# HEAD'S BLOG

What a week we have had! It's been a true privilege watching our nativity performances this week. Staff and pupils have put on some brilliant productions, showcasing an array of talent throughout the school. I'm very proud of them all and I hope you have enjoyed these occasions as much as I have.

The Christmas fun continues with Christmas Jumper day today, Christingle, Christmas lunch, BB's Got Talent and Christmas craft next week. I can't wait!

No doubt a number of your children will be lucky enough to receive electronic devices from Santa. We know from previous years that there is often an increase in the number of online safety concerns in January so we thought it wise to provide some sources of advice on how to keep your children safe in the online world. The following link takes you to some really useful leaflets of information about a wealth of online topics. Do take a look! I have included a few later in the newsletter to give you a flavour.

https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/esafety-leaflets-resources/

I hope to see lots of you at the Christingle Service on Wednesday evening.

Have a great weekend! Debbie Carmichael



#### Speech Festival Champion

Following BB's success at the St Austell Speech Festival, our three winners were invited back to perform at the Gala

Concert last Saturday evening.
During the concert, Oscar was awarded the trophy which goes to the person with the highest mark across the whole speech festival. Out of hundreds of participants, Oscar had the highest mark for his performance.

Congratulations, Oscar!

A group of talented BB dancers joined 3 other local schools to perform at White River Place on Tuesday evening. They have been working with a local choreographer on their routine over the last few weeks and were truly **fab-u-lous!** Christina from Dance

Republic said 'Please tell them how proud we are of them and impressed by what they were able to achieve with Dean in a relatively short time.'

I'm sure this is not the last we will see of this group!



BBKIDS TELEPHONE NUMBER IS 01726 65471—THIS IS FOR EMERGENCIES ONLY

Our Christian values: Compassion, forgiveness, trust, respect, courage and perseverance

# PHOTO PAGE

# **Christmas Jumper Day**



























#### **ATTENDANCE**

The expected average attendance for a child is 96% for the year

Our attendance for this week is 96.99%

Our attendance for this school year is 96.2%

Well done to class for the attendance stars of the week!

Classes	%	Lates	Class	%	Lates
Little Doves	96.93%	3	Pelicans	98.21%	3
Little Fish	98.77%	0	Angels	98.41%	2
Little Lambs	91.85%	3	Faith	95.19%	0
Peacocks	94.05%	0	Hope	99.63%	0
Phoenix	98.52%	2			

# **PSA**

I have again been reviewing patterns of attendance and absence.

We have evaluated statistics with our Education Welfare Officer and some families will have been contacted because their child's attendance is currently showing as below 90%. A number of these are due to repeated periods of being away due to illness and a number of these illnesses are not considered to be sufficient reason for absence.

We often discover that children who are encouraged to make it in to school even when they are feeling a little under the weather, do in actual fact, successfully make it through the day pleasantly distracted by the tasks of the day. They may of course require a little more TLC each evening to recuperate but in many cases they can be avoiding unnecessary absence marks against their names. Equally, we note that a number of the below 90% statistics are due to unauthorised periods of holiday. Please be aware of the impact that these absences have on your child's record. Most importantly we hope families will take into account that their children are disadvantaged by missing significant learning opportunities.

In addition, some of you will be aware that we now have a newly implemented 'late log' which for safeguarding reasons, must be completed by a parent/carer should your child be arriving to school after the registers have closed at 9am. Observations thus far indicate that some families could be making some very small changes to their morning routines and this would reduce the likelihood of their child arriving late to their lessons. Where some parents have requested support in addressing punctuality with their children, we have had success by introducing a personalised incentive scheme and I would be very happy to speak to any other families who feel they require advice and support to make the necessary changes to prioritise punctuality.

We do however continue to have a reduction in the number of pupils recorded with less than 90% attendance so far. In line with Government expectations, it is our school policy to aim for 96% attendance for all of our pupils. Please be reminded of our RAG system which is designed to alert you to the fact that your child's attendance is falling below expectations.

 GREEN BAND
 96% - 93%

 AMBER BAND
 93% - 90%

RED BAND Below 90% - as per DfE definition

#### IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



## **PSA NEWS**



We are now into December and it continues to be a pleasure to be meeting new faces and supporting those of you that I have had contact with so far. I am contactable via the office or you can drop me a text on **07903 613074**. I can support you with a variety of issues and if I do not have the answer, I will work with you to ensure we get you in touch with the help that you, your family or your child needs.

My focus in recent weeks has included supporting parents to attend local 'Challenging behaviour' support groups and linking families up with the local Face to Face Oasis support groups, who offer support to parents and carers of children with additional needs.

I have attended school nursing appointments with parents and have also sourced funding and grant opportunities that can benefit families.

I have been talking a lot with parents recently about ways to increase children's understanding of their emotions. A great way to start is for children to begin to hear their families having discussions about 'feelings' on a regular basis; for example, over dinner or at bedtime it can become part of your 'normal dialogue'. Feelings are complicated even for adults, so it often helps to refer to feelings as colours or numbers, for example we might liken Angry with Red and Calm with Green. I refer to a traffic light tool that I have found to be effective, where everybody in a household can have their picture which they can move between the traffic light colours on a poster to show how they are feeling at any time. Once this concept is understood, another tool that is particularly useful is The Incredible 5 Point scale; this tool helps you to identify what triggers move you up the scale to a 5 (explosive outburst) but helpfully, what strategies also help you to move back down the scale back to a 1 (calm and relaxed). If you would like further help exploring these techniques, please do get in touch.

PSA CONTACT DETAILS—01726 64322 or 07903 613074
Working days Monday 08:30—16:30, Wednesday 08:30—16:30 and Thursdays 08:30—13:30



#### **RFADING**

As part of developing an exciting reading culture at BB, we would like to ensure that children read a number of important children's books before they leave us. In order to enable that to happen, we need several copies of the books that we would challenge them to read. If, as you are have a Christmas clear out, you find that you have the following books surplus to your requirements and in good condition, would you be kind enough to donate them to school by bringing them to the office. At the moment, we only need the books listed below. Many thanks

The Hodgeheg – Dick King Smith	Charlie and the Chocolate Factory – Roald Dahl		
Danny Champion of the World – Roald Dahl	Fantastic Mr Fox – Roald Dahl		
George's Marvellous Medicine – Roald Dahl	James and the Giant Peach – Roald Dahl		
Stig of the Dump - Clive King	Bill's New Frock – Anne Fine		
Five on a Treasure Island – Enid Blyton	Street Child – Berlie Doherty		
Tom's Midnight Garden	The Borrowers		
Journey to the River Sea – Eva Ibbotson	Clockwork – Philip Pullman		
Five Children and It – E Nesbit	Wonder – RJ Palacio		
The Hobbit – JRR Tolkein	Black Beauty - Anna Sewell		
Butterfly Lion – Michael Morpurgo	One Hundred and One Dalmations - Dodie Smih		
Railway Children – E Nesbit	Adventures of the Wishing Chair – Enid Blyton		
Matilda – Roald Dahl	The Accidental Prime Minster – Thomas McLaughlin		

### SCHOOL NOTICES PAGE

#### **School Admissions**

If your child is due to start school in September 2020, detailed information about the admissions process is available online or on request from the School Admissions Team.

Please ensure you name more than one preference. It will not mean less chance of securing a place at your preferred school. Please note that if you do not apply on time your preferred school/s may already be full.

If you need support with your application process, please contact the office or contact the Family Information Service (0800 587 8191) or School Admissions Team (0300 1234 101).

#### Deadline dates:

Application for starting school—15th January 2020

Please apply online at www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions



Just a reminder that we have signed up to The Sun's Books for Schools campaign. We are asking for you and your families to collect as many tokens from The Sun newspaper as possible between now and January!

Please spread the word to family and friends and let's see if we can collect lots of tokens!

Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Jane



# Online safety tips for parents of pre-school children 0-5 Year Olds

#### Checklist

#### Put yourself in control

Make use of the parental controls available on your home broadband and any internet-enabled devices. You can find out how at your broadband provider's website or by visiting internetmatters.org.

#### Search safely

Use safe search engines such as swiggle.org.uk or kids-search.com.
Safe search settings can also be activated on Google and other search engines as well as YouTube. You can find out more at google.co.uk/safetycentre.

#### Set boundaries

It's never too early to start setting rules about when and for how long your child can use devices and start to introduce the subject of internet safety at the same time. Encourage children to use devices in a communal area, keep other devices out of reach and use passwords so they can't go online without asking you first.

Pre-school children are online for an average of 71 minutes a day\* Over half of 3-4 year olds use tablets\*

#### Explore together

Set your homepage to a child-friendly site such as CBeebies and give them a user account which only allows access to sites and apps you've chosen.

#### Help them learn through games

Cames are a great way for young children to explore the internet and learn about the world around them. You can choose safe, fun and educational games free of charge from providers such as Fisher Price or about their favourite characters like Peppa Pig.

Children can now have a digital footprint before they learn to speak and often before they're even born.

Internet Matters is a free online resource for every parent in the UK. We'll show you the best ways to protect you children online as they grow up - with information, advice and support on all the big e-safety issues. internet matters.org

\*Source: Ofcom Children and parents: media use and attitudes report 2016



# Online safety tips for parents of primary school children 6-10 Year Olds

#### Checklist

#### Put yourself in control

Make use of the parental controls on your home broadband and any internet-enabled devices. You can find out how at your broadband provider's website or by visiting internetmatters.org.

#### Search safely

Use safe search engines such as swiggle.org.uk or kids-search.com. Safe search settings can also be activated on Google and other search engines as well as YouTube. You can find out more at google. co.uk/safetycentre.

#### Agree boundaries

Be clear what your child can and can't do online - where they can use the internet, how much time they can spend online, the sites they can visit and the type of information they can share. Agree with your child when they can have a mobile phone or tablet. Over 65 % of parents are most concerned about their 6-10 viewing inappropriate content online\*



#### Explore together

The best way to find out what your child is doing online is to ask them to tell you about it. Encourage them to use devices in communal areas so you can see what sites they're visiting and share with them.

#### Check if it's suitable

The age ratings that come with games, apps, films and social networks are a good guide to whether they're suitable for your child. The minimum age limit is 13 for several social networking sites, including Facebook and Instagram.

Know this stuff matters, but don't know where to turn?

Internet Matters is a free online resource for every parent in the UK. We'll show you the best ways to protect your children online - with information, advice and support on all the big e-safety issues.

