

Bow Community Primary School
The Bow Times

www.bowcps.devon.sch.uk
email: admin@bowcps.devon.sch.uk

Issue No. 11
13th March 2020



Welcome ...

... to our latest edition of the Bow Times. It has been a very busy few weeks, since our return after half term. Along with the usual business of learning, World Book Day, Science Week and Sport's Relief have filled every corner of the school, engaged every child and raised awareness and much enthusiasm for these important events. Thank you for the time, energy and support, which you have dedicated, in helping your children to actively participate. It is very much appreciated.

Term Time Holiday Requests ...

From September 2019, school has a duty to REFER all unauthorised holiday requests or series of unauthorised medical absences to the local authority. Holidays that are not EXCEPTIONAL, will be unauthorised. An unauthorised absence is reported as part of the local authority policy and part of the school's attendance policy: <http://www.bowcps.devon.sch.uk/website/policies/174887>

I must take this opportunity to remind you, that should you choose to take your child out of school without the authorisation of the school, then Parental Responsibility Measures could be instigated. This could mean receiving any of the following;

1. A Penalty Notice (assuming one has not been issued in the past 2 years)
2. A summons to the Magistrate Court which could result in a fine of up to £2,500 and/or a term of imprisonment for up to 3 months.

Thank you for your continued support.

A Million Dreams Charities Cheque Presentation and Concert Reminder...

On Tuesday 17th March, the two charities (Downs Syndrome Association and CLIC Sargent), which benefitted from the monies raised as a result of the release of A Million Dream's single, will be coming to a special rock and pop concert performed by Cameron's music students. They will be presented with cheques at the start of the concert and then some of the music students will perform a selection of songs that they have been working on together as groups. The concert will end with a replay of the school's charting single video - A Million Dreams!

The concert, which will take place in the school hall, begins at 3.45pm will end at 5.15pm. FoBS have kindly offered to serve refreshments, which will be available at a small cost. It would be amazing to see as many parents there as possible.

World Book Day ...

On Thursday 5th March, it was World Book Day. We had some fabulous outfits; the school was certainly very colourful! The children participated in a variety of activities across the school and shared favourite books with each other. We also held a vegetable competition where the children created book characters out of various vegetables. They were truly amazing! The winner was Marvin the sheep, created by Abi Drake.

The costume winners were Rachel, Luka, Skye, Thomas and Isabella.



The Great Hall Music Event – All That Jazz ...

Wow! What a performance the children gave at the Great Hall on Friday 28th February. The theme this year was All That Jazz. It's not my favourite type of music, so I handed the song choice over to the children and they chose to sing Friend Like Me from Aladdin. What a song... very fast... lots of words... I was worried that we wouldn't be able to sing it and get all the words in. How wrong I was... the children were word perfect and the speed of the song and number of words they had to learn were commented on by the organisers of the concert. They played the ukulele in the middle of the song, and what moves our friends can do!



It was a truly joyous (if not a little tiring) afternoon and evening. Zara was sitting outside the venue eating pizza when she turned to Matt and said "This is the best day of my life!" which made us all smile. I must say a massive thank you to the children who came to the Great Hall and also to their parents for coming along to support them. A really big thank you goes to Cameron Mills, who supported me throughout the process, helping to teach the children the song, but especially for teaching the children how to play the ukuleles. Another thank you goes to Matt Crome and Miss Loader, for giving up their time to help me all afternoon and evening.

Parking ...

Please could parents, and any other family members who drop off children in the morning NOT park in the dedicated staff car park. This can interfere with the safe exit and entry of adults and pupils to the premises. Thank you.

An introduction to the new Governor – Richard Drake ...

I am the newest member of our school's governing body (and it's Resources committee) and also dad to Abigail (yr5) and Thomas (yr2).



In terms of my personal and career background, I am a dairy farmer's son and spent much of my teenage years working on the farm whilst studying up to A-levels.

Subsequently, I gained 17 years of local government experience in the Estate Departments of Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue and Exeter City and Teignbridge District Councils. I started at apprenticeship level and progressed to become a degree qualified building surveyor and latterly gained considerable departmental management experience as Property Maintenance Manager which included budgeting, day to day team management and associated HR tasks.

Three years ago, I made the decision to have a significant career change when I became an active partner in my wife's family's artisan cheesemaking business and that is where you will find me today.

Aside from work and family duties, my interests include playing rugby, cricket and cycling. I have also recently taken up an active role coaching 5 -11 year old children to play cricket at Belstone Cricket Club.

I hope that my broad and varied professional life experiences will help me to add value to our school's governing body and assist Bow Community Primary School to be the best that it can be.

Stags Trip to the Donkey Sanctuary ...

On Wednesday 11th March, Stags went to the Donkey Sanctuary. Poppy and Abi tell you all about it below.

The donkey sanctuary is big and everyone was really friendly. We had a guided tour and then we cleaned the stables and we had to use a pooper scooper. We learned that donkeys originate from Egypt. There was a really big donkey called Arnie and lots of smaller donkeys. We could stroke the donkeys but we weren't allowed to go into the pens with them in case they kicked. We completed a welfare assessment on the donkeys which included the condition of the enclosure, their fur and whether they were in a good mood or not. Plus we had to say how fat they were! At the end of our visit we went in to the maze. The boys got to the middle first and the girls got lost and we needed help! We had a great time, thanks to Carl and the donkeys.



Mothers' Day and FoBS ...

A huge 'THANK YOU' once again to our wonderful FOBS' team. As is customary for this time of year, they have kindly organised a fantastic array of Mother's day gifts for the children to buy: all wrapped and ready to go. I'm sure that come Mothers' Day morning, they will bring a smile to many a face.

WANTED! Governors ...

We are still actively seeking members of our community, who are willing and able to support the Headteacher with the overarching Leadership and Management of the school. With few governing body members, we remain in a vulnerable position as a standalone school. There is a time commitment required to fulfill the role. If you are unable to spare the time yourself, please encourage anyone else who you think may be able to help support the school. We would love to hear from them.

There would be free professional training for any new governors. If you would like to know more about what the role entails, please contact the clerk, Megan Heath on clerk@bowcps.devon.sch.uk, who will provide you with more information.

Thank you.

Year 5 Reading Club ...

Bow School have been fortunate enough to participate in a year 5 Reading Club run by the Cridton Community Book Shop which was started in order to encourage a love of reading. Some of our Year 5 children had 3 sessions in the book shop and received a free book on each visit.



Science Week ...

This week was British Science Week (BSW). The theme was 'Our Diverse Planet'. Each class took a continent and carried out various investigations and studied famous scientists/explorers. Please ask your child/children what they discovered.

Sport Relief ...

Today is Sport Relief and we celebrated in school with a range of sporty activities. Stags taught each class some recently acquired circus skills, everyone ran a mile and there was a staff v children netball match! There was a huge variety of sports outfits from dancers, gymnastics, runners and footballers. Felix won the best sporting outfit in his Tae Kwon Do kit. We had a fabulous day.



Learning Leaves, Learn, Share and Enjoy Stickers ...

Week ending Friday 28th February

Learning leaves and stickers were awarded to Alexia, Hannah, Faye, Rachel, Grace, Archie, Alisha, Jayden, Zara, Amber, Joseph, Thomas, Sienna and Evie.



Week ending Friday 6th March

Learning leaves and stickers were awarded to Taylor, Ella, Aimee, Kiera, Will, Gracie, Emily, Danny, Skye, Holli, Joseph, Evie, Charlie, Louie and Jacob.



Week ending Friday 13th March

Learning leaves and stickers were awarded to Lilly-Mai, Artie, Skye, Harry, Charlie, Zachary, Aimee, Luke, Rachel, Isla, Alfie, Ruth, Amelia, Brody and William.



Beano Award ...

Week ending Friday 6th March

This week the Beano Award went to Skye for having a fantastic attitude towards her learning and wearing an amazing costume for World Book Day. Well done Skye.



Week ending Friday 13th March

This week the Beano Award went to Luke for his dilligence towards his work and his gentlemanly attitude. Keep it up Luke.



And Finally ...

I hope to see many of you at the up-coming Charity Concert. It will be a chance to once again proudly revel in the children's beautiful performance 'A Million Dreams' and to officially mark the substantial money raised for good causes. It will be the last whole school event, before completing my time here with you at Bow and so very much look forward to seeing as many of you as possible.

Many thanks and best wishes

Nic Forder