

# Brize Norton

## Primary School

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Newsletter 147

8th March 2019

Dear Parents,

### **OXENWOOD**

As I write (Thursday evening), the Year 3/4 children have had a wonderful day including orienteering and making racing cars and are setting off for their night walk before bed. Mrs Mills and Miss Kerr report that they have all behaved very well and are thoroughly enjoying themselves. Tomorrow it's fencing, problem solving and the climbing wall before coming back to school. The first pictures are on the website already – do have a look.

### **MRS WINTER, MRS JOHNSON AND MRS SINCLAIR – UPDATE**

Mrs Winter is recovering but unfortunately more slowly than we hoped. She has just been signed off until the end of the Spring term in the hope that she can become stronger on her feet. The good news is that Mrs Sinclair has agreed to stay for as long as we need her and so will remain the Buccaneers' class teacher at least until Easter. When Mrs Winter does come back, it will probably be a gradual return over a month or so with Mrs Sinclair continuing to work some of the time with the children. I am very grateful to Mrs Sinclair for providing the continuity the children need as well as such high-quality teaching, while we wait for Mrs Winter's return.

As you know, Mrs Johnson is training to be a teacher. As part of her training she needs to spend three weeks this term in another school to broaden her experience. She will therefore be away from school from next Monday until 29th March, at Bampton Primary. This will be her last significant placement. Mrs Webb will be working all morning in the Buccaneers for the three weeks, and other teaching assistants will work together to cover her time in Hercules class.

### **PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTIONS**

You should have received your ballot paper for the parent governor elections. To remind you, the deadline for returning your vote (sealed in an envelope) is next Wednesday, 13th March. The ballots will be opened and counted by Peter Allen, our independent Clerk to Governors.

### **SCHOOL DINNERS – BUCCANEERS AND HURRICANES**

You may know that children in Year 3 and above are allowed to choose what they have for lunch when they do the morning register. When we introduced this a couple of years ago, we decided not to do it for the younger children in case they forgot what they had requested. I now feel that our systems are sufficiently robust that we can ask all children to express a preference, which will make sure everyone has something they want to eat and there is less waste. If your child is in Buccaneers or Hurricanes, it would be lovely if you would discuss the menu choices with them in the mornings to help them know what to ask for; we will make sure that what they ask for is what they receive.

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### BOOK SWAP

Mrs Mills organised our first ever book cafe and swap as part of our Book Week this week. Children brought in unwanted books from home, took a new book home and enjoyed sharing books over a drink and a biscuit. Thanks to families' generosity there were lots of books left over to enhance our class book corners! Thank you to Mrs Mills and to all the families who brought books in.

### A MESSAGE FROM MRS JOHNSON AND HURRICANES CLASS

Before Half Term the Hurricane Class had been looking at how they can help care for our world in their RE lessons, they were particularly concerned about the amount of plastic getting into our oceans. They found out about eco-bricks and how they can be made as a way of recycling plastic bags, here is what some of the class wrote:

"We have been learning about how to save our world in RE, please make eco-bricks and bring them in"

Brize

"We can try to use eco-bricks in the school" Freddie

"We want some people to bring eco-bricks to school so we can take them to Forest School so that we can make different projects" Ophelia

If you would like to have a look at how to make eco-bricks please take a look at the Ecobricks website <https://www.ecobricks.org/>. The Hurricane Class would love it if you could have a go and bring them into school.

### OXFORD CITY ALL STARS ICE HOCKEY

James Clarke from the Oxford City All Stars has asked me to promote their matches this weekend which are crucial for their league position. They are playing Solent on Saturday at 5.15 and Haringey on Sunday at 6.15. I have attached flyers for both matches which you can use to get a discount on tickets.

### ODST OFSTED VISIT

OFSTED has recently reviewed the Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust of which we are a part. They do not give a grade to academy trusts but they do a thorough evaluation of everything they do, publishing strengths and areas for development. They were impressed by almost all aspects of the Trust's work, and I know that officers are already beginning to work on the areas identified for improvement. You can read the full report here <https://www.odst.org.uk/news/?pid=3&nid=1&storyid=1047>. From a personal point of view, I really appreciate being part of the Trust. Their work is behind the scenes but crucial in supporting us to manage financially, be legally compliant and ensure that our staff are as good as they can be.

### BREAKFAST AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUB NEWS

Well done to our star of the week Mylo. For his special treats this week he chose Coco Pops for breakfast and the cars to play with. It's been an exciting week with World Book Day and Shrove Tuesday. The children absolutely loved having pancakes with various toppings for their Tuesday teatime dessert. Next week we plan to make cheese scones to go with our tomato soup for Monday's tea and we will be doing some fun spring craft activities.

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### NEW ON THE WEBSITE THIS WEEK

Hurricanes pen pals in America <http://www.brizeprimary.org/class/2>

Book Swap and Book Dress-Up Day <http://www.brizeprimary.org/about/wholeschoolevents>

Oxenwood (so far) <http://www.brizeprimary.org/class/3>

Pot-making in Key Stage 2 <http://www.brizeprimary.org/class/4>

Best wishes

Anna Fairhurst

### Dates for the Spring Term

Mon 11 March – governors' Resources Committee.

Wed 13 March – Winston Churchill public speaking competition, Blenheim, am.

Fri 15 March – Buccaneers sharing assembly and parent workshop. pm Lunchbox

Wed 20 March 7pm – School Association AGM.

Thurs 21 March – Key Steps gymnastics competition (gym club children). Full governors

Fri 22 March – Y5/6 sharing assembly and parent workshop

Wed 27 March – am Y3 Multi Skills

Fri 29 March – 2.15 parent celebration assembly AND parents'/carers' assembly

Tues 2 April – school Oscars ceremony

Thurs 4 April – possible Easter service in church

Fri 5 April – Year 3/4 sharing assembly and parent workshop; Easter egg raffle; term ends 1.15pm

Mon 8 – Wed 10 April – Easter School for Y6

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