

Bretherton Endowed CE Primary School Newsletter

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

21st November 2017



Non Uniform Day/ Christmas Fair

On **Friday 24th November**, we would like to invite the children to come in to school in their own clothes in return for a bottle or chocolate donation for our PTFA Christmas Fair. Donations can be from a bottle of sparkling water to wine and will really help us prepare for our bottle and chocolate tombola event. We really do appreciate your donations. The Christmas fair on **Thursday 30th November** is always a fun, festive and well supported event and contributes a significant amount to their fundraising. Remember if you can help in any way on the day, we would love to hear from you. The event will start at 2.45pm with the children singing Christmas Carols and we would love you to join us. Doors will open at approximately 2.30pm so that you can have a sneaky look around before you collect your child at the end of the day from the playground. Everyone is welcome so we look forward to seeing grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

Sports

On **Wednesday 22nd November**, some pupils from KS1 and KS2 will be representing school in a Boccia and Kurling competition. We hope that they enjoy the experience. Thank you to the staff who accompany them as without their help, we couldn't offer so many sporting opportunities. If your child is taking part, a letter will be sent home with the details. Congratulations to our footballers who represented school in the small schools league. Great sportsmanship and fantastic results. Reception children have started their 'Balance Bike' sessions with Chorley Sports and they are loving it!

Christmas Week

A letter has come out about our whole school trip to 'Peter Pan' at the Winter Gardens at Blackpool on **20th December at 10.00am**. Please return the permission slip by **Friday 1st December** and pay online using SchoolMoney.

An advance notice of our Party Days. Every class will have their Class Party on **Tuesday 19th December**. A list of food for the parties will be posted on their classroom door at the start of the week before for you to sign up for.

Our Christmas Carol service is at **2.00pm on Friday 22nd December** in St. John's Church — all welcome. School ends at 3.15pm the same day.

A letter will be coming out today to reserve seats for this year's Infant Christmas Production.

Golden Time, after consulting children and staff, has been redesigned for more structured fun. Ask your children what they have signed up for.....



PTFA Update

Congratulations to the PTFA for being awarded a £1000 grant to support our development of our forest area. This is great and will ensure that it can be completed over the winter season ready for children to use in Spring. Thanks also for the purchase of two outside table tennis tables for children to use to support our enhanced outside provision.



**Next meeting is
on 16th January 2018 at 7.00pm.
Everyone welcome!**

Update on our building works

The School Council have been planning and choosing colours for our refit toilets and they have been ordered and are ready to be fitted. Photographs throughout the refit are on the website and children are blogging the progress on their class pages.

Thank you to our children and staff for accommodating the changes over these last couple of weeks but the new area will be great and just in time for Christmas. We look forward to the grand unveiling Not sure we'll have a celebrity to cut the ribbon but we can have a think about who can.



Remember our door is always open— contact us on bursar@bretherton.lancs.sch.uk
or 01772 600431 to arrange a chat

How well are we doing?

I would really like to share with you some lovely feedback that we have received from the Local Authority in relation to our successes in school over the last 12 months. All staff have worked incredibly hard to ensure that our standard of teaching and learning is as high as ever and that our children are offered a very high quality of educational opportunities and experiences. We have confidence in what we offer, but it is always good when others highlight it too. Thank you to our Governors for their hard work and dedication to their role. They are truly inspirational. The full copy is available on our website.

EYFS - *“Provision continues to improve and includes a high quality learning environment, an effective focus on further developing independence with child-initiated approaches appropriate for this age group, effective of outdoor areas for learning, support from teaching assistants, high quality assessment and good levels of challenge. Indeed learning continues to be exciting and the environment very effectively organised; provision in the EYFS is outstanding.”*

Key Stage 1— *“Standards of attainment and pupil progress are outstanding overall.”*

Key Stage 2— *“Standards of attainment and progress are clearly outstanding overall, and have been so for a number of years, indicating the sustained nature of the high quality provision that is typical of the whole school.”*

Capacity to Improve

“The consistently high standards and levels of progress made by pupils in all key stages are strong evidence of the high standards of teaching across the school. Strengths include excellent teacher knowledge, high expectations, appropriate pace, motivational and enthusiastic approaches, and excellent use of assessment for learning including high quality marking and well differentiated and targeted learning activities. Questioning is highly effective and demonstrates an understanding of the ways pupils think about subject content, including in English and mathematics. The school has identified the potential for further improvement in reasoning in mathematics.

Staff identify pupils’ common misconceptions and act to ensure they are corrected. Learning is progressive and constantly demands more of pupils. It is evident that staff encourage pupils to try hard, recognise their efforts and ensure that pupils take pride in all aspects of their work. All these aspects – and more - contribute to the highly effective learning culture in the school.”

“The headteacher has a deep and accurate understanding of the school's strengths and areas for development through a range of self-evaluation and monitoring procedures. She is keenly focused on continuing to drive and secure further school improvement with rigour, building on the many strengths of this outstanding school.

The school has correctly identified areas for development and these have been addressed in well targeted improvement plans. Teaching and learning is outstanding overall, and has been for a number of years. Leadership is working hard to ensure teaching continues to be of high quality, supporting and developing staff still further. The broad and balanced curriculum inspires pupils to learn and achieve. Teachers and support staff work well together to closely monitor the progress of pupils, and tracking systems are excellent and very effective, with individual pupil expectations being challenging and aspirational. Subject leaders have been further developed in their roles and contribute well to further school improvements. Support staff make a positive difference to pupil outcomes and pupils with SEND are supported very well indeed.”

“The governing body is outstanding; governors are extremely knowledgeable, with a range of talents and expertise that support the school in the drive forward for continued improvement. Governors continue to be appropriately involved in the self-evaluation of the school, including asking appropriately challenging questions of the senior leadership team, and taking an active role and highly effective in senior appointments. The ethos and culture of the school are to be forward thinking and ambitious for all pupils - with high expectations. Staff, governors and pupils are to be congratulated on maintaining momentum and drive.”

Thank you to everyone involved , especially the children, for making our school great!

DATES, REMINDERS & OTHER NEWS

THEME OF WORSHIP — COMPASSION

Blessed are the peacemakers : for they shall be called the children of God – Matthew 5:9

Thank you to everyone who joined us on Remembrance Sunday. It was a reflective and thoughtful event and we would like to thank Alexandra and Alex for laying the Bretherton School Wreath on behalf of our school.

Thank you for your contributions to the **Rotary Shoe Boxes Appeal**. We managed to fill plenty of boxes which our Ethos Team will be taking to International Aid next week which in turn will be sent to those children less fortunate so they can experience a special Christmas. Thank you for your generosity.



Children In Need—£200 was raised following our 'odd socks' event for this worthy cause. Thank you for your donations.

A big thank you..... to everyone for giving me an absolutely brilliant 'send off' at the end of last half term to mark my retirement. I was overwhelmed by everyone's thoughtfulness and kindness in making it such a memorable occasion for me. Your lovely gifts and cards are very much appreciated. I will always treasure all the wonderful memories that working in such an amazing family school as Bretherton has given me.

Thank you to you all. Love and Best Wishes, Sheila Ashcroft.

We would like to wish Amaani & Harris Kirby our very best wishes on their move to Scotland and starting a new adventure there.

It was lovely to see so many of you at **Parents Evening** last week. I hope that you enjoyed looking at your children's learning and the progress they have made. We are acutely aware that 5 minutes may not seem long enough so please feel free to come and chat to your child's teacher at anytime. They are always happy to discuss your child's strengths and progress with you, just give the School Office a ring to arrange a mutually convenient time so that enough time can be set aside. Thank you, on behalf of us all, for your continued support as working together in the best interest of your child is guaranteed to enable them to reach their full potential.

REMINDERS

1st December is the last toddlers of the year. They will be holding their very own Christmas Party and so mention to anyone with a toddler to come and join us in this festive celebration. It is sure to be a fun event. Thank you to Mrs Hudson and Mrs Swarbrick for their support and organisation of Toddlers as without their hard work, we wouldn't be able to offer such a super session which is highly valued in our community. Thank you also to those who attend as you make it very special.

Could all costumes for Class 1 and Class 2 's production please be brought into school by **Monday 4th December** in a labelled plastic bag. Letters went out last week. If you need any help or inspiration with your child's costume, please come and have a chat and we'd be happy to help.

On 6th December 9.30-11.30, Year 2 will attend the Hope Journey for Christmas at Croston Methodist Church. This is always a lovely occasion and the children come back to school with a greater understanding of the nativity.

If your child does not usually have school dinners and would like to participate in the Christmas Lunch on Monday 18th December please remember to return the slip so that our kitchen is able to accommodate everyone. Payment should be made online using School Money. Copy of flyer on website under 'News', 'School Meals' if required. Deadline **Friday 24th November 2017**

Interim payment of £25 for Year 4/5 residential trip to Dobroyd Castle is due **Friday 8th December 2017** online via SchoolMoney.

Class 4 trip to Stockport Air Raid Shelters—please remember to return your permission slip by 1st December 2017 together with making £20 voluntary contribution online via SchoolMoney. Copy of letter under 'Events' at bottom of website.

Could every child bring a coat with a hood please as we try and go outside in all weathers.

Congratulations

Well Done Grace in Year 1 for being successfully awarded a medal in Stage 10 National Gymnastics Competition. This is a brilliant achievement for one so young, down to her dedication and passionand a lot of hard work.

Please let me know your special achievements



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