



THE BATT C.E. SCHOOL

THE BATT CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Newsletter No. 20

Dear Parents/Carers

Indoor Athletics Success

Congratulations to our athletics team who, having won the Witney Schools' Sports Hall Athletics competition last month, took part in and won the West Oxfordshire event at Chipping Norton on Wednesday. Competing in a variety of field and track events, there were some outstanding individual performances, notably from Katie, Cohen, Will and Dylan, as well as some great team achievements in the relay races. Having won the trophy for the fourth year in a row now, we proceed through to the county finals in April. Well done to everyone!

World Book Day

I thought the children looked wonderful in their book character outfits for World Book Day yesterday. There was such a variety of characters on show, including of course many staff "Where's Wallys!" There are lots of photographs in the Gallery section of our website. Thank you for all the effort you made in helping the children with their costumes.

Staff News

Today was Kate Harpham-Timms' final day at The Batt. Kate has been a Teaching Assistant here for three years and has provided great support to many children. We wish her well in her new role with Thames Valley Police. Mrs Cheryl Thornton has taken on her hours in Year Four.

Science Week

Next week is Science Week and Miss Cooper, our Science Co-ordinator and Sonia Gooderham, parent and biologist, have arranged a variety of inspiring experiences for our children. We will welcome visitors from the RAF, Jaguar Land Rover, Cotswold Wildlife Park, The Jenner Institute, Nuffield Orthopaedic and an Antarctic explorer. The children will design helicopters, perform keyhole knee surgery (on plastic knees), launch rockets, learn about conservation and we will also welcome Year 2 from St. Mary's for a shared activity. The week ends with an evening of stargazing in the company of Chipping Norton Astronomy Club.

Times Tables Rockstars

The children in Years 2 to 6 will have been given this week a username and password to enable them to access Times Tables Rockstars, an online facility for the children to learn their tables in a fun, interactive way, and improve their speed of recall. The children will be able to access Times Tables at home as well as at school. Maths is a big subject and we appreciate there's more to it than times tables and there's more to times tables than learning them off by heart. However, a lot of the rich, interesting maths is all about multiplicative relationships and these are hard to fully grasp without fluent recall of the tables. For that reason, learning the tables is fundamental – they are a key facilitator to the maths that sits on top. If you have a question or want to offer your thoughts on any of the above, please speak to your child's teacher.



Football Success

Congratulations to our girls' football team who, after drawing their first match, beat Ducklington 9-1 in the Witney Schools' League last Friday. Hat tricks from Immie, Olivia and Katie ensured an emphatic victory. Well played everyone!

Netball

Our Netball team opened up the defence of their Witney Schools' Netball League title campaign with a comfortable 17-5 victory over Finstock on Monday. Congratulations to all and we look forward to more of the same in the next match!

Curriculum Enhancement

Our curriculum has been enhanced in so many ways since Christmas with a wide variety of experiences outside the normal classroom teaching and learning. Examples include Year Six Injury Minimisation Programme at Witney Hospital, Year Two PE sessions at Henry Box, RD trip to the Cotswold Wildlife Park, Year Five Greek Drama workshop, Roman Soldiers' visit to Year Three, Year Six watching the Wood Green performance of Beauty and the Beast, Year Four Hands on History Ancient Egypt workshop and of course World Book Day yesterday. I hope the children have enjoyed these experiences and that they have added to the children's enthusiasm and knowledge.

Breakfast Club Request

The children in Breakfast Club would love some more simple construction equipment such as Lego or Playmobil etc. If you have any of these, or similar construction toys, that your children no longer use, please contact the school office. Similarly, if you have any simple board games such as Frustration, Operation etc, we would love to have those too. Thank you.

Cars along Marlborough Lane

I would like to remind parents, carers and others who bring children to school and/or collect at the end of the day that for health and safety reasons cars must not drive up Marlborough Lane. This includes when dropping off at Breakfast Club as there are still children arriving at school at this time and we want to keep them all safe as they walk up the lane and across our playground. Please pass this on to other family members who might drop children off from time to time. Thank you.

Value of the Month

The value of the month for March is Forgiveness. We will be exploring this theme in both the classrooms and during collective worship.

Many thanks for your continued support this term.

Yours sincerely

Chris Payne
Headteacher

