



# BROADWATER DOWN NEWS

Website: [www.broadwater-down.kent.sch.uk](http://www.broadwater-down.kent.sch.uk)



March 2016 (1)



## Egg-citing Times!

(Sorry, I can never resist a seasonal gag!)  
 As you will have read in my letter to parents a few weeks ago, there has been plenty keeping us busy here at BWD. As well as exciting opportunities in the curriculum (see overleaf), we have also moved forward in our improvement of the outside areas and launch of our new website.

Over the Easter holidays, our new log fencing and trim trail should be installed. The trim trail has been chosen by all of the pupils in the school (by democratic process, of course!)

Once the weather has improved, the first part of the woodland will become the 'serene area' planned by the School Council, with hammocks, cushions and rugs for quiet reading and comfortable chats at playtimes. (You know where you'll find me if I go missing!)

The pond has now been lined and a new dipping platform has been created to support the science curriculum. Also, the brambles have been cleared and the hedge next to the pond, which had been left to grow into spindly trees, has been cut back hard to recreate the original hedge.

Coming next..... We will be installing a fire pit for Forest Schools activities and moveable seating to allow flexible use of the space as an outdoor classroom.



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## CLUB CORNER

**THE FOLLOWING CLUBS WILL CONTINUE STRAIGHT AFTER EASTER: MYMATHS, CHESS, CHOIR & FOOTBALL. HIP HOP WILL START THE SECOND WEEK BACK. NEW CLUBS WILL BEGIN THE THIRD WEEK BACK. THE CLUB LETTER WILL COME OUT ON THE FIRST WEEK BACK FOR SIGNING UP. DON'T MISS IT!**

## Summer Term Diary Dates

|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Monday 11th April               | Return to school                               |
| Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> April   | 5pm French Trip Meeting for Year 6 Parents     |
| Wed 27 <sup>th</sup> April      | 2.50pm Yr 2 Class Assembly                     |
| Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> April | Year 2 Sex Education Parent Meeting (Time TBC) |
| Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> May      | KS2 SATs Week                                  |
| Wed 11 <sup>th</sup> May        | 2.50pm Yr 1 Class Assembly                     |
| Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> May     | KS1 SATS Fortnight                             |
|                                 | 3.30pm Broadwater's Got Talent Show Rehearsal  |
| Wed 18 <sup>th</sup> May        | Year 6 Residential to France                   |
| Wed 25 <sup>th</sup> May        | 6pm Year 5 and 6 Sex Education Meeting         |
| Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> May   | 3.30pm Talent Show                             |

### Half-Term (30<sup>th</sup> May to 3<sup>rd</sup> June)

|                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> June    | INSET Day   |
| Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> June   | Return to school  |
|                                | 5.30pm Swattenden Meeting for Yr 5                                    |
| Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup> June | Summer Fair   |
| Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> June   | Phonics Test Week (Yr 1)  |
| Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> June   | Sports Week   |
| Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June | Sports Day  |
| Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup> June | Year 5 Residential to Swattenden                                      |
| Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> July    | 2pm Year 5/6 Musical Rehearsal (for parents with toddlers and babies) |
| Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> July   | 2pm and 7pm Year 5/6 Musical  |
| Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> July  | Reserve Sports Day  |
| Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> July    | Yr 4 sleep-over   |
| Wed 13 <sup>th</sup> July      | 2.50pm Yr R Class Assembly  |
| Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> July   | 3.30pm – 5pm Summer Disco   |
|                                | Attainment and Attendance Reports out to Parents                      |
| Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> July   | Swap-Around PM including Yr R Taster and Induction for Parents        |
|                                | 7pm Meeting for new Yr R Parents unable to attend                     |
| Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> July      | 3.30pm – 5pm Parent Consultation Pop-In                               |
| Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> July | 2pm Leavers' Assembly   |
| Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July   | Last Day of Term  |

See last page for more PTA event dates.

**Return to school: Wednesday 7th September**



# BROADWATER DOWN NEWS



March 2016 (2)



Creative Curriculum at its Best!

## BOOK WEEK 29th February to 4th March

What a super week we had, planned by our very own bookworm, Mrs Harris. Children worked with author and illustrator Sophy Henn to make puppets, illustrate a story and share top tips for writing. Pupils (and staff) enjoyed dressing up for World Book Day and teachers made sure books were at the heart of the curriculum, sharing their own favourite stories.

## CREATIVE WEEK 14th—18th March

The children's creative juices really were flowing last week. Not only did every child participate with verve and passion at the Spring Music Festival performances, but they also took part in Hip Hop workshops led by a dance specialist teacher, art workshops led by our very own artistic teachers and they produced some beautiful artwork for display in the hall. Alongside art, music and dance, many of the pupils also produced some creative writing and thought creatively to solve mathematical puzzles and problems. Well done to all of the staff for making it such a successful week and particularly to Mrs Williams and Miss Davis who planned much of the week.

All children took part in 'Take a Quarter Circle' for the hall....



Workshops took place across the school.....



### Mobile Phones

Please refrain from using mobile phones when collecting your child. They hinder communication with teachers and prevent your child from experiencing the cheery hello they look for at the end of the day!

**Any spare LEGO?  
Please send it in—we use it to support writing.**



### Attendance Watch

After a dip in attendance due to a wave of illnesses in term 3, I am pleased to announce that we are getting back on track and have reached 94.9%. Our target is 95% so we are nearly there. Have a healthy, restful Easter break so that we are all fit and well, ready for the busy summer term ahead.

Please remember that any planned absence needs to be authorised by me via a written request **IN ADVANCE** of the date.

Absences cannot be authorised after the event and extended unauthorised absence will lead to a fine by the local authority.



This term's core value focus has been on **CREATIVITY**. Next term the focus will be on **ENGAGEMENT**.

Mrs Lonie



# BROADWATER DOWN NEWS



March 2016 (3)



## PTA Special

The PTA has been working away for the last year planning and holding a number of exciting events for pupils and their families. Over £6000 was raised which was used to ensure the cost of school visits was kept to a minimum to support families and also to pay for part of the new trim trail.

All parents belong to the PTA simply by having a child at Broadwater Down. The current committee, led by Lauren and Louise, would love to hear from more parents who can help them in their efforts to raise money, provide opportunities for pupils (e.g. secret gift stalls) and generally add to the life and soul of the school. As a working parent myself, I understand the time pressures many of us are under but please don't see an offer of help as a huge time commitment. If you could help provide tea and coffee at one event in the year, or help out at one disco, or create one poster for an event, or run one stall for the summer fair, that would be a great help. If all parents could commit to one offer of help in the year, imagine how successful the year would be!

**Please see below for some of the events coming soon. If you think you can help in any way, please contact Lauren or Louise.**

Of course, attending the events is a great way of showing support, too.

### Cake Sales

Money raised will be converted to House Points by the school. Please bring donations of cakes, cookies, slices etc to the school on the following Wednesday mornings so we can have them set up and ready to sell as soon as school finishes.

13th April - Hawkenbury House

11th May - Grosvenor House

### Bags2school

18th April

### Quiz Night for Parents

13th May

### Film Night for Pupils

19th May 3.30pm

### Summer Fair

June 11th 12—2.30pm

### Summer Disco

15th July 3:30-5pm

**Next Meeting: Tuesday 17th May 8pm (TBC)**

Come along and find out what we are about!

### Summer Fair Preparation

To support the PTA in preparing for its biggest event of the year, please note the following:

Friday 6th May: Home Clothes Day for a donation of £1

Friday 20th May: Home Clothes Day for a donation of chocolate or a bottle

Week Beginning Monday 6th June: Please bring in any unwanted toys, books, etc for the bric-a-brac stall-

Friday 10th June: Please send in cakes and biscuits

### Easy Fundraising

You can raise money for the PTA just by shopping online at your usual places – every time you purchase online, retailers automatically give a donation to your PTA – there's nothing else you need to do! Go to: <http://pta-uk.easyfundraising.org.uk/> to register to support Broadwater Down PTA. You can download the 'Find and Remind' toolbar, and then every time you visit a site that donates, it will automatically remind you. The prices you pay do not change, and any donations go directly to the PTA. There are so many retailers signed up, including Amazon, Argos, eBay, Marks & Spencer, Sainsbury's... the list goes on! So – sign up now at <http://pta-uk.easyfundraising.org.uk/>.

Why not ask your friends and family to sign up too?

**If you work for a company who offers a match-funding opportunity for charities such as our PTA, please let us know. It can really make a difference.**

**Know anyone with a bouncy castle to hire at a good price? Let the PTA know.**