



## In this issue...

Head's View  
World Book Day  
Legacy 2020  
Reporting Absence  
Climate Declaration  
PTA Update  
Care & Share Event  
The Sports Section  
Adverts  
Upcoming Dates  
Letters Sent

## Special Awards

### Special Award Winners this Week

Willow 1	Leo S
Willow 2	Phoebe P
Yew 1	Pari N
Yew 2	Oscar D
Oak 1	Taya G
Oak 2	Callum R
Cherry 1	Imogen W
Cherry 2	Ella-May J
Beech 1	Evie P & Liberty W
Beech 2	Christopher N
Maple 1	Tom H
Maple 2	Senan H-J
Red 1	Josie R
Red 2	Miron M

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2020

## Well Done!

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## FROM MRS GASCOIGNE, HEADTEACHER

Term 4 Issue 2 2020

Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,  
What an exciting week we have had. Wednesday it was wonderful to see the children's faces transfixed by our storyteller, Neil Griffiths. He had us all giggling and thoroughly enjoying his stories. Some parents were



able to join us for a session with Neil just before the end of the day. One parent described the session as "both entertaining and thought provoking". It was good to have Mr Tim Withers, our CEO, join the parent session as well as our staff meeting after school. During the parent session, Tim worked with Neil to act out a "book bag reading" session. Neil was keen to

encourage us all to exude a love of reading and books and not to make any reading time pressured or rushed. If you were not able to be at the parent session on Wednesday, you will find some examples of his storytelling on the internet when you search for Neil Griffiths. The day ended with our book at bedtime event. Children in pyjamas returned with their special mugs ready for stories, hot chocolate and biscuits....it was a magical time. Thank you to all the parents who helped with the drinks and biscuits and to the staff for their time, energy and enthusiasm. Story time is special and highly valued.

On Thursday, World Book Day, the weather was not kind and our Wonder Walk had to be cancelled. The imaginative costumes depicting words were amazing. I am sure throughout the day children learned so many new words - do talk to them about the new words they encountered. It is by exposing them to a wide vocabulary that we stretch their minds and understanding of our magnificent world. We explored some of the rich vocabulary in our Book Day gathering on Thursday morning when we played guess the teacher from the "Shelfie" and "Call my Bluff". Do talk to the children about the games we played as they were very enthusiastic about joining in. All classes swapped around to hear stories from different teachers. We were also blessed to have Mrs Emma Perry share her first published story with us to close our day. Thank you to Mrs O'Neill and Mr Harris for the organisation of the day. We appreciate all you do for our children.

### Mrs Gascoigne's "Golden Book" Tea Party

Congratulations to the following children who will be attending Mrs Gascoigne's Tea Party on Tuesday: Honey-Rose W (O1), Brandon H (R1), Anabelle M (O2), Abbey T (W2), Poppy S (B2), Niamh B (M1), Stanley W (R2).

Contact the Governors via [feedback@combedown.com](mailto:feedback@combedown.com)  
Contact the PTA via [combedownpta@gmail.com](mailto:combedownpta@gmail.com)  
Contact the Prayer Group via [prayergroup@combedown.com](mailto:prayergroup@combedown.com)

### World Book Day - Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2020

A huge thank you to all the parents for supporting this year's World Book Day so fantastically. The costumes were so imaginative and children seemed very excited and engaged by dressing up as their own unique word. We kicked off the day with our 'Call my Bluff' assembly where children learned the definition of some interesting words such as 'mouse potato' to 'funambulist'! We enjoyed the opportunity to share stories in other classrooms with different teachers as well as doing lots of book-related activities throughout the day. We then ended our World Book Day with a lovely assembly where Author Emma Perry shared her picture book, *I don't like books. Never. Ever. The end.* What a great day!



A reminder that Mrs Bird and Mr O'Neill will be available after school today, Friday, 6th March, to help you navigate the website and book your child a space for our 'Colour Run' on Sunday, 10th May, along with our discount code. If you are finding it a bit of a struggle to pay for your child, please do come and see me. Up and Under Sports have kindly donated £200 to help pay for spaces, so please do not worry. You will find us in Mrs Tilbury's classroom - in The Log Cabin by the main office.

*Mrs Bird*

### Procedure for reporting absences

Just a polite reminder about the procedure for reporting absences: -

*"Parents · Are responsible for ensuring that their children attend school · Must provide an explanation for any absences prior to 9:15 in the morning (The school may ask for reasons for absence to be supported by a doctor's note or appointment letter or other evidence as appropriate)."*

Failure to call in may result in an unauthorised absence being recorded. Absences should be reported by telephone, rather than email, and there is an answer machine on which you can leave a message if we are unable to answer the telephone.

*Many Thanks*

### Combe Down support for the B&NES Climate Emergency Declaration

As you will be aware, B&NES Council have declared a climate emergency. The Palladian Academy Trust and all of the schools within the Trust including Combe Down have been actively engaged in making our contribution to support the aims of the council's pledge within our curriculum, the way in which we operate the school as sustainably as possible and our proactive approach around travel. The schools within the Trust, including Combe Down, have elected to establish our own goals and commitments; these can be found in a formal framework which the governors and leadership of the school have now signed up to. You can review this document in the Policies Catalogue on our website.

*Stewart Holness, Chair of Governors*

**PTA Update**

Many thanks to all who attended the PTA meeting last night. It was a productive and lively discussion so here are the key take home points.

We have agreed to fund £5,000 towards Legacy 2020 project. The majority of the money will be invested in helping regenerate the Forest School area which is a key component of Legacy 2020. A portion of the money will be invested in an art project for the library as well as help fund some new books. Finally, some new football goals will soon appear on the upper playground to replace the very worn but well used current ones. We will share any pictures of what we have bought as soon as we can.

Finally, a huge thank you to Candy and her team for a fantastic night of Bingo last week.

*The PTA*

**Year 4 cake sale**

Thank you for supporting Year 4's cake sale last week - with your help they have managed to raise an amazing £228.14 to put towards a topic related trip next term.

*The PTA*

**Care & Share Event - Supporting Your Anxious Child - Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2020, 2pm, School Hall**

Take a step back and set your intentions and best hopes to supporting your children with their anxieties, alongside an opportunity to notice what you do well already. This is an opportunity to see how the solution focused approach alongside 'Breath Work' can give us the tools to support our children with their daily anxieties. This workshop will be run by the inspirational Tara Gretton, a very experienced Solution Focused Trainer. She will be joined by the wonderful Jacki, a Yoga and relaxation specialist.

*Mrs Bird*

**Mr Wainer is running Bath Half Marathon!**

Mr Wainer is running the Bath Half Marathon this year in aid of the Bristol Mind Charity (he has a Just Giving page). He is challenging himself to beat his time from last year, so would welcome lots of cheers of support from anyone that is able to go down and support!

## The Sport Section

We have lots of events coming up in Term 4, including:

- PAT Tag Tails
- B&NES Inter School football, netball, multi-sports and tag tails
- gymnastics
- Bath Coaching Hub
- tennis taster with Team Bath
- rugby taster days with The Sport Project

We will keep you posted with photographs and results over the coming weeks.

**GET Sported and GET Serious Cricket camps this year:****Our camps**

Easter: 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> May    May Half Term: 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> May    Summer 1:  
27<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> July    Summer 2: 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> August    Summer 3: 10<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>  
Aug    Oct Half Term: 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> Oct

**Upcoming Sports Fixtures**

9/3	B&NES SSP Mixed Football Comp
10/3	Netball High 5s Finals tournament, Wellsway School
11/3	Years 1 & 2 - Team Bath Tennis Taster session
16/3	Netball High 5s Cup match against St Martin's
17/3	B&NES SSP Inclusive Multi-sports festival
19/3	B&NES SSP Mixed Tag Rugby
19/3	Year 2 Bath Coaching Hub
23/3	The Sports Project Rugby Taster sessions – whole school



GETSported: Multi Sport Day Camps, ages 5-12 years. NEW FOR 2020 – EPIC LASER TAG BATTLES for all ages! Also enjoy Football, Cricket, Rugby, Basketball, Hockey and many more sports! Returning this year: Pizza days, prizes, GET Soaked, awards, medals and so many more activities.

Get Serious Cricket : for age 7-12. Our cricket camps offer hard ball and soft ball skills sessions with competitions and games including our legendary 'T20's' and 'Test Match'. Suitable for beginners through to advanced and county players.

Learn / improve your sports skills with great coaching. Develop your character & confidence through activities & team talk discussions, centred around our themed curriculum with Christian character values. It's fun, exciting & action packed!

Email [info@getsported.org](mailto:info@getsported.org) for more information

Book online: [www.getsported.org](http://www.getsported.org)

Find us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram!

Times: 9.00am - 4pm

Registration from 9.00 am (Pre-Camp and after camp available from 8.30-9.00am and 4-5pm at a cost of £5.00 or £3 each)

Prices: Prices from £22.50. Easter 'Early Bird' offer finishes Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March saving you 10%. Plus an extra 10% saving for siblings!!!

GET Sported is accessible to all and offers a bursary scheme to those who need it. Please enquire with us if you'd like to apply.

Where are our camps?:

Ralph Allen School, Claverton Down Road, Bath

BA2 7AD

### Spotters Hockey Easter Holiday club

Combe Down pupils are welcome to attend the Spotters Holiday Hockey camps running in the Easter holidays (6 & 7, 16 & 17 April 2020). Book by 10 March for 10% discount! Great fun and enjoyable to attend these camps offer specialised and effective hockey coaching for those aged 7-15 years, with a free High Performance Camp for those aged 13+ and attending County JAC level. Perfect timing to help with selection to performance Centres.

### Upcoming Dates (subject to change, please always check the website):


 9 Mar 20 - PAT Inset Day, School Closed to Pupils	 3 Apr 20 - Term 4 Ends, 3.15pm
 11 Mar 20 08:30 to 15:15 - Year 3 Trip to STEAM, Swindon	 20 Apr 20 - Term 5 Starts, 8.45/8.50am
 17 Mar 20 - STEM Science Celebrations, Ralph Allen School	 1 May 20 15:15 to 15:45 - Year 6 Cake Sale and PTA Uniform Sale
 18 Mar 20 - STEM Science Celebrations, Ralph Allen School	 22 May 20 - Term 5 Ends, 3.15pm
 24 Mar 20 - Dance Umbrella	 1 Jun 20 - Term 6 Starts, 8.45/8.50am
 25 Mar 20 08:45 to 15:15 - Year 1 Trip to Bristol Zoo	 5 Jun 20 15:15 to 15:45 - Year 1 Cake Sale and PTA Uniform Sale
 27 Mar 20 15:15 to 15:45 - Reception Cake Sale and PTA Uniform Sale	 19 Jun 20 - Inset Day, School Closed to Pupils
 30 Mar 20 - Year 3 Easter experience	 17 Jul 20 - Term 6 Ends, 3.15pm
 30 Mar 20 13:00 to 15:00 - Year 3 Easter Experience, HTC	 20 Jul 20 - Inset Day, School Closed to Pupils
 31 Mar 20 - Easter Service, HTCD	
 2 Apr 20 - Easter Service, HTCD	

### Letters home this week:

Coronavirus letter

Whole School

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