



BROADWATER DOWN NEWS

Website: www.broadwater-down.kent.sch.uk



April 2016 (1)



Spring into Summer!

Despite the snow this week, it is in fact the start of the summer term! This is my favourite time of the year, partly because of the soaring temperatures(!) but also because we hold my favourite two events of the school calendar— Broadwater's Got Talent and Sports Day.

Broadwater's Got Talent is a great opportunity for pupils of any age to showcase their diverse talents, whilst building confidence in front of an enthusiastic, packed-in audience.



Auditions will be held on Friday 6th May so please ensure any children who have signed up have their props/music with them.

Sports Day is a family affair, with every child taking part and families enjoying a picnic on the field. If you can help out on the day, please speak to our PE leaders, Mr Neill or Miss Davis.

I can't wait!

While our attentions move to the outdoor learning environment, you probably will have spotted that the new trim trail is almost complete. The children are itching to have a go — not long now kids!

STAFF NEWS

THIS TERM WE WELCOME TWO NEW MEMBERS OF STAFF. MRS SOPER IS JOINING THE CURRENT YEAR 3 TEAM AS A TEACHING ASSISTANT AND WILL BE TAKING A PIVOTAL ROLE IN SUPPORTING PUPILS' EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING. MRS POWLEY WILL BE JOINING THE CURRENT YEAR R TEAM AS A TA, TOO, WE ARE ALSO PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT MRS BARBER IS NOW OUR PERMANENT DEPUTY HEADTEACHER AND MRS LIGHTBODY HAS RETURNED AS A HIGHLY-VALUED TEACHER. WELCOME BACK!

Summer Term Diary Dates

Friday 6th May	Home Clothes Day (for £1 donation to PTA) BGT auditions
Monday 9th May	KS2 SATs Week
Wed 11th May	2.50pm Yr 1 Class Assembly
Monday 16th May	KS1 SATS Fortnight 3.30pm Broadwater's Got Talent Show Rehearsal
Wed 18th May	Year 6 Residential to France
Friday 20th May	Home Clothes Day (for chocolate or bottle donation) Science Day
Wed 25th May	6pm Year 5 and 6 Sex Education Meeting 3.30pm Talent Show
Thursday 26th May	Half-Term (30th May to 3rd June)
Monday 6th June	INSET Day
Tuesday 7th June	Return to school 5.30pm Swattenden Meeting for Yr 5
Thurs 9th June and Fri 10th June	From 2pm Bric-a-Brac donations for summer fair
Saturday 11th June	12—2.30pm Summer Fair
Monday 13th June	Phonics Test Week (Yr 1)
Monday 20th June	Sports Week
Thursday 23rd June	Sports Day
Saturday 25th June	Year 5 Residential to Swattenden
Monday 4th July	2pm Year 5/6 Musical Rehearsal (for parents with toddlers and babies)
Tuesday 5th July	2pm and 7pm Year 5/6 Musical
Thursday 7th July	Reserve Sports Day
Friday 8th July	Yr 4 sleep-over
Wed 13th July	2.50pm Yr R Class Assembly
Friday 15th July	3.30pm – 5pm Summer Disco Attainment and Attendance Reports out to Parents
Monday 18th July	Swap-Around PM including Yr R Taster and Induction for Parents 7pm Meeting for new Yr R Parents unable to attend
Wed 20th July	3.30pm – 5pm Parent Consultation Pop-In
Thursday 21st July	2pm Leavers' Assembly
Friday 22nd July	Last Day of Term

Please keep an eye on the school website calendar to keep up-to-speed with events. They will be coming thick and fast!!

Return to school: Wednesday 7th September



BROADWATER DOWN NEWS



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Creative Curriculum

Our next curriculum enhancement opportunity will be Science Day on 25th May. This will be led by Mrs Stares, our Science Leader. If you have a job which uses science and would like to come in to talk about it, please let Mrs Stares know. A doctor or nurse would be great!

Also coming soon... the Year 4, 5 and 6 overnight stays. Year 4 will be staying over at school, Year 5 are off to Swattenden and Year 6 are off to France in less than three weeks time. Exciting times!!



Club Corner

Extra-curricular activities are very highly regarded at Broadwater Down as they offer pupils opportunities to learn and grow in a variety of ways. We work hard to offer as many different opportunities as possible, provided by our hard-working staff and external providers. This year, we have offered 23 clubs altogether for pupils from Year R to Year 6. The first two terms of the year focused on the older children, while the summer term has given younger children their fair share of the action. We try to be as inclusive and fair as possible across the year. Please remember this when you receive the club letter. Although KS2 sports were thin on the ground this term, pupils across the year groups have been provided with many opportunities to take part in inter-school competitions, lunchtime sports activities run by the Sports Organising Crew and they also have Sports Week to look forward to.

Risky Business

I have been interested to hear some recent parental responses linked to risk. One comment was that the new trim trail looked dangerous. I thought it important to explain the school's position on this. We currently live in a time where many parents try to protect their children from risk by avoiding situations altogether or by making them completely 'kiddy-safe'. This can lead to children who are unable to assess risk for themselves and are not prepared for the risk-full life they will meet as teens and adults. Along with organisations such as Early Excellence, leaders in research into child development, we feel strongly that it is our role as adults to teach pupils to assess risks and make informed decisions. By preparing them to handle risk rather than completely avoid it, we are preparing them for the real world. Accidents will happen from time to time, but not often, and these minor accidents in the younger years will be far less serious than some of the situations the children could find themselves in as they develop through adolescence and beyond. We work hard to keep your children safe—they need to know how to keep themselves safe when we are not around.

Uniform

A big thank you to all of those parents who have made a real effort to adhere to the uniform policy. As you know, we regard this as an important way in which pupils can demonstrate being part of the school community and pupils wear it with pride. There are now very few pupils not wearing jumpers with logos, and red tights and polo shirts are nearly a thing of the past. A few 'dodgy' pairs of shoes remain. Please ensure all children are wearing smart, black shoes every day.

This term's core value focus is on **ENGAGEMENT.**

Thanks for reading!

Mrs Lonie



BROADWATER DOWN NEWS



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PTA Special

We are very fortunate to have both a hard-working PTA committee and Parent Council, along with many parents who involve themselves in the life of the school by volunteering to listen to readers, help on school trips, come in to share their cooking skills and talents, and support the school and its pupils in many ways.

Following discussions with the CEO of PTA UK (one of our mums), we have recently had a meeting involving staff, governors, Parent Council Representatives and PTA members to develop a plan to involve as many parents in as many ways as possible in the future.

The plan will be to support the school to address its main priorities for the year, on an annual basis, by parents meeting together with staff and signing up to help in the ways which suit them most. This could be in a fundraising capacity, consultation, curriculum enhancements, clubs, you name it. We want every parent to be involved in some way in supporting the children of Broadwater Down.

The plan is under creation so keep your eyes peeled for an invitation to a meeting for all parents to come and find out more.

Key Summer Events

Help out or simply come along to enjoy!

Quiz Night for Parents

13th May

See posters for more information.

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 at The Compasses (TBC)

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

9th and 10th June: Please bring in any unwanted toys, books, etc for the bric-a-brac stall

Friday 10th June: Please send in cakes and biscuits

The PTA also need empty jam jars and plastic milk carton bottle tops for the fair. Please bring these into school—thank you.

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.