



WELCOME FROM THE HEADTEACHER

November is rushing past us with the speed of a politician's broken promises and who knows, we might even have a day when it doesn't rain! As it is the second half of the Autumn term, we are beginning to think about the possibility of perhaps considering Christmas: the children have started learning the songs for the Carol Concert and details of other seasonal events are below. Before then we do have the rest of this term's work to do and those all important end of term assessments to say nothing of digging out the tinsel and fairy lights....

Iain C. Gilmore

CARETAKER NEWS

I'm pleased to inform you that we have a new caretaker! Mr Kevin Dagnell was interviewed a couple of weeks ago and starts next week. I'm sure you'll get to know him and we hope he enjoys working at school.



CHRISTMAS EVENTS

Even though it's still November, we thought you'd appreciate early notice of some of the Christmas events we have planned:

The **Carol Service** is on **Wednesday 17 December** at **2pm** at **St Mary's Church** and this being an even numbered year, the children will be singing our Nativity Songs. The service should be no longer than 45 minutes so you will have time to get to infant schools to collect younger siblings. I hope everyone will join in this community occasion but if for religious reasons you would prefer your child not to take part, please write to us and arrange for your child to be collected from school at 12pm on the day.



Our **Christmas Raffle** has prizes of £75, £50 and £25 cash. Tickets will be coming home next week and cost £1 a strip.



We will draw the Raffle at our **Christmas Table Top sale** on **Friday 12 December** in the Lower Hall. The sale starts at 3:30pm. We're holding a **non-uniform day** on **Friday 5 December** to get donations for hampers which will also be prizes for the raffle. All the money we raise will go towards funding a pantomime in school.



Finally please look out for letters from teachers with details of class parties!

PE

PE is a compulsory subject in school and all children must take part unless there is a medical reason at which point please write us a note. Children cannot do PE with ear-rings and it would be best if they take them out on days when they do PE. If they can't, please send them in with some tape to cover their ear-rings – we're sorry but this is not something the school can provide.



OPEN DAY

Thank you to everyone who supported our first Year 2 Open Day. We welcomed sixteen families who were all very complimentary about the school. Since then we have made several other appointments for those parents who were unable to come along on the day. If you do know anyone who is considering junior places, please encourage them to call in and make an appointment and we'd be delighted to show them around the school.



OFSTED

We were visited for a one day monitoring visit by Ofsted on Tuesday 14 October and the report was finally published last week. The HMI said that the school is taking effective action to tackle the areas identified by our March Ofsted – this is the best possible outcome for a one day visit!



Ofsted now treat us as a brand new school which is why on their website you will find two Isambard Brunel Junior Schools: one is now marked as “closed” and has all our old Ofsted reports including the one above; the other is for the “new” school that opened on 1 November when we became an academy.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 25 November	Full governing body meeting – external review
Wednesday 3 December	Good Shepherd Church Assembly
Thursday 4 December	Year 6 Arson Awareness Workshop
Friday 5 December	non-uniform day for Christmas hampers
Wednesday 10 December	Year 3 trip to Kings’ Theatre Pantomime
Thursday 11 December	Christmas Lunch (prebooked only)
Friday 12 December	Year 4 Celebration Afternoon – 2pm
Wednesday 17 December	Table top sale and Christmas Raffle – from 3:30pm
	Carol Concert @ St Mary’s Church – 2pm

School finishes at 3:20pm on Friday 19 December
School reopens at 8:40am on Tuesday 6 January 2015

TERM DATES FOR THIS YEAR

Autumn Term 2014 Tues 2 September - Fri 19 December	Spring Term 2015 Mon 5 January - Thurs 2 April	Summer Term 2015 Mon 20 April - Wed 22 July
Half Term Mon 27 October - Fri 31 October	Half Term Mon 16 February - Fri 20 February	May Day Mon 4 May
Christmas Mon 22 December - Fri 2 January	Easter Fri 3 April - Fri 17 April	Half Term Mon 25 May - Fri 29 May

INSET DAYS

Monday 5 January 2015

Monday 23 February 2015

Monday 1 June 2015



Isambard Brunel
JUNIOR SCHOOL • PORTSMOUTH

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BRUNEL BULLETIN Comments' Slip

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YOUR NAME.....

YOUR CHILD'S NAME.....

CLASS.....

YOUR COMMENT

Would you like a written reply from us about this?

YES / NO*

Would you like us to arrange a meeting with you to discuss this?

YES / NO*

* please circle your choice

Thank you for taking the time to write to us.