

# Bishops Down Primary School News

[www.bishopsdownprimary.org](http://www.bishopsdownprimary.org)



10<sup>th</sup> February 2014

Dear Parents and Guardians

**Sign2Sing** – On Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2014, Bishops Down Primary School went for a world record attempt for the most people signing and singing at the same time. Sign2Sing is an organisation that helps people that struggle to hear and who can't communicate as easily as others can. Signing makes it easier for the deaf so they can communicate with friends and family alike and Sign2Sing support that in the best way possible. We have been supporting Sign2Sing by practicing all of their songs like 'Go Go Bananas', and 'Get up and Sign' which has been the song we were practicing this year. The school was looking to go for Gold after achieving Silver last year. Wednesday afternoon was when we attempted to go for a Gold world record as all Bishops Down pupils and staff, and some parents took part in the event where every single person sung and signed their hearts out. Well done to everyone who took part. *Alfred Rule*  
*Please see the photographs on the school website.*

## **Safer Internet Day 2014 tomorrow! Let's create a better internet together**

Safer Internet Day (SID) is organised in the UK by the UK Safer Internet Centre in February of each year to promote the safe and responsible use of online technology and mobile phones for children and young people. Safer Internet Day 2014 will take place on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2014, with the theme 'let's create a better internet together'. The day offers the opportunity to focus on both the creative things that children and young people are doing online, as well as the role and responsibility that all stakeholders have in helping to create a better internet.

The UKSIC provides Safer Internet Day specific resources and support for children and young people, parents and carers as well as teachers and school staff and facilitates a wide range of organizations to join together to amplify the safer internet message.

The UK Safer Internet Centre is a partnership of three leading charitable organisations, Childnet International, the South West Grid for Learning (SWGfL) and the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF). These organisations are committed to working to make a safer and better internet. All partners recognise the unparalleled opportunities the internet offers and actively encourage its positive use for social, leisure, economic and educational advancement. The partners all work towards the Childnet target; to make the Internet a great and safe place for children. The UK Safer Internet Centre is online at [www.saferinternet.org.uk](http://www.saferinternet.org.uk).

At Bishops Down we will be learning about e-Safety in every class through a range of activities throughout the week. In addition **parents are invited to come into the hall on Tuesday morning, 11<sup>th</sup> February, from 8:30am – 9:00am and 2:45pm – 3:30pm to read about e-Safety and how you can support your children.** For the children at Bishops Down e-Safety week is a chance to celebrate being kind and creative online, while educators, parents and carers can help to empower young people to embrace the positive by equipping them with the digital literacy skills they require for today's world. *Mrs. Clement*

**WOW Challenge Day** - As part of the Walk On Wednesday scheme, there will be a Challenge Day on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February where the number of children walking in each class is compared to other classes in other schools across Kent. Don't forget – if you live too far away from school to walk all the way, you can "park and stride". Just park a little way from the school and walk the last 10 minutes (from Culverden Down, or the bottom of Coniston Avenue) to be part of this green initiative.

**Clubs** – Netball Club will NOT take place on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February as none of the staff are available on that day. Art Club members will have their last week this week, and the second groups start after half term. A separate letter will be coming out regarding payment for this.

**'It's Learning' ICT Home Learning** - You may be aware that in recent years the school has used an online learning platform called 'It's Learning'. Following feedback from parents, staff and pupils the school no longer feels that it represents good value for money. There are other web based sites such as Espresso, My Maths, Purple Mash and others that meet the schools needs at least as well as 'It's Learning'. As a result, the school will no longer use this online tool.

**Girlguiding 100 Years of Brownies** - Brownies are 100 years old this year and Girlguiding has requested that Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, and Leaders be allowed to wear their Guiding uniforms on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February to celebrate World Thinking Day in this special year, which I am happy for the girls to do.

**World Book Day** - This will take place on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March and we would like parents to volunteer to come in to read a story to the children during the day. Please email or speak to your child's class teacher directly if you would be able to volunteer.

**Any spare paint?** - We are looking at brightening up the outside area of Year 1 classroom. If you have any leftover shed or fence external paint we would be grateful to receive it. The brighter the better! Also we would appreciate any unwanted (but well loved) garden toys or ornaments, such as sandpit toys and wind chimes. Please bring donations to the office by the end of this term, Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February. Thank you.

**PE Kit and earrings reminders** – There have been a number of children this term who have not had their PE kit in school on the correct day. Your child's teacher will be able to tell you when PE is if you are unsure. Also, when children have PE they need to remove their earrings for safety reasons. If they cannot do this, then they need to be able to tape up their ears with tape provided from home.

**Reception Chestnut Error in Show and Share list** - Please note that the second week of 'Show and Share' names is for the week beginning the 3rd March not February as typed by Mrs Cleveland – apologies for any confusion.

**Nursery Gate** – Please note that from tomorrow the Nursery Gate will remain padlocked until we can replace the broken lock. **This is to prevent children being able to leave the school site should the gate be left open.** Please use the path past the Junior classrooms and via the playground in the meantime.

**Starsnappers** – On Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March and Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April children in Years 1-6 will be taking part in a photographic workshop. The project is called Starsnappers, it is one of the biggest art projects ever held in the UK and will be breaking the Guinness World Record for the largest photographic exhibition ever. The children will be given the opportunity to photograph each other using a professional digital camera in a professional photographic studio which will be set up in the drama room. You will receive a Proof Card of three photos of your child which you get to keep; you will also have the opportunity to buy the pictures if you want to. Permission forms will be sent home at the beginning of term 4. This is a wonderful opportunity for the children and we are all really looking forward to seeing the pictures that they take.

Alison Wilmshurst

**PSA News** - The PSA are pleased to report that the outside classroom will be going up over the February half term. The plans will be put up on the PSA noticeboard (facing the path to school) shortly.

**World Maths Day - Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2014** - This year, we will be celebrating World Maths Day in school on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2014. The day will begin with a parade of Maths hats or ties that the children

will have made at home, the previous week, as part of their home learning. Look out for more details from your child's class teacher. They will then take part in a Maths Relay in the school hall. We are fortunate to have young Maths enthusiasts from Skinners School to work with the children solving mathematical problems and puzzles. Class teachers will organise cross curricular Maths activities throughout the day in their classrooms and children will work in mixed age groups.

We would welcome parents in different professions to do one or two minute presentations at our whole school assembly showing children how Maths is used in real life. If you cannot attend in person, we would be grateful for a PowerPoint or a video that we can use during the assembly.

Also we will be asking children who speak another language to make a poster so they could teach other children how to count from one to ten in a different language. If you have any questions or would like to help in any way, please let me know.

*Mrs. Affleck*

**Volunteers** - If you are interested in volunteering your help to the school please could you complete a Parent Helper form which can be downloaded from the school website under Parents/Parent Volunteer/Volunteer letter. We particularly need help with reading and offers of any other help would be very much appreciated.

**Sport Relief** - Emily Naismith in Year 6 has created a fiendishly difficult Sherlock Holmes themed treasure hunt with amazing prizes. It costs £1 to enter, it's at [www.pseudosherlock.co.uk](http://www.pseudosherlock.co.uk) (twitter @pseudosherlock). She is doing it to raise money for Sport Relief at the end of March when her family will be doing a 1 mile swim. Please take a look.

Regards

*Daniel T Tunay*

## **Dates for your Diaries – Please note that this Friday is an INSET day**

Mon 10 <sup>th</sup> to Thurs 13 <sup>th</sup> Feb	E-Safety week in school
Wed 12 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Year 4 Sycamore Class assembly Deadline for Photograph orders to be back at school
<b>Thurs 13<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	<b>Term ends</b>
Fri 14 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<b>INSET Day – no children in school</b>
Mon Feb 24 <sup>th</sup>	Term 4 starts for all children including Nursery All After School Activities start
Wed 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Year 2 Apple Class assembly
Wed 5 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 3 Mulberry Class assembly
Thurs 6 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day
Fri 7 <sup>th</sup> March	Parent Reps meeting 9am
Mon 10 <sup>th</sup> March	World Maths Day
Wed 12 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 5 Redwood Class assembly
Thurs 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Prospective Parents visit at 2.15pm
Mon 24 <sup>th</sup> to 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Y6 Bikeability
Thurs 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Bring your Dad to School Day – morning or afternoon
Mon 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Starsnappers photographic workshop in school
Tues 1 <sup>st</sup> April	Starsnappers photographic workshop in school
Fri 4 <sup>th</sup> April	Term 4 ends
28 <sup>th</sup> April to 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Parent lunches in school (further details to follow)