

Bishops Down Primary School News

www.bishopsdownprimary.org



7th November 2014

Dear Parents and guardians

Stopgap Dance Company - On the afternoon of Wednesday 22nd October we were extremely lucky to have professional dancers from Stopgap Dance Company visit Bishops Down. Stopgap integrate dancers with and without disabilities. Dancers Laura, Amy and Joy led a group of very enthusiastic Bishops Down children in an afternoon that allowed the children to collaborate with a partner and explore their own movements, self-expression and left them with an overall feeling of an 'I can' attitude. Following the workshop, all of the key stage 2 children were invited into the hall to take part in a Q&A with the dancers, where they were able to watch a few clips of the dancers in action and asked some great questions.

Here's what some of the workshop participants said:

"I liked all of it! I loved working with my partner. The dancers were inspirational. The thing was that it was dancing and working together. I would like to do it again." – Livy, Redwood Class

"The dancers were pretty, nice. I liked the games, sponge dancing, running to the adults." – Rosie, Mulberry Class

"I like dancing. I was dancing. The girl gave me a sponge. There was one in a wheelchair. She's good. It was funny, the dancing was funny. My favourite was sponge dancing up down, up down." – Anja, Mulberry Class

"Being a sponge!" - Phoebe, Apple Class

"I liked the ladies. They helped me quite a lot because they knew I was blind. They explained what arm/ elbow movements to do and when watching the video explained what was on the screen." – Malachi, Apple Class

"They were really good. I liked making up our own dances." – Madison, Maple Class

"I loved it. It was professional. It's good that they have disabled dancers. I liked running and freezing." – Anna, Maple Class

"It was fun, I enjoyed it all. They were nice. It was just so fun!" – Orla, Maple Class

"I liked twisting, the spongy dance." – James, Maple Class

Volunteers required! - Emma Akers is looking for volunteers to help make up phonics resources for the children. Volunteers will be needed on Wednesdays to work in groups of 4, either in the morning or afternoon. We anticipate that the resources will take a couple of sessions to complete. The job will involve laminating and cutting. Also, Tara Bell is looking for volunteers on a regular basis to help with forest school lessons. This will involve going into the woods with a class, Mrs Bell and class Teaching Assistants to do various activities. Volunteers are needed on a regular basis on Wednesdays either between 10am to 12 noon or 1pm to 3pm. If you can spare any time please contact Sue Solomon at ssolomon@bishops-down.kent.sch.uk.

SQUID Lunch Queries – If you have any queries with regards to school lunches, such as requiring your log in details, payment queries etc., please email Independent Catering at unit57independentcatering@hotmail.com

School Nurse - School Nurse Bridget Stewart will be offering a School Health Clinic on Wednesday 19th November at Bishops Down School from 9am to 10:30am. Bridget can offer advice on most health related child issues including healthy eating, bed wetting, daytime wetting, constipation, treating head lice, sleeping, managing behaviour or hearing tests. Please phone Bridget on 0300 7900 244 or phone/text on 07818 510329 to book a confidential appointment.

Rydal Drive, Tunbridge Wells, TN4 9SU. Tel: 01892 520114. E-mail: office@bishops-down.kent.sch.uk

Parent Governor - Thank you to everyone who took time to cast a vote in the recent Parent Governor election. I am pleased to announce that Sarah Barker was the successful candidate and we welcome her onto the board of governors. I am sure you will all join me in wishing her good luck in the role. Thanks also go to Charles Bailey for standing for nomination. *Tarif Chowdhury, Chair of Governors*

Calling all Nursery Parents and Carers – It is Christmas Hamper time and this year the whole school theme is Authors. Nursery have chosen Julia Donaldson as the inspiration for their class hamper and are in the process of deciding how they will decorate it but for now need our help to fill it with goodies! (A combination of food, toys etc...) So let your imaginations run wild and please donate if you can an item or two inspired by any of her wonderful stories and poems. Possible ideas could be... Sugar mice, wooden snake, Donaldson sticker books, owl bunting, snails, bells, books, sweets, cakes, Dr Set, chocolate fish, socks.... Feel free to ask Alison and Claire for further ideas too! Please bring in your hamper donations by Wednesday 26th November to give the Nursery team time to put it all together ready for the Christmas fair on Saturday 29th November. Many thanks for your generosity and support!
Emma and Fiona, Nursery Reps

Wrap Around Care and Christmas Holidays - There will be no Wrap Around Care (holiday club) during the Christmas Holidays due to site improvements taking place.

French Club – Please note that there will be no French Club on Wednesday 12th and 19th November as Mrs. Baker is unavailable. Sorry for any inconvenience, but French club will resume on Wednesday 26th November.

MyMaths Information and Sharing Sessions on Thursday - Just a reminder that the MyMaths sessions will be on Thursday at 3.30pm and again at 6.30pm. If you are intending to come to one of these, please ensure you have completed the form and returned it to the office so Mrs. Pain knows how many computers will be required.

Reception Phonics Workshop - Please note that although the workshop had to be cancelled today due to lack of numbers, the workshop on Thursday 13th November at 2.30pm will still take place. If you have not already told the school you will be attending and wish to do so, please complete the form and return it to the office.

Two Class Assemblies next week - Year 3 Maple class assembly is on Wednesday 12th November, and Year 6 Oak class assembly is on Thursday 13th November, both at 9.10am. Parents are invited to attend their child's class assembly and look at their work in the classrooms until 10am each day.

Y6 Oak class visit to Tunbridge Wells Museum 12th November – Mrs. Pain is looking for two volunteers to walk with Year 6 to and from the library next week for their visit. They will be leaving school at 1pm and leaving the museum at approx. 3pm, so anticipate being back at school by 3.45pm. If you are able to help, please contact the office.

Children in Need day – Friday 14th November.

Year 5 class is excited to be leading the activities for Children in Need day this year and these will be announced to classes next week. In the meantime children need to plan a super hero outfit to wear on the day. Superheroes come in all different guises, your child/ren may decide to dress as Spiderman or Catwoman but they could be more creative and think 'outside the box' – what about dressing up as a real life super hero? How about nurse, doctor, vet or firefighter? Put on your thinking hats and come up with something amazing!

We are asking Children to donate £1 to the charity in return for dressing up and another pound to cover playing three fun activities. It would be great if we could have a cake sale too to boost funds for this worthwhile charity so any cakes either homemade or shop bought would be gratefully received.

Watch this space for an update from year 5 on the day's events.

Mrs. Spoor, Redwood.

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal – there are still some items available, such as pencils, friendship bracelets, rubbers etc. in return for donations to the Poppy Appeal. They will be available after school on Monday at the parent waiting area. Please come and have a browse.

Kind Regards,

Daniel T Tunney