

# ACADEMY NEWS

February 12th 2016



Brill Church of England School

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Headteacher: Andy Leach

## Business as usual!

I'm sure that by now you will have all read the letter from Vice Chair of Governors Rebecca Field regarding my appointment as Headteacher at Haddenham Junior School. I am not going to comment too much at this point; there is an awful lot I will say and many thanks I'll give...but I will leave all that until much later in the year. There is still a term and a half to go and I am committed to doing the best job I can on behalf of you and your children; this is a great school to lead and there is no greater example of why than what's been going on over the last couple of weeks.....

### Harry Potter Book Night

This special event was made entirely possible by the amazing efforts of Ella H from Yr 6. Pictures of the *magical* goings on are available on our flickr page (via the school website) but suffice to say it was a brilliant success and much fun was had by all. Ella came to see me a couple of months ago and asked if I'd support her efforts to raise money for our school library and JK Rowling's Lumos charity and it was my pleasure to do so— what

a great example of citizenship and enterprise she has set!

### Dance festival success

Last Friday a group of ten children travelled to Waddesdon for the KS1 dance festival. They competed against 6 other schools and represented Brill brilliantly. They danced with huge amounts of enjoyment and passion—they looked like professionals! In addition, our pupils displayed many of the values that our school holds dear; showing respect and humility and encouraging all the other schools in their dances. After a nervous break the winners were announced and.....it was us! It was a very deserved win for a very talented group of dancers. (Pictures of this event are also on Flickr)

International Week: This week was our annual International Week; the pupils have had a great time exploring the culture and geography of countries from Canada to Morocco, Vietnam to Italy. Milla and Esme from Year 4 have shared one of their experiences below. Thanks to the amazing Madame/Senora/Mrs\* Tate for bringing the whole week together in her usual brilliant fashion.

(\* delete as appropriate)

### Kenyan Pudding

Milla C-P and Esme B share their Kenyan pudding recipe and tips for success:

This week has been International Week, and Yr 4 have been studying Kenya. We made coconut and sweet potato pudding. It is a traditional Kenyan dish and it was delicious! Try to use a small dish or it will turn soggy in the middle.

Ingredients— 1 cup of coconut,

1 1/2 cups of sweet potato, 2 eggs, 3/4 cup of sugar, 3/4 cup of milk, 1/2 cup of water, 4 tbsp melted butter, 1/2 tsp mixed spice, 1 tsp cinnamon.

Method— Boil and mash 5 sweet potatoes. Next mix together the sugar, coconut and sweet potato with a spoon until smooth. Add the butter, milk and water and beat thoroughly.

Beat the eggs lightly and gradually

stir into the mixture before adding the spices and cinnamon. Beat until the mixture is creamy and very smooth. Pour into a greased dish and bake for 30 mins at 180 de-

grees until golden brown. Serve hot or cold.



# Notices

## Tissues

We seem to have a lot of runny noses, coughs and colds at the moment. Would you please ensure your child has a small packet of tissues in their book bag, or if you'd prefer to make a donation of a box of tissues to the classroom it would be very much appreciated.

## Rugby Tots

This club for Years 3-6 will continue on Thursdays after half term—please see booking form attached.

## Wooden boxes

Does anyone have any old stacking wooden boxes, wooden tea chests etc? They will be used as part of the set for a play. If you can help, please contact the school office.

## Conjunctivitis

We have had several suspected cases of conjunctivitis at school. We will be reiterating the importance of thorough hand washing and general good hygiene practice at school, and would appreciate you reinforcing this message at home. Children don't have to be kept away from school if feeling well otherwise. Please refer to the NHS Choices website if you think your child may be exhibiting symptoms.

<http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/conjunctivitis-infective/Pages/Introduction.aspx>

## Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers

We are collecting Active Kids vouchers from Sainsbury's again this year. Last year we collected over 2000 vouchers and were able to order several pieces of gym and PE equipment. This year we'd love to get even more so please do save up your vouchers and send them in with your children.

## Broken bikes

We seem to have accumulated a number of broken bikes and/or scooters in our bike shed area. Please check if any of these belong to you, and if so take home to fix, as any that remain unclaimed after half term will be disposed of.

## Music Repair Shop

We have been made aware of an in-house Musical Instrument Repair workshop in Brackley doing repairs to all Brass, Woodwind and Stringed Instruments. Should you require any instrument repairs, please see their website [www.heritage-music.co.uk](http://www.heritage-music.co.uk)

## Have a lovely half term!

See you back here safe and well on Monday 22nd February.

## Two week diary

w/c 22nd February

Monday	3.00-4.15pm High 5 Club Yrs 5&6
Tuesday	
Wednesday	3.00-4.00pm Computer Xplorers KS2
Thursday	Yr1 & 2 Roald Dahl Day 3.00-4.15 pm Arts Award Club Yr4 3.00-4.15pm Rugby Tots Yr5&6 3.00 -4.00 pm Yr 5 & 6 Dance Club
Friday	Bikeability Training 3.00-4.45pm Friday Club KS2 Dance Finals

w/c 29th February

Monday	Yr1 & 2 Trip to Bucks County Museum 3.00-4.15pm High 5 Club Yrs5&6
Tuesday	
Wednesday	3.00-4.00pm Computer Xplorers KS2
Thursday	3.00-4.15 pm Arts Award Club 3.00-4.15pm Rugby Tots Yr5&6 3.00-4.00 pm Yr5 & 6 Dance Club
Friday	Bikeability Training 3.00-4.45pm Friday Club

### Hello from the PTA!

Over the next few newsletters, we're going to introduce the PTA and share some of the things we're doing. I'm Andy Cotgreave, chair of the PTA, and father of Beatrice (Yr 4) and Lucy (Yr 2). Did you know the PTA paid for the playground equipment outside the school? The new TV in the hall? The PTA! All the new iPads and learning tablets? Yes, that was the PTA, too. This year, we're fundraising to refurbish and update the library. None of this would be possible without our committee, the bigger numbers of volunteers and the money donated by you and others. Each newsletter, we'll share a little bit more info about the PTA: who we are, how we operate, and how you can help. I believe the PTA plays a fundamental role in our children's development. Without the playground, an amazing library, iPads, and A/V equipment our children's experience would be diminished. The PTA, together with your time and your donations, can continue to add to the amazing resources our children have access to.

If you wish to help, drop me a line! Andy Cotgreave ([andy.cotgreave@gmail.com](mailto:andy.cotgreave@gmail.com))