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Governors' Newsletter

January 2016

A very warm welcome back to school to all the children, staff, families and carers. We hope you have all had a relaxing, peaceful and energizing Christmas break and are raring to get to grips with discovering more wonders of learning at Buriton Primary School!

One of the highlights of last term was the Christmas performance, which most governors were able to attend. The purpose of a 'governor visit' to an event such as this is partly to join in with the appreciation of the efforts and abilities of the children shown by our ever-enthusiastic audiences, but also to be able to observe as governors how such events engage with and express core aims of our curriculum. Governor visits are essential to maintain appropriate links with the school for the governing body, and reports of visits are vital evidence for the school of governor involvement and understanding of the significance and value of school activities. The following is an excerpt from a recent governor visit to give you an idea of the kind of thing governors are looking out for.

As all of you who attended will remember, the school Christmas plays consisted of a version of the nativity story for the Infants entitled 'Straw and Order' and a pantomime of 'Aladdin Trouble' for the Juniors:

‘Both productions were particularly good and very lively. The children showed confidence and a very good sense of performance, but also demonstrated a very energetic approach to their performances which was especially captivating and made them great fun. Many of the children showed a real sense of comic timing which was also much appreciated by the audiences. The words were mostly clearly audible which is a great achievement in the acoustics of the church. The productions both had a feeling of flow and pace, and the children projected their enjoyment of this opportunity to display their achievements to parents, siblings and carers. The audience responded with great enthusiasm.

The plays demonstrated brilliantly the children’s ability to work together as a team and support each other in performance. I was particularly impressed by the vivid characterisation that children brought to their parts, a performance skill which was evident in both the Infants’ and Juniors’ plays. There was also room for musical skills to be displayed. In the Juniors’ performance in particular, many of the musical numbers were sung in harmony. This shows a very high level of musical achievement in children so young. It was particularly good to see more retiring characters among the children being able to express themselves confidently in performance and clearly enjoying the experience immensely. The value of the performances was evident in the increased confidence that the children displayed. The performance skills in evidence across the school were very impressive and clearly connect to curriculum priorities in promoting civic values such as teamwork, inclusion of children of all abilities and generosity in giving each other mutual support.’

The governing body looks forward to another busy term during which we, as governors, will be visiting the school as much as our varied activities in the rest of our lives will allow, in which visits we will continue to observe and assess the activities of the children with regard to the school’s priorities.

Buriton News

Many of you do not live in Buriton, and therefore don't necessarily have access to what is going on in and around the village. The best source of up-to-date information about events in and around Buriton is the website, **www.buriton.info** which is updated regularly. If you have anything to add yourself you can contact Wendy Shone on 01730 268601 or **wendy@bhcs.fsnet.co.uk**

Films in Buriton Village Hall:

Now that the Village Hall is once again fully operational, Friday Films are again being shown. Doors open at 7.00pm for a 7.30 start on the following dates: 8 January (45 Years); 5 February (Suffragette); 4 March (A Walk in the Woods); 1 April (The Lady in the Van). Wine, soft drinks and ice cream will be available.

Buriton Players:

The long-delayed and much anticipated production by this brilliant village team of players is on Friday 26 and Saturday 27 February at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, entitled 'Halls Well That Ends Well'. Not to be missed!

Easter in Buriton:

Easter is particularly early this year: Easter Sunday 27 March. The Ash Wednesday communion service with Ashing, which marks the beginning of the season of Lent, will take place on 10 February at 7.30pm at St Mary's Church. Mothering Sunday is at 10.00am on 6 March. Palm Sunday 20 March. Good Friday 25 March. All are welcome to all of our services.

The Governors wish a very Happy and Successful New Year to all the children at Buriton Primary School, their families and carers.

