

Topic: The Secret Garden

Focus Value: Self-discipline

“Resilience is the ability to fall, pick ourselves up from the floor quickly, learn and continue with our journey.” Antonio Lucio

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is lovely to have some sunshine as we approach our half term week, and great for Year 4, who are at their camp at Downe. We certainly didn't have the same weather last week for the Diamond Class residential, where we camped in a very wet field in Bedfordshire! However, every child demonstrated the self-discipline and resilience we have been focusing on this term, and faced wind and rain without a single complaint (see below.) Resilience is a word that is used a great deal these years about everything from sport to emotional health to success in life. This week, the city of Manchester has been praised for its resilience in the face of the events of Monday evening. In these unstable times, we all need to continue to help our children understand and live by all our values, so that in the words of the poet Longfella, who spoke at the Manchester vigil, we “choose love over hate.” I hope that sunshine continues and that you all enjoy a restful half term break.



With best wishes,

Mrs Stephanie Gibson
Head Teacher

Year 6 Residential

Diamond Class had an excellent week away. They were determined to make the most of every activity despite the unkind weather. As mentioned above, there was no complaining in the face of cold, wind and rain – they were intrepid adventurers and gained a huge amount from their experiences.



Year 4 Residential

Orange and Purple Sapphire are having a wonderful time away at Downe. The weather is smiling on them and they have some fantastic activities to take part in, developing their independence, teamwork and resilience skills. Thanks to all those staff who have arranged and accompanied these two trips: they are such an important and valuable part of school life.

Year 5 and 6 Rounders

On Tuesday 16th May, 12 year 5 children represented BVPS at a Year 5 and 6 Tandridge Rounders Tournament. They worked amazingly well as a team and worked hard to adapt their skills after every match they played; there were some great catches and we caught out a few Year 6 opponents! We came third out of our group. Great Job, Emeralds!



Internet safety tip:

Teach your child about evaluating information and being critically aware of information found online.

Most children use the Internet to improve and develop knowledge in relation to schoolwork and personal interests. Children should be aware that not all information found online is correct, accurate or relevant. Educate children on how to verify information they find by comparing to alternative sources on the same topic. Show them trusted sites they can use to compare information.

Choir sing at the Harlequin

Members of the choir are representing Bletchingley Village Primary School at the Harlequin, taking part in “Class Act” which has been organised by Mr Jones. We know they will represent the school really well and we hope that both they and their audience enjoy the event.



Attendance

Squirrels Class won the attendance award for last week with 99.4%. Well done to them!



Attendance

There is now strong evidence of a link between good school attendance and academic and social success at school and in later life, but it can be an emotive issue. The law around school attendance has also been in the news during the Isle of Wight challenge regarding the definition of "regular" school attendance. As part of Surrey's inclusion project, we have agreed to carry out a small project on attendance. We will be sending a questionnaire which we hope all parents will complete, and we will be asking some parents to come in and take part in an informal discussion about attendance and the issues that surround it. We do hope you will agree to take part, as the outcomes from these discussions will inform the updating of our policy and procedures. Thank you in advance for your help.



Unwanted passengers!

A reminder that half term is a good time to check everybody's hair for head lice. They can be treated with conditioner and a nit comb or with head-lice products as you prefer, but remember to re-treat two or three times in order to catch all unhatched eggs.



Term Dates and Holidays 2016 -2017

All term and holiday dates for this year are available on the website. Please ask at the office if you cannot access them.

Inset Day 2016/2017

Monday June 5th 2017

Term Dates and Holidays 2017 – 2018

Autumn Term

Tuesday 5th September to Wednesday 20th December
Half term: Monday 23rd October to Friday 27th October
Children return Tuesday 31st October

Spring Term 2018

Thursday 4th January to Thursday 29th March
Half term: Monday 12th February to Friday 16th February

Summer Term 2018

Monday 16th April to Friday 20th July
Half term: Monday 28th May to Friday 1st June

Inset Days 2017 to 2018

Monday 4th September 2017
Monday 30th October 2017
Thursday 21st December 2017
Friday 4th May 2018 (giving families a long weekend with Bank Holiday Monday 7th May)
Monday 4th June 2018



Coming Up...

26th May Year 4 residential finishes
26th May School closes for half term
26th May – Otter Class assembly
Monday 5th June – Inset Day
6th June children return to school.
6th June – Cobnor Residential Trip information evening 3.30
8th June – Nursery to Wildlife Centre
13th June – Emerald Class to Cobnor
15th June - Years 3,4 and 5 to Albury Manor
16th June - Fathers Day afternoon
20th June – Small Schools Choir Day
21st June - Reception Induction