

NEWSLETTER, December 2018



The Autumn Term has flown by and this month has been extraordinarily busy with various sporting events, preparations for the wonderful Christmas productions on Tuesday, and our KS5 enterprise business, Green Leaves, have been busy organising the rest of Secondary in making produce for the Christmas Fayre. It has been great to see learners across the school engaging in all aspects of our TALENTS Curriculum.

To support the development of our young people with their 'Life Skills' I put a bid into the Wolfson Foundation during the Summer holidays for funding to create an Independent Living area, in the style of a self-contained flat. I am pleased to report that this bid was successful and the school has been awarded a grant of up to £33,000. The planning for this area will take place over the rest of this academic year and we are hoping that it will be fully functional and an integrated part of our TALENTS Curriculum for September 2019.

Wishing you and your family a wonderful festive break.

Kind regards
Jenny Baker
Headteacher



A Very Warm Welcome!



For those of you who have not been into school recently, here are a couple of photos of our main reception. Thank you to Carly in the School Office for creating this amazingly realistic fireplace scene, complete with illuminated "fire" and a tree with a train set running around its base. We're feeling all warm and Christmassy now!



Governor Update from Chair of Governors, Peter Floyd

Inspiration comes in different shapes and sizes and often at unexpected times – I found some when I spent time in school during STEM Day. STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths which sounds extremely daunting but, when broken down into 'bite sized' investigative tasks under the heading of "Muck, Mess and Mixtures", can be both a great learning experience and fun at the same time.

My 'inspiration moment' came when a class were asked whether a certain mixture would taste sour or sweet if they drunk it, the first and very immediate response was "it would taste disgusting!".



Great answer young man!! reminding me that we don't always have to be constrained by the choices that are offered to us, particularly when investigating new things. Of course, we wouldn't want young people always trying to choose a different option to those with which we present them but at the appropriate time it can be enlightening.

The energy and enthusiasm shown during STEM Day was matched, and even exceeded, a week later in the two Christmas productions – well done to all the learners and staff involved in these, the amount of hard work was apparent in the result, great entertainment.

So, it's the end of term and I would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas break, however you celebrate it, and all the very best for 2019.

Friends of Kennel Lane Update



Everyone had a wonderful time at our Christmas Party on the 7th December. The children and young people loved seeing Santa and getting their presents! Thank you to all of the parents and staff who gave up their time to make the night a success. You helped us raise about £400!

Our next fundraising event will be our annual quiz night, which is always great fun. Make a note in your diary for Friday 15th March, 7.30pm at the Binfield Club. Get your brains in gear, bring some snacks and enjoy the competitively priced bar!

Please follow us on Facebook for regular updates: www.facebook.com/ffokls/ We always need new members! If you want to join our friendly committee, please contact our Chair: lizz_kelly@hotmail.com

Reindeer Visit



We were delighted to welcome to school Snowy and Tornado, two beautiful reindeer visiting us for the day. We learnt all about their habitat in the wild and how their antlers are covered in a soft velvet fur to protect them whilst growing. Each reindeer has its own particular shape of antlers which will grow in the same shape each year!



Christmas Fayre



On Wednesday this week, we held our annual Christmas Fayre, which for the first time, included external stall holders selling books and Christmas Eve boxes amongst other crafty things. We even had a choir from Uplands Primary School singing during the Fayre! The event was a massive success and raised in the region of £200. Very well done to the Green Leaves team and thanks to Victoria Wilkins who organised the whole event.

Sporting News

Well done to learners from Bay and Oak who took part in a Badminton Festival at Edgbarrow School in Crowthorne and participated alongside 8 other Bracknell Forest schools.



Elm took part in a Tag rugby Tournament organised by London Irish and competed against other SEN schools. Whilst there, they met Digger, the London Irish Mascot!



Learners from Maple and Beech competed in a Unified Basketball tournament run by Special Olympics and Youth Sports Trust and met a Special Olympian Basketball player. We joined with Garth School to train in the weeks approaching the tournament. As a 'unified' team we played against other 'unified' teams made up of mainstream and SEN learners. Madi from Beech class was presented with a special award for excellent participation. Well done everyone!

Activities & Short Breaks For Children and Young People with Disabilities Living in Bracknell Forest

We received the following information from Bracknell Forest Council and have been asked to pass it on to our parents and carers:-

The Local Offer gives children and young people with special educational needs or disabilities and their families information about support services that are available. The Local Offer will enable parents, carers, children, young people and practitioners/professionals to see clearly which service(s) and support across education, health and social care, are available locally.

Please remember to visit and use our SEND Local Offer:

<https://bracknellforest.fsd.org.uk/kb5/bracknell/directory/localoffer.page?familychannel=6>

Contact for General Information & Queries:

Becky Durrant at short.breaks@bracknell-forest.gov.uk, 01344 352733

Dates for the Diary

Monday 7th January	Back to School for Learners and Staff	
Friday 11th January	Parent/Carer SeeSaw workshop (by invitation)	2pm – 3pm
Thursday 24th January	Secondary Bring and Share Coffee Afternoon	1.30pm – 2.30pm
Friday 25th January	Primary All Join In Afternoon	1.30pm – 2.30pm
Friday 15th February	Staff Training Day – School closed to learners	
Monday 18th – Friday 22nd Feb	HALF TERM	
Thursday 7th March	World Book Day	
Thursday 7th March	Secondary Bring and Share Coffee Afternoon	1.30pm – 2.30pm
Friday 8th March	Primary All Join In Afternoon	1.30pm – 2.30pm
Friday 15th March	Friends of Kennel Lane Quiz Night	7.30pm





Christmas Word Search

Z B X T P F I D U U I V H E O Q O R J M
 X M M G R N V Q X X L R E U H S U L Q O
 Z C P M W S G D T I C O Z M K D J D C V
 P H D Y X I W L A K Q P E S O S P G V R
 X C R X E T S G K N W J L L B N B G G F
 O D M V L C N T X R J E P B V Z D Z N H
 L H F V L I A C H H I H L Y F E Z B K Z
 Q V G V K T C F S G Q N J A V O S Z O U
 B I X C N V W J H E I Y E V Y W U R O V
 S H O A N I T W R N L L R K F A C S E T
 O T S R J F Q T N L C B Y C B L B F A T
 S M E U D Y K Y W L C R U R U X D L N M
 W T R D E S E W W H Z D N A I Z F M I Q
 K U N V I K F T I I V Y U M B A D N Z P
 F M B E R N R M U W P U H W U Y F T M Z
 U V X U S C N T I F V N A M N I Q R A E
 W F T L Q E M L J J S W V B V R H E A Q
 R O L U Y R R E Z E N S O H I T X E T M
 O E S J F U Y P Z M Y Y L L O H X S K T
 B L H K U C H E L F E J X L E S N I T R

SANTA
 SLEIGH
 IVY
 TINSEL
 STOCKING

TREE
 RUDOLPH
 TURKEY
 BAUBLES
 CHIMNEY

BELLS
 HOLLY
 FAIRYLIGHTS
 PRESENTS
 ELVES

