



THE BATT C.E. SCHOOL

THE BATT CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Corn Street, Witney, Oxon, OX28 6DY



Headteacher: C.M.Payne BMus (hons), Cert Ed
Fax: 01993 776512

Telephone: 01993 702392
Office.3605@batt.oxon.sch.uk
www.thebattschool.org.uk

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Newsletter No. 28

Dear Parents/Carers

May Dancing

Thank you very much for your support at our May Dancing with St. Mary's School on Church Green yesterday. As always it was a wonderfully colourful occasion and the weather was glorious. The dancing was excellent in such a beautiful setting. I would like to thank all the staff for their efforts in preparing the classes so well and I would like to congratulate all the children for being fabulous. Thank you to everyone for donating posies of flowers. I am so pleased to announce that we raised £540 towards our chosen charity, SeeSaw Oxfordshire, from the sale of the flowers. I hope everyone enjoyed the occasion – it certainly is a wonderful community event.

County Rugby Finals

Both our A team and B team completed in the County Rugby finals at the Oxford University ground in Iffley yesterday. Our B team, having won two matches, drawn one and lost one in the group stages, beat Bishop Loveday School, Banbury, in a tight semi-final, 8-7. In the final we unfortunately lost to a strong Combe A team, but they still came away as runners up in their competition. Our A team also made it through the group stages to set up a semi-final game against Crowmarsh Gifford, which they went on to win 7-5. In the final they came up against last year's winners, John Hampden School from Thame. Having lost to them in the group stage, our team took the attack to the opposition and in a close fought match, won 8-6, to be crowned County Champions for the fourth time in the last eight years. This truly is a wonderful achievement. Congratulations to all our rugby players!

Year Five Concert

I was so proud of our Year Five children for performing so well at the Witney Partnership of Schools concert at Wood Green School on Wednesday evening. Combined with a total of 200 Year Five children from six primary schools, they sang beautifully and performed their poem so clearly. I hope everyone enjoyed the occasion.

Dementia Awareness Week

Thank you for supporting our Dementia Awareness Week, and in particular the cake sale and 'blue' day on Tuesday. I am very pleased to say we raised £347 towards this excellent charity.

Quad Athletics

Our Upper Junior Quad Athletics team took part in the Witney Schools' tournament at Wood Green on Monday. As with the Lower Juniors as week, the children had to sprint 50m, run 400m, long jump and throw a vortex howler, with points being awarded for distance and times. Our team dominated the event with 7 of our 10 athletes gaining the gold standard, resulting in a comfortable 100 point victory. Particular congratulations to Will who finished first out of all the athletes, Dylan who finished second overall and Katie for being the best placed girl.



Andrew Jones

Today is Andrew Jones's last day at The Batt, Andrew has worked as a Teaching Assistant here since September in Years Two and Three. We have all enjoyed having Andrew at The Batt and the children in particular have loved having him here to support them. Andrew is moving on to a new venture – teaching song writing and rock music in schools around Oxfordshire. We all wish him the very best for the future.

Birthday Celebrations

I would like to encourage children to bring in an alternative to sweets when they celebrate their birthday. It has been suggested by a couple of parents in the past and indeed has been something I have been concerned about for some time. As a 'Healthy Oxfordshire' school that supports encouraging children to eat more healthily, it seems contradictory not to encourage an alternative to sweets as a celebration of a child's birthday. I would therefore like to encourage parents and carers to consider an alternative and two parents have suggested buying a book for the class instead. Books can be bought cheaply in certain shops in Witney and may even be a cheaper option to sweets for a whole class. It also serves as a more lasting memento of the special day. I hope parents and carers will consider this as an alternative in the future. Thank you.

Maths Quiz

A team of four Year Six mathematicians represented our school in a regional heat of the National Junior Maths Quiz in Swindon last Friday. Competing against schools as far afield as Salisbury, our four children worked effectively as a team as they answered a series of extremely challenging Maths questions. It was an exciting afternoon as our team pressed their buzzers within the limited time frames and the scores for each round were displayed on the large screen for all to see. We were always in the top five throughout and finished an excellent 4th out of the 9 teams, missing out on third by 20 points. Well done to Ben, Phoebe, Jack and Caspar.

Upper Junior Tennis

Congratulations to our Upper Junior Tennis team; James, Theo, Katie and Natalia, who competed against five other schools in the West Oxfordshire tournament held at Cokethorpe on Tuesday. In a series of single matches, we had four victories out of five in the group stage and qualified for the three-way final. Unfortunately, we lost out in this but finished as overall runners up.

Menu Changes

There will be a couple of changes to our lunch menu after half Term. On Mondays of the Week One menu, Banana Custard has been replaced by Flapjack and on Wednesdays of Week Two, Toad in the Hole and Vegetarian lasagne has been replaced by Roast Beef and Vegetarian Mince Pie. I hope the children prefer these options.

I hope you enjoy the Half Term break and look forward to seeing you all on Monday 3rd June!

Yours sincerely

Chris Payne
Headteacher

