



Dear Parents and Friends,

## Changes

A warm welcome to Adanna Symonds who started this term, and also to Helen and Chris, her parents; we hope that they will soon feel at home! Welcome also to Sam Parsons who will be joining Year Five in January, and his mother Martine.

We will be saying goodbye to a special family at the end of this term. Connor and Liam Headen will be moving to St Saviour's School. Kerry has been a stalwart of the Friends organisation and along with Matt and the children will be greatly missed.

A special welcome to new parent Governor Kara Maylor who has started on the Governing Body this term. Kara knows the school very well and brings a wealth of experience and enthusiasm.

## Playground Changes



The new playground was completed in October, and is now being used enthusiastically by the children. The 350 square metres of artificial grass has given us all year round access to our superb climbing equipment, and it is a real pleasure to see our children enjoying this facility.

A huge thank you to the Friends for their support in making this possible!



On Friday 5th December Class Four entertained and educated parents and school alike with their biologically focused assembly which included some Shakespearean themed acting, a rap and lots of information about the body. Their enthusiasm was infectious!

## Christmas Fair

Well done and many thanks to all the Friends who organised the Fair, to those who worked behind the scenes arranging stalls and prizes, to those who ran stalls, to those who stayed to clear up, and to everyone who came and parted with their hard earned money. Thanks also to Alison Deane for her work on the School Calendar. The Fair raised a grand total of over £600 which will be used to provide opportunities and resources for the children.

We also appreciate the Friends' provision of mince pies and tea after the Christmas Service on Wednesday 17th December.

## Key Dates

**Friday 19th December** End of term 2  
**Monday 5th January** Start of term 3  
**Friday 30th January** Fun with Science Day  
(Forces)

### New INSET Dates

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February**  
**Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> February**  
**Fri 12<sup>th</sup> June**

School dates online at  
[www.bathampton.bathnes.sch.uk/calendar](http://www.bathampton.bathnes.sch.uk/calendar)



Bonjour mes amees

## French Pen Friends



Thanks to the Surgey family we now have a link school in France; the link was suggested after Holly and Phoebe spent a day there. The Lime Tree School is in St Etienne des Oullieres near Villefranche. The headteacher Joanne Leroux is English, and children major in the English language.

All children in Class Four will now have a French penpal. This class has French lessons with Ms Ovigne and we hope it helps bring the lessons to life. The French students are aged between 6 and 10.

Ms Bergmann is introducing German lessons in Class 5 so children will have an opportunity to try both French in Class 4 and German in Class 5.

## Caring for other people across the World



Many thanks to all the families who contributed a Christmas Box for the charity Operation Christmas Child. We collected 60 boxes which is a fantastic total. This means that 60 children, who might otherwise have got nothing, will receive a present this Christmas!

## Out and About Classes Visit @ Bristol

This autumn we had a number of classes visiting @Bristol. This is a superb local resource offering expert specialist Science teaching.



Class Three learnt about 'Pushes and Pulls'. The children were able to make a bridge, try out a giant hamster wheel which powered a water wheel and investigate what metals are magnetic amongst a host of other activities related to forces. They then undertook a workshop where they investigated all the different types of pushes and pulls. Just for fun they also took a 'trip to the Moon' in the Planetarium. The class were praised for their excellent behaviour and good understanding of the topic. So well done Class Three!



Class Four learnt about 'Healthy Bodies' and did fair testing of toothbrushes, made their own toothpaste, and learnt amongst other things that 'our intestines are the size of a double bus'.

Class Five are currently studying 'The Earth and Beyond' and visited the Planetarium, and learnt about the Earth, the Universe and the 'Big Bang'.

## Looking after ourselves National Anti-Bullying Week



Well done to all those children who created an anti-bullying poster during this important week in November. Some of these will be shown on the school website. This beautiful poster was created by Amelia and Anna.

### Learning to relax Yoga style



Learning how to calm down, and relax is an ever more important skill, and children in Class Two and Class Four had a series of relaxation lessons this autumn given by Rebecca Reid. She used music, stretching exercises and breathing techniques.

### Emergency First Aid



What do you do when things go wrong? A & E Nurse and parent Barbara Madigan taught some basic life saving techniques as part of Class Four's 'My Body' topic.



## Celebrating Success

### Milestones

Our Milestones Certificates are now displayed in the school hall. These were chosen by the School Council.

Some children have already achieved a Milestone in Handwriting and/or Tables, and we will be checking and testing in the spring and again in the summer. We will be adding new Milestones during the year including one for Writing. We believe that having clear 'next step goals' with a reward will encourage children in their learning. We have had anecdotal evidence that this is having an effect already.

Examples of the handwriting milestones are available online on our school website at [www.bathampton.bathnes.sch.uk](http://www.bathampton.bathnes.sch.uk) in 'The Learning Zone' or in sample booklets available on request.

### Sport



### Running

Congratulations to Ben Davis who ran in the Bath Fire Station Memorial Run. He was the winner of the Under 16s. The run was along the tow path from the Fire Station to The George and back.

### Certificates

Well done to all the many children who have achieved swimming certificates, Karate belts and music awards out of school.

### Stage Stars

Well done to Jessica Clarke who recently appeared in 'The Doll's House' at The Theatre Royal and to Sophie Baldwin and Molly Griffin who are appearing in 'Jack in the Bean Stalk' at the same theatre



## Sport and Fitness

### Walk off those mince pies!



Ex-governor Callum Christie gave an inspiring talk encouraging children to get outdoors and walk for pleasure. Callum talked about the fascinating history and wildlife that can be observed in the vicinity of Bathampton. Callum has written a superbly photographed and produced booklet suggesting interesting local walks. We have sold 23 copies so far and as Callum is donating 50p for each book sold a cheque for £11.50 has already been given to the school. If you haven't got a copy do ask, as they really are worth every penny!

## Football



Children in Year 2 enjoyed some games of football at St Marks Astroturf on Tuesday 21st October.

Our Year 5/6 played in a seven a side tournament at the Sulis Club on Tuesday 17th November. We played three games, and despite playing against larger and independent schools we came close to winning some.

The team played Swainswick at home on Thursday 27th November and won 6-0.

## Expert Coaching



It has been great having expert coaching from FA Skills coach Mark Canhan this term. Mark has taught a series of ball control skills to Classes Two and Five.

## School & Community Sandwich Provision

Many thanks to those parents who generously contributed towards the cost of sandwich provision. We received £340 towards the total cost of £476 which will help the school budget. Children who have school dinners pay for staffing and facilities within the cost of their meal

## Shop from home and help the school!

Why not try shopping through [www.ptaplanet.com](http://www.ptaplanet.com) who are affiliated with a huge number of online retailers including John Lewis, Tesco and Cath Kidston. They pay a commission every time you buy through PTA Planet. These commission payments range from 2% to 40%.

Each time a sale is made by clicking on one of the many links on our site, [www.ptaplanet.com](http://www.ptaplanet.com) are paid a commission and 50% of that commission goes into the PTA Fund.

### Key reminders

#### Some Health and Safety notices

Thanks to all parents for the great reduction in children playing on the wall outside the school.

However we still have problems with cars double parking and even reversing outside the school. This puts children at risk! We ask that all parents show consideration and ideally, avoid Tynning Road completely.

# Diary Dates Insert

## 2009 Diary Dates

### December

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> End of Term 2

### January 2009

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> Term 3 starts. PGCE Trainee Teacher Ms Wakefield starts in Class Four

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> Fire Training Class Four

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> Tag Rugby Festival Y5/6 @ Corston p.m.

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> Year 3 & 4 Football Tournament @ Monkton 9.30-12.30 a.m.

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> Introductory visit by Lee Regan (Head of School Improvement)

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> Fun with Science Day (Forces)

### February

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> Last day of term for pupils

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> INSET Day 4 Year Strategic Plan

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> INSET Day 4 Year Strategic Plan

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> Children Start Term 4

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> Class Photographs

### April

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> Easter Service

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> End of Term 4

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> Start of Term 5

### May

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> Bank Holiday

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> End of Term 5

### June

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> Start of Term 5 & Bikeability

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> KwikCricket Tournament

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> Class 5 Tribal @ St Marks School

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> INSET Assessment

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> Class Three Sports Festival p.m.

### July

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> Class Five to Athletics Festival @ Culverhay School

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> End of Term 6

Happy Christmas and New Year from  
all the staff

