



Bean News



Term 3, Issue 6

Thursday 8th February 2018

Spicy Challenge

You may have heard your child talking about a chilli challenge in maths recently so I thought I'd explain. In order to foster independence and motivated pupils in maths lessons, children are given the option of selecting their challenge from three differentiated activities. These are known as mild, medium and hot activities, hot being the most challenging. On certain days, depending on the concepts taught that day, children then have the opportunity to respond by challenging themselves. This is helping to build on the self-initiated tasks they are introduced to in Reception and promote ambition amongst pupils as they seek to improve and enjoy the challenge of new tasks. This is of course overseen by teaching staff.



Maldives' Class Assembly

Samuel Pepys, King Charles II and Thomas Farriner, were just a few of the characters who delivered a highly informative whole school assembly from Italy Class recently. Their singing in rounds was very impressive as was the speaking and performing. Their period costumes really helped to transport us back in time. The children clearly enjoyed presenting their topic learning and the feedback from parents was very encouraging. Well done to all involved!



Roof Maintenance

When Children return in Term 4, work will be taking place to resurface certain areas of the roof. All work will be carried out according to the appropriate health and safety standards so that the school can function effectively during this process. The work is scheduled to be completed within a five week period, although this is dependent on suitable weather conditions. **Key Stage 2 pupils will be entering and exiting the school building via the reception area.** Key Stage 1 pupils will continue with their established routines.



Friends of Bean Quiz night

We have our annual quiz night planned for Friday 2nd March from 7:30. Do think about putting a team together and coming along to this fun occasion. All funds raised will be going towards replenishing new reading books for your child's class. More information is available from the office staff.



Non-School Uniform Reminder

Just a quick reminder that Friday 9th February (tomorrow) is a non-school uniform day. Children are being encouraged to bring in toiletries/unwanted gifts for the Summer Fair; it's not that far away.

We are a Healthy Eating School

Thank you for supporting our healthy eating policy relating to packed lunches. Nut free snacks and sweets are now not included in lunchboxes. We appreciate that snacks come in many different forms; if you would clarification on what is a biscuit or a sweet please speak to a member of staff in the office. **As part of the policy sweets are not permitted in school for birthday celebrations, however, a book donated to the library on a birthday will be gratefully received in the celebration assembly.**



Mother Language Day

As a Unicef Rights Respecting School, it is important to us that we value and promote the 54 articles agreed by the majority of countries around the world on the rights of children. **Article 30 states that children have the right to practise their own culture, language and religion – or any they choose.** To celebrate the diversity that exists within our community, we will be setting a day aside for a Mother Language Day - 21st February. Teachers will be celebrating the different languages and cultures represented within their classes, as well as looking at the Unicef countries their classes are named after.

Holiday Requests

Under section 7 of the education Act 1996, there is no entitlement for you to take your child on holiday during term time. You may be fined for taking your child on holiday during term time without consent of the school. An absence should be considered carefully and avoided if possible. Absence during term time will disrupt a pupils learning and progress. **Pupils are expected to attend every session available to them throughout the school year.**

An exceptional circumstances form must be completed in writing (see website or contact the office) and addressed to the Headteacher by parents informing of the intended absence and detailing the **exceptional circumstances**. Exceptional circumstances are defined as "**rare, significant, unavoidable and short**". The Headteacher will consider the circumstances for absence and confirm in writing whether the absence will be marked authorised or unauthorised on the pupil's attendance record. Each request will be judged on a case by case basis. If an event can be reasonably scheduled outside of term-time then it would not be normal to authorise absence for such an event - holidays are therefore not considered 'exceptional circumstances'.

Safer Internet Week

Following Safer Internet Day on Tuesday 6th February, all classes have been taught about the safe use of the internet. Please take some time over the holidays to review your child's online habits and check that games and contacts are suitable. A particular area to focus on is the 'friends' children make online when playing games. There are a wide range of social media and gaming platforms that encourage children to interact with others. If your child uses such sites, please check that this is done safely. For further information, please click on the school's Internet Safety tab on the website.

Dressing up for World Book Day

World Book Day this year is Thursday 1st March. Children, and staff, will be encouraged to dress up as a book character. We look forward to seeing a wide range of fascinating costumes on display.

Dates for your Diary

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- 9th February—Friends of Bean Non-School Uniform Day
 - 21st February—Mother Language Day
 - 27th February—Literacy Open Morning
 - 1st March—World Book Day
 - 2nd March—Friends of Bean Quiz Night 7.30pm—10pm
 - 7th—9th March—Year 5 Sayers Croft Residential
 - 9th March—Friends of Bean Mother's Day Gifts
 - 14th—16th March—Year 6 Bikeability (event now full)
 - 15th March—Ireland Class Assembly 2.30pm
 - 21st March—Maths Open Morning
 - 29th March—Staff Training Day—No Children
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