these days is Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> March.

### Office Hours during the Easter Holiday

The School Office will be closed for annual leave from Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> March to Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> April.

### Nursery – Year 6

### Start of Term date

Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> April

The first day of the Summer Term 2018 is Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> April.

The School will be open on Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> May for a normal school day (Bank Holiday).

## Prep News

**Years 3 - 6**

### **Signing out after home fixtures**

Could we remind you that all children must sign out with the Office if they are leaving before 4.30 pm after a home fixture. We are required to keep a record of those on the premises at any one time.

**Year 3 - 6**

### **Easter Tennis Camp**

**April 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>**

Easter Tennis Camp will be held on April 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> from 10.00 am – 1.00 pm at Blundell's Senior School. Age range: Year 3 - Year 8. All abilities welcome. If interested, please contact Mr James Hope on ([jgh@blundells.org](mailto:jgh@blundells.org) or by phone 077301 88239) to sign up.

**Years 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 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.

**Years 3 - 6**

### **Speech and Drama**

**Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> March**

Please note that those children's lessons which would normally take place on Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> March will take place on Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> March. The re-scheduled Speech and Drama Recital is due to take place at 5.00 pm on Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> March and you should receive notification that your child is taking part next week.

**Year 4 - 6**

### **Concert at the Great Hall**

**Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> March**

Choir Members only are taking part. The tickets for this event have been sent home via your child. Please let Mrs Cracknell know as soon as possible if you are collecting your child from the event by email at [blc@blundells.org](mailto:blc@blundells.org)

**Year 3 - 6**

### **World Book Day**

**Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> March**

We will be celebrating World Book Day in the Prep School on Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> March. The children are asked to come into school dressed as their favourite book character. There will be prizes for the best costume! After a book day theme assembly the children will continue with their normal timetable on this day.

**Years 3 - 6**

### **Prep Disco**

**Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> March**

The rescheduled Prep Disco will take place on Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> March from 5.30 pm – 7.30 pm. Tickets for this event are on sale from the Office.

**Year 6**

### **Science Week dissection**

**W/C 19<sup>th</sup> March**

As part of our Science week activities, Year 6 students have the opportunity to take part in a dissection lesson on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March. This will be led by a member of the Senior School's Biology department. The children will be working in small groups and will dissect an organ that links to previous work undertaken in their curriculum. Should your child NOT wish to participate, could you please notify the office asap. An alternative activity will be available.

**Years 3 - 6**

### **House Cross Country**

**Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> March**

This will take place on Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> March. All of the children in the Prep School will take part and parents are welcome to attend. Please note that no child may be taken from the course. **All the children must return to school** and will be released by their Form Teacher from the gate at 4.30 pm.

**Years 3 - 6**

### **EAG's**

**Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March**

Effort and Attainment Grades will be available on the Parent Portal from Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March.

## Pre-Prep News

### Pre-Prep Parents' Evenings

Thank you to all of our parents who attended Parents Evenings earlier this week. If you were unable to attend on either of these evenings please speak to your child's Form Teacher who will be happy to find a mutually convenient time to meet at a later date.

### Year 1 and 2

### House Matches

**Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> March 2.00 pm**

Please come along and support the children in their House Matches next Tuesday at 2.00 pm. Tea for the parents will be served afterwards in the Nursery foyer.

### Years 1 and 2

### Music lessons with Mrs Bruce

**Wednesday 14th March**

Mrs Bruce will not be available to teach her Pre-Prep pupils on Wednesday, 14th March as she will be away from school that day.

### Nursery 2

### Introduction to Reception

**Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> March 8.45 am**

We are looking forward to welcoming current Nursery 2 parents to our Reception classes next week. We will meet in the Reception classes at 8.45 am and talk through the changes that your child can look forward to during the transition from Nursery 2 to Reception. Our two Reception teachers, Mrs Allen and Mrs Morris, will be present to answer any questions that you may have and this will be followed by tea and coffee in the Nursery foyer at 9.15 am. The children will then spend some time in the Reception classes during the morning to see what exciting new adventures await them in September. If your child is not normally in school on a Thursday morning and you would like them to participate in this session please contact Mrs Filmer-Bennett.

### Nursery - Year 2

### Pre-Prep Coffee Morning and Celebration Assembly

**Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> March 8.15 am**

We look forward to welcoming all Pre-Prep parents to our Celebration Assembly on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March at 8.45 am. Coffee will be available in the Nursery foyer from 8.15 am.

### Nursery - Year 2

### Pre-Prep Party

**Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> March**

The Pre-Prep Party will be taking place on Friday, 16th March from 4.30 pm – 6.00 pm. Tickets for this event are on sale from the Office.

### Years 1 and 2

### Games Club

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March.**

There will be no Games Club for the children in Years 1 and 2 next Friday 16<sup>th</sup> of March due to the re-scheduled Pre-Prep party which begins at 4.30 pm.

### Years 1 and 2

### Primary Tag Rugby Tournament

**Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> March 2.00pm**

This will take place on 20<sup>th</sup> March at 2.00 pm. Do join us if you can to cheer the children on during the afternoon.