



BROMSGROVE SCHOOL WINTERFOLD

PREP • PRE-PREP • NURSERY

Headmistress' Newsletter

Week Commencing Monday 26th February 2024

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the last half of the Lent Term. I hope that you have had a relaxing half term break. With the Summer Term approaching, you may want to think about summer uniform for your child. [Schoolblazer](#) will have their summer stock in from 1st March. As a reminder, girls in Year 7 & 8 may wear either the summer dress or their winter uniform with a short-sleeved blouse. All pupils should be in summer uniform after the Easter holidays.

We were delighted to host the 'Your Child's Future Education and Next Steps' talk for parents of children in Years 5-7 this week. Mr Punt, the Headmaster of Bromsgrove School was joined by two Old Winterfoldians, Abby and Lola, who talked about life at Bromsgrove Senior School, their House system and activity programme, and how Winterfold has prepared the pupils for the transition to Senior Schools at 13+.



On Friday 19th April, our Year 7&8 pupils showcase their Senior play, Disney and Cameron Mackintosh's **Mary Poppins Jr.** Playing at Cobham Theatre, Bromsgrove School, there will be two performances at 4.30pm and 7.00pm. This "practically perfect" 70-minute musical is based on the classic P.L. Travers stories and the Walt Disney film. *All of London is shouting from the rooftops about this exciting stage adaptation of the classic tale of Mary Poppins. Join the Banks family as they encounter adventure after fun-filled adventure with their curious new nanny, Mary Poppins. Adapted especially for young performers, this musical includes favourite Sherman Brothers songs such as 'A Spoonful of Sugar', 'Feed the Birds', and 'Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious' as well as wonderful new songs by George Stiles and Anthony Drewe.* Book tickets via the Bromsgrove School Box Office website [HERE](#).



The children in Years 5, 6 and 7 have been working extremely hard in our new polytunnel to grow hundreds of plants. Their Spring Sale takes place next Thursday 7th and Friday 8th March. Timed perfectly for Mother's Day, there will be a wide range of hanging baskets, trug planters and bedding plants for sale. Please see the attached flyer produced by our Marketing team, for more information.

This week, the **Greenfingers Project** was formally launched in a grand Opening Ceremony. After the official opening of the Polytunnel, guests listened to a presentation by the Greenfingers Marketing team who discussed current and future projects. Mr John Massey VMH, Chelsea gold medallist and owner of Ashwood Nurseries then presented the committee with the Level 5 Gardening Award, before everyone enjoyed a wonderful afternoon tea.



★ Stars of the Week ★

1G – Arlo C; 1W – Harrison M; 2C – Helena B; 2J – Liberty L; 3B – Ethan B; 3W – Alfie M-R; 4B – Ted W; 4W – Immy J; 5F – Toby S; 5L – Claudia S; 6L – Sophie J; 6S – James J-E; 7D – Alice J; 7M – Alice W; 8B – Emily S; 8S – Boe G

Congratulations to **Hawks** who are this week's winning Pack.

Our popular half term ski trip to Switzerland was a great success. Thirty-eight children and five members of staff took to the slopes and enjoyed a thrilling week of adventure. At Hotel Fiescherhof, everyone was made to feel very welcome, and the excellent en-suite rooms and superb Italian food helped to make it a very successful stay. With plenty of snow and lots of clear blue skies as well as a couple of cloudy snow days, the children had the chance to learn different skills and techniques and experience differing weather conditions on the mountain.



The unrivalled attention and support given by the instructors from Ski Gower enabled our groups to make superb progress over the week. With six hours of skiing per day, the children made incredible progress. The beginners, who had already experienced some sessions at the Snow Dome beforehand, were seen cruising around the mountain by the end of the week enjoying the thrill of speed. Likewise, the other three groups managed to polish up their parallel turns and get some valuable experience under their belts.



The traditional Kamikaze and Joker awards were presented every evening after dinner, and on the final evening the instructors presented each of the skiers with a skiing proficiency certificate. The evening was enjoyed by all, including the parents who had travelled out to Switzerland, staying in nearby hotels. The organisation, punctuality and good manners of the pupils was commented upon many times by members of the public and went a long way to making it such an enjoyable and smooth trip for everyone involved.

On Tuesday, our U9 girls travelled to Moor Park and played 5-a-side position games which encouraged them to play in attacking and defending positions and shoot goals. On Wednesday, our U13 A, B & C girls had their matches with Bromsgrove School. The A team had a training match in preparation for Nationals in a few weeks, whilst the B team showed some lovely passing down the court to end with a draw. The C team displayed great movement on the court to have a number of successful shots on goal securing a comfortable win. Both U10 girls' netball teams secured comfortable victories in their matches this week, playing with determination and confidence, demonstrating impressive individual skills and great teamwork.



On Tuesday, the Year 4 A-team played in the festival at RGS the Grange and reached the final. They played some excellent football during the afternoon, finishing runners up. The Year 4 B-team played in a mini-festival at King's Hawford and scored some exciting goals, whilst the Year 3 A & B teams played RGS the Grange at home and showed some good skills and teamwork during the afternoon.



On Wednesday afternoon, the senior boys had the opportunity to play their first games of competitive hockey this season. Winterfold hosted The Downs Malvern, and the boys were able to develop their skills in a well-matched and sympathetically umpired game. The boys displayed good spatial awareness and tactical sense. Wednesday also saw the Year 5 & 6 teams hosting King's St Albans enjoying three excellent games of football. The U11 Colts A team put in a fantastic performance, dominating from start to finish, showing some super skills and quality finishing. The Colts B team should have been a much closer game than it turned out to be. The boys hit the post three times and had other scoring opportunities, to no avail. The Colts C team showed great determination to win by one goal and their skills and teamwork are really coming along well this season.



Year 2 children focused on contractions in English this week and looked specifically at the rule of the apostrophe. In PSHE, as part of their Dreams and Goals topic, the children identified things that makes them proud of themselves and listened to others' achievements. With Miss Howarth, the children were introduced to the parable of The Unforgiving Servant in RE. In **Year 1**, children worked on the structure of stories, exploring beginnings, middles, and endings using PicCollage on the iPads. In History, children learned about the captivating race to the South Pole between Captain Robert Scott and Roald Amundsen, as well as the remarkable life of Neil Armstrong.



Reception children have continued their work on the 'Three Billy Goats Gruff'. They acted out the story and made bridges out of crates and wood for the troll to hide under. They made some fantastic information books about goats and used their emergent writing skills to write facts about them. **Kindergarten 2** children had a lovely week learning about daffodils. They enjoyed listening to the story 'That's Not a Daffodil' and painted their own flower using observational skills. They also sorted flowers into groups. Children in **Kindergarten 1** have started a new topic on 'Planting and Growing' and listened to the story 'The Tiny Seed'. The children pretended to be seeds by growing and growing and becoming the tallest flowers for all to see. They all had fun making flower potions using different sized containers.

In the Nursery, the **Ducklings** have enjoyed playing with the sensory toys and exploring various art tools including paintbrushes and sponges. They have also been working on their Mother's Day cards. The **Goslings** have made zebra and parrot pictures using lots of coloured collage materials and feathers, as well as making crocodiles, crafting them using the paper chain effect. Meanwhile, the **Cygnets** have started a new topic on 'Mini Beasts' and made spider pictures from handprints as well as singing 'Incy, Wincy Spider'.



On Good Friday 29th March at 11.00am, St Ambrose church in Kidderminster will be holding a '**Reflection Service**' specifically designed for children, young people and their families. Everyone is very welcome to attend.

We are looking forward to celebrating **World Book Day 2024** on Thursday 7th March. We would like all pupils to dress as a fictional book character and to bring in a copy of the book featuring the character. We would encourage children not to dress up in football kit or their own clothes. If your child does not want to wear a costume, they will need to attend school in their normal school uniform. The Friends of Winterfold have been collecting used costumes which are now available in the School shop.

Wishing you a lovely weekend.

Best wishes,

Denise Toms
Headmistress

