

11.3.22

Parent Meetings

This week coming, parents are invited into school to meet with class teachers to talk about their children's progress. I would urge any families who have not yet booked an appointment to get in touch with their child's teacher to make one. Given the challenges of the pandemic and how this has impacted on children's education, it is important that you know exactly how your child is getting on and how you can support them at home, alongside what we are doing at school.

Football Match

On Monday 14th March, Buckfastleigh Primary School Pupils played their first competitive football match since before the pandemic. A selection of boys and girls from years 4, 5 and 6 played four games against Ashburton Primary School. It was competitive and fun and the children did themselves proud. The results were 0-0, 2-0, 1-0 and 0-3 so two wins and a draw was a great result for the school. I would like to thank the parents who transported the players and came along to the game to support the children.



Primary Body Language

The Year 6 children took part in Primary Body Language at South Dartmoor Community College on Wednesday. This is an annual dance show organised by the South Dartmoor PE department that involves primary schools across the area. This year, the theme was 'Climate Change' with each school's dance representing the different environmental challenges facing the world in the coming 50 years. The dance our Year 6 group performed was choreographed by Becky Mason and was focused on renewable energy. The children had been practising for weeks in the lead up to the event and they did themselves proud with two superb performances in front of a large audience. It was amazing to see how far they have come over the last few years. Thank you to the staff that went along to support, the family members that helped with transport and everyone who came to the show to watch. It was a great evening enjoyed by everyone.



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Red Nose Day

Red Nose Day on Friday was a lot of fun in every class and I am sure you have already heard from your children about the antics in the afternoon! Over the course of the day, the children learnt about the many ways that the charity Comic Relief supports those less fortunate than ourselves in the UK and across the world. The whole school enjoyed a 'Nose and Spoon' race after lunch which was won by the support staff, swiftly followed by the children's teams with the teachers coming through in last place! There was a rumour of cheating going on by the winners though!



At the start of the week, each class was set the challenge of raising £30 with successful classes being able to throw a cream pie in the face of their teacher. Every additional £5 was another vote. We don't know the exact figure yet raised but we know it must be a lot as most members of staff left school on Friday covered in cream!

Thank you to everyone who supported the cake sale after school either by baking cakes or buying them to take home. The winners of the design a red nose competition will be announced next week and the total amount of money raised shared on next week's newsletter.

Pupil Absence – How to contact us

If your child is off school ill, please contact us by 9:30am in the morning. This can be done in the following ways:

- Calling the school on 01364 643304
- Emailing the office on admin@buckfastleigh.devon.sch.uk
- Messaging Kirsty Sparks on Class Dojo

COVID at School

You will probably have seen in the news that COVID rates across the country are at least as high as they were prior to Christmas. We only have a handful of cases amongst the children at school but a number of staff have been absent due to COVID over the last two weeks. As there have been so many teaching staff absent in school across South Devon, this has made it virtually impossible to get supply teachers so we have had to find other ways to make sure the children continue to get the teaching they need. The knock on effect of this is that some staff have not been as available as normal. We appreciate your patience and support while we work through this period and ask that you continue to remain vigilant should your child develop any symptoms.

I hope you all had a great weekend and enjoyed the sunshine,

Eddie Brown

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