



Bishops Down Primary School

Autumn Term 2 Newsletter No 6
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Dear Parents and Guardians,

Last week we had a School Review led by KCC advisors and I am delighted to say that they made some fantastic comments about the school. One advisor who last visited 18 months ago noted the vast improvement in the school environment, children's books and classroom displays. Both advisors commented on the kind and caring nature of the children and the good behaviour. Our children were able to speak about behaviour expectations and their learning. Advisors felt the Science on display was **exemplary**; they had never seen such a focus on practical Science in any other local school.

They did pick up on aspects to work on, as expected. These were not a great surprise to the leadership team or the Governors as we had already highlighted them in our School Improvement plan for this year. So all in all we were pleased with the review; it was challenging and supportive.

In this newsletter you will see photos of our local MP, Greg Clark with our School Council. The children had a very enjoyable and informative day and this week they have been delighted to receive a letter from the House of Commons by way of thanks. Mr Clark also commented on the delicious lunch and the service from our caterers, Independent– well done to our kitchen staff! We have displayed his letters on the School Council notice board.

DON'T FORGET- CHRISTMAS FAYRE TOMORROW 12.00-2PM– SEE YOU THERE! *C Owen*

Commando for Stopgap! – THEY DID IT!!!!!!

On Saturday 11th November, in the driving rain and freezing cold temperatures, intrepid commandos Peter Mcloughlin (Anja and Clara's Dad) and Hannah Rotchell (our Stopgap teacher) put themselves through a feat of all kinds of endurance! 18 challenging full-on commando obstacles set around a 6km course at Hever Castle. After a 20 minute warm-up (!) there was not much time to enjoy the beautiful gardens or castle as they met all their fears in submerged tunnels and neck deep water. Not content with just attacking the course, our fearless pair added to the challenge by each wearing a 21lb weight belt and carrying a wooden rifle. Hannah was the ONLY woman from 1700 commandos who had signed up to do the challenge over the weekend to do this, and gained massive respect from all of the Commandos around the course. The reward for completing their epic task, which spurred them both on, was the incredible amount of funds they have raised to support and develop our Stopgap Dance class and programme. An estimated, astounding £7,000!!!

A massive thank you to all that have donated, contributed and help to run our very special class. This means we can continue to share the Stopgap experience and develop Bishops Down as a hub for inclusive dance in Kent.

Thank you from us all Peter and Hannah, you were incredible!



The School Council have chosen these charities to support this year: Pepenbury as our Local Charity, Great Ormond Street as our National Charity and Water Aid as our Global Charity.



Boccia competition

On Wednesday 9th November 2016, children from Year 5 and Year 4 went to Sevenoaks to play a Boccia competition. Groups from different schools came to play the competition. It was great fun. Well done to Oliver, Joshua, Rosie, Anja, Orla, James, Devon who played Boccia.

By Rosie W and Joshua B



Boccia Tournament



Our local MP, Greg Clark visiting Bishops Down last week

KS2 Christmas Production is fast approaching...

We can't wait to see KS2 perform their Christmas Production 'The Peace Child' on Tuesday 6th December 6.30pm-7.30pm (doors from 6pm!) at St John's Church, Tunbridge Wells. With plenty of razzmatazz, rhythm and colour... expect an exciting journey set in the mythical land of Mambica, where the Sotongi and Wannakeekee tribes will invite you to 'come and see the things they do'...

Will the tribes ever find peace?

