

NEWSLETTER, November 2019



We've had an extremely busy few weeks with trips, a residential visit, our Autumn Term World of Work day and other activities, details of which are below.

There are many exciting events to look forward to. Make sure you check the dates for the diary section for details. The Christmas Fayre on the 12th December is not to be missed – bring your friends and family and pick up some lovely unique gifts.

The Primary and Secondary Christmas Productions are on the 17th December. Letters for seat requests have been sent home already, please return the reply slips as soon as you can.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible over the coming weeks.

Best wishes
Jenny Baker
Headteacher

Foxes Academy Residential Trip



Report by Luke, year 12:-

"Last Tuesday on the way to Foxes Hotel we had lunch at the services. Then after we arrived to Foxes Hotel got our rooms and unpacked we went for a walk. Last Wednesday after breakfast we cleaned our hotel rooms then we went into town to gifts for our parents. Then we went to where the people lived in from Foxes Hotel. Then we worked hard running a coffee bar and restaurant kitchen. Then last Thursday we had lunch in the services again on the way back".

Well done to all our learners and thank you to the staff who accompanied them!

*My trip to Foxes Hotel
Last Tuesday on the way to Foxes Hotel we had lunch at the services. Then after we arrived to Foxes Hotel got our rooms and unpacked we went for a walk. Last Wednesday after breakfast we cleaned our hotel rooms then we went into town to gifts for our parents. Then we went to where the people lived in from Foxes Hotel. Then we worked hard running a coffee bar and restaurant kitchen. Then last Thursday we had lunch in the services again on the way back.*



'Dragon's Den' at Legal and General Homes

On Thursday 14th November, Bay class walked to Legal and General Homes in Arlington Square to take part in a 'Dragon's Den' activity. Bay class had already produced presentations and made prototype Christmas decorations that they took with them to show the 'Dragons'. There were four company teams: Cheetah, Bay Decorations, Jigsaw and Scent of Christmas. Each company team had created a different decoration – some had the option of biodegradable glitter and others of a lovely mandarin and sandalwood scent.



After being shown into the Boardroom, the learners took turns showing their decorations and presentations to the Dragons from Legal & General and in turn were asked questions about the different options available to order for the Christmas trees in their office. Each team tried to get the Dragons into a festive mood by giving them crackers to pull, candy canes and mince pies to eat and even popping candy!



The Dragons were very impressed with the preparation, presentations and product knowledge of each team and put in orders for all of the decorations. Bay class will be busy making these now before delivering them at the beginning of December and helping Legal and General Homes decorate their trees!

Robots from Panasonic



We were delighted to take delivery of some 'Astrobot' robot kits, a donation from our friends at Panasonic, in collaboration with Team Challenge Company, at a recent team building day. The robots arrived in a 'pre-built' state so the first challenge was putting them together using the instructions and two bags of little pieces! Once built, the robots can be controlled by a phone app to walk, spin and dance! They also offer the opportunity to practise programming. A group of learners in Key Stages 3, 4 and 5 worked in teams to follow the instructions and build the robots. They had to identify correct pieces of equipment and construct the robot in the correct order for it to work - they also had to problem solve if the robot didn't work correctly first time.

We managed to build one robot fully and are looking forward to building the other types. The learners that trialed this activity are going to be 'Robot Masters' and lead groups across the school in interacting with the robots.



We will update you further with photos and news in future editions of the newsletter.

Autumn Term World of Work Day



As part of our 'Employability' curriculum, this term's whole school 'World of Work' day was themed around 'Working with Animals'.

Key Stage 3 learners had the opportunity to visit a local farm where they were animal rangers for the day. They were able to take part in a variety of activities such as goat walking, grooming, collecting eggs and handling small animals. Learners were able to really experience what life as a farmer might be like, including the cold and wet weather! Learners really enjoyed their experience, especially finding out why the people who worked there chose that career.



At school we were visited by Berkshire Birds of Prey, who were able to give learners the opportunity to see and touch some birds of prey. These birds are often used as pest control in environments such as Football Clubs, Wimbledon Tennis Club and some Royal palaces. Learners heard about how they could potentially work in this field. One of our Key Stage 5 learners was based with the birds all day as part of his working experience and supported other learners in accessing the birds.



Primary and Woodlands Hub learners were also lucky enough to have a Pets as Therapy (PAT) dog visit. As well as being able to learn about a dog's needs, they also learnt about how a dog can become a PAT dog and what is involved in the training process.

Finally, Key Stage 4 visited local business Pets at Home where they focused on the retail side of working with animals. Learners completed evaluations and added to their Vocational Profiles throughout the day. Next term our focus will be 'Hospitality'.

A 'Magical' Day

On Friday 25th October, Citrine Class had a 'Memorable Experience Day' to end their half term topic on 'Potions'. Staff and some learners dressed up as Harry Potter characters and engaged in a variety of activities including wand making, playing Quidditch and designing mythical creatures. An exciting and magical time was had by all!



Children in Need



A great big "Thank you" for your donations for Children in Need. As usual, we welcomed special guest Pudsey Bear who posed for photos with some of our learners. The Senior Leadership Team also put on a fabulous rendition of 'Zog' which everyone enjoyed. Thanks to your generosity, you helped us raise just under £270 for this very worthy cause.

Messy Lunch at St Andrew's Church

Featured on behalf of Warfield Church

Messy Lunch is a **free** event with messy crafts, fun and games to share with your child/children. A hot lunch will be provided. All faiths/denominations welcome!



Saturday 7th December

St Andrew's Church, Priestwood Court Road, Bracknell, RG42 1TU.

11.30am – 1.30pm.

For more information, please contact Warfield Church office on 01344 886900 or by email: admin@warfield.org.uk

Winter Mini Challenge

Featured on behalf of the Bracknell Forest Library Service



With the weather getting cooler, what better time to stay indoors and read a book? This year, our young readers can join in the 'Winter Reading Mini Challenge'. It's a smaller version of the Summer Challenge, with a virtual badge to unlock, a certificate to be awarded with and lots of activities and books to enjoy!

The challenge has been inspired by **Pugs of the Frozen North**, a frosty adventure which features lots of pugs, written by Philip Reeve and Sarah McIntyre. Dogs and snow, is there any better combination for your winter reading?

The Winter Mini Challenge starts on Monday 2 December 2019 and finishes on Monday 13 January 2020.

Please visit the Bracknell Forest Library Service website for further information:-
<https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/libraries/library-events/winter-reading-mini-challenge?medium=email&source=GovDelivery>

Father Christmas' Grotto at South Hill Park

Father Christmas is busy setting up his grotto at South Hill Park! He's moving with the times and taking bookings online this year. Get your ticket at www.ticketsource.co.uk/shpgrotto

father Christmas' Grotto
 AT SOUTH HILL PARK THIS DECEMBER

"The children were totally in awe of Father Christmas"
 Visitor

★ Craft Activities ★
 ★ Personalised Visit ★
 ★ Christmas Present ★

"Once again, we had a magical time with Father Christmas and the elves"
 Visitor

"One of the best Grottos we've ever seen"
 Visitor

After another sell-out year, the most unique Grotto visit in Bracknell is back by popular demand for another year with more dates added.

Decorate your very own Christmas ornament with Father Christmas' Elves, before going in to see Father Christmas himself in your very own, uniquely personalised visit. He'll check to see if you're on his good list, and with a sprinkle of Christmas Magic, you will receive a special Christmas gift.

Send in your letters to Father Christmas for a further personalised experience. More information provided in your booking confirmation.

This unique Grotto will leave you feeling warm and wonderful, all whilst keeping Christmas Magic alive.

"5 stars! Will be back next year!"
 Visitor

30 Nov*, 1, 6-8, 11*-15, 17-24 Dec
*Early Elf discount day - **Relaxed visits day
Children £12, Under 2's £5

BOOK ONLINE!
 WWW.TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK/SHPGROTTO

#Booking fees apply

PLEASE NOTE: Your booking time is the start of your experience. You will see Father Christmas approximately 30mins from your booking time, and your overall experience will last approximately 45mins. Timeslot allocated at time of booking. Advanced booking required. Suitable up to approx. 10yrs. A cash only retail point will be available on the day, where you can purchase handmade Christmas Gifts and your Grotto Photo (photo can be pre-ordered at time of booking).

South Hill Park Arts Centre, RG12 7PA
 Grotto provided by LivelyWood Pictures
 www.livelywoodpictures.co.uk/grotto

LWP
 LIVELYWOOD PICTURES

Dates for the Diary



Wednesday 4th December	Primary 'All Join In' Afternoon Secondary 'Bring and Share' Coffee Afternoon Woodlands Hub Coffee Afternoon	1.30pm – 2.30pm
Monday 9th December	Key Stage 4 and 5 'Next Steps' Event – by invitation	1.30pm – 2.30pm
Thursday 12th December	Secondary Christmas Fayre – all welcome!	1.00pm – 2.30pm
Friday 13th December	Key Stage 5 trip to Winchester Christmas Market	All day
Tuesday 17th December	Secondary Christmas Production Primary Christmas Production	10.00am 1.30pm
Thursday 19th December	School finishes at 1.00pm for all our learners	1.00pm