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*Learning for Life*

## Broadfield Primary School

12 January 2012

### JANUARY 2012 NEWSLETTER

**WELCOME TO BROADFIELD.** We welcome everyone back to school for the start of the Spring term and offer a particularly warm welcome to the **children and parents of children who are starting in Nursery** this term. We also welcome those children who started in other year groups last week.

**WHAT TO DO IF YOU HAVE A PROBLEM.** Hopefully for most of the time the experience you and your child have of school will be smooth and settled. However, from time to time there may be an issue or problem of some sort. We would like to know if this is ever the case for you. In most cases, an informal discussion with the class teacher can resolve the issue. (You can make an appointment with the class teacher via the Home/School Link Book or through the School Office). If a problem persists please arrange to speak to your child's **Key Stage Leader (Mrs E Foster - Foundation Stage, Mr M Nickolds - KS1, Miss A Tinsley/ Mr S Lloyd - KS2)**. Alternatively, please speak to myself or **Deputy Headteacher, Miss L Ingram**. If you'd prefer, please email your concern or query to [admin@broadfieldprimary.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@broadfieldprimary.herts.sch.uk). Either way, we want to hear from you if anything is causing you concern.

**WHOLE SCHOOL COFFEE MORNING.** Building on the success of the half termly coffee mornings held for parents of children in Year R and Year 1 we will be trialling a **whole school coffee morning** from 9.05-9.45am on Monday 23 January. The event will take place in the **KS2 hall**. Please arrive via the main entrance. Do come along to meet other parents and talk informally with the school's leaders and governors about the work of the school.

**GOVERNORS' DAY.** A number of school governors will be joining us in school on Monday 23 January for our first ever **Governors' Day**. Do come along to the Coffee Morning (see above) if you would like to meet some of the members of the governing body. The purpose of the day is to raise the profile of the Governing Body in the school community and to give you an opportunity to feedback on the work of the school.

**PARENT/TEACHER CONSULTATIONS.** This term's parent/teacher consultations will take place as follows:

3.30 - 6.30pm on Wednesday 8 and Thursday 9 February for parents of children in **Years 1 to 6**.

3.30 - 6.00pm on Wednesday 29 February and Thursday 1 March for parents of children in **Reception and those who have joined Nursery this term**.

A letter giving more details will be sent home soon.

**BROADFIELD OLYMPIC GAMES.** To celebrate the **Olympic Games** and hopefully create a **memorable event** for the children we will be holding a combined **Sports Day for the whole school at Jarman Park Athletics Track** on Friday 15 June. Please put the date in your diary now. If you would like to be involved in helping to organise this event please join us at a **planning meeting** to be held in my office at 4.00pm on Wednesday 18 January. Alternatively email your ideas to [admin@broadfieldprimary.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@broadfieldprimary.herts.sch.uk).

**YEAR 6 SWIMMING GALA.** As part of the **Olympics Year** we are organising our first ever **Swimming Gala**. This event - which will be **just for Y6 pupils** - will take place at **Cavendish School** on the afternoon of Wednesday 7 March. Parents of children in Year 6 are invited to let me know if they'd like to help organise this event. Parents are also invited to spectate. We hope that this will become an annual event.

**OLYMPICS EVENTS.** We are planning lots of interesting '**Olympic**' themed activities for the children to help make the most of the learning opportunities presented by this special year.

- A visit by the **Executive Sports Editor** at **The Sun** who will be talking to the children in assembly about his work as a journalist : 10.15 am Monday 30 January (Parents welcome to attend).
- **Olympic Week 2** (cross-curriculum learning): 5 - 9 March.
- **Foundation Stage Sponsored Sports Circuits:** Wednesday 25 and Thursday 26 April.
- **Y1 to Y6 Fun Run:** Friday 27 April.
- **Olympic Week 3:** 12 - 15 June.
- **Olympic themed theatre group** performing to whole school: 18 June.

Please let me know if you have any other ideas about how we can make the most of the Olympic year as a learning opportunity.

**YEAR OF MATHS.** We are having a big focus on mathematics this year. **Mr S Lloyd, Maths Subject Leader**, has recently launched the new '**Terrific Times Tables**' scheme for children in **Years 1 to 6**. (See separate letter for details). In addition, we have organised two workshops for parents about how they can help their child with mathematics. These will take place as follows:

3.15 - 4.00pm Wednesday 2 May (KS2 parents)

3.30 - 4.15pm Wednesday 16 May (FS/KS1 parents)

We will provide an optional childcare for children on both occasions. We will also be celebrating **World Maths Day** on Wednesday 7 March.

We will be including a **Family Maths Challenge** in our newsletters. Why not have a go at this month's challenge on the back page?

**CAR PARK SAFETY.** In the interests of everyone's safety, parents are reminded that the school car parks should **never** be used unless a disabled badge is displayed or permission has been granted from the Headteacher in response to exceptional circumstances. Thank you in anticipation.

**ENRICHING THE CURRICULUM.** The following events have taken place recently or are due to take place soon.

Date	Year Group	Venue
8 December 2011	Y1	Visit to building site on Windmill Rd (Science - materials, History - homes)
27 Jan to 2 Feb 2012	All	Maths Week
20 January 2012	Y2	Fire engine visiting school (History, English)
3 February 2012	Y6	Science masterclass at Adeyfield School
6 February 2012	6T	Visit to sheltered housing scheme at Old House Road (History - Britain since 1930)
10 February 2012	Y6	Visit to RAF Museum (History - WWII)

**STAFFING NEWS.** We welcome some new faces to the staff this term:

- **Mrs Z Harding** who has been appointed as part time **Children's Safeguarding Manager**. Mrs Harding will be working with families where there are safeguarding issues.
- **Mrs K Nicholls**, Early Years Practitioner (working in the Nursery)
- **Mrs H Willis**, Class Teacher, who will be taking over from Mrs Phillips (4P) who will be going on maternity leave after the half term holiday.

**BABY NEWS.** Congratulations to Mealtime Supervisory Assistant **Mrs K Horton** who gave birth to a daughter, **Chloe** (9lb 3oz), just before the Christmas holidays. Mother and baby are doing well.

**THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY.** We have sent a cheque for **£100** to **Diabetes UK** following the generous donations made after the **Year3/4** evening production in December.

**READING REMINDER.** English Subject Leader, **Mrs L Boyes**, writes: '*We recognise many children read at home but would like to remind parents that this should occur every evening. Please also sign the Home School link book once an adult has heard their child read. Reading is a fundamental part of everyday living and an essential life skill. It is our aim at Broadfield to develop each child's ability to read and to cultivate their love of books. We look forward to our World Book Day and Readathon planned for later on in the term. Thank you for your continued support.*'

**MALE 'READING' ROLE MODELS NEEDED.** English Subject Leader, **Mrs L Boyes**, writes: '*We are requesting the help of any willing male volunteers who are able to give half an hour of their time, once a week, during our lunch hour slot (between 12 and 1 o'clock).*

*Research shows that boys are generally less capable readers than girls. In response to this, we are creating a weekly Book Club to help close the 'reading gap' between boys and girls and to promote an enjoyable reading culture for all. We know that reading enriches our lives by freeing our imagination, inspiring creativity and developing our intellectual curiosity.*

*We will be using books that appeal to reluctant boy readers such as adventure books. Not only through books will we hope to encourage our boys that reading can be fun, but also by the use of male role models. We want to celebrate the important roles both male and females play in schools, and would therefore request the help of any male volunteers who can show that learning, reading and achieving are cool for boys too.*

*Please let the office know if you or someone you know is able to give up some spare time on a regular basis. All successful applicants will need to be CRB checked. Thank you for your continued support'.*

**LATE ARRIVAL AT SCHOOL.** Parents are advised that in many cases late arrival at school will be marked as an '**unauthorised absence**' as required by Local Authority policy. Please make every effort to ensure your child is at school by 8.55am.

**HEAVY SNOWFALL.** In the event of heavy snowfall we will do everything we can to keep the school open. Thank you to the dozen parents who have offered to come to the school to help clear paths etc. in the event of heavy snowfall. Please speak to the School Office if you would like your name added to the list.

Information about whether the school is open or not should be accessible to parents via the options below:

- Groupcall text (please let the School Office know if you have changed your mobile number )
- On the front page of the school website: [www.broadfieldprimary.org](http://www.broadfieldprimary.org)
- On [www.hertsdirect.org](http://www.hertsdirect.org)
- On BBC Three Counties Radio.

#### **IN BRIEF.**

- In response to public demand '**Broadfield's Got Talent!**' is back. Pencil 6.45-8.00pm on Wednesday 14 March in your diary. Now in its fourth year this event will give Broadfield's finest talent the opportunity to perform in front of a packed hall. More information will follow nearer the time.
- The **BSA Committee** has organised **Discos** for the children on 3 February (6.00-8.00pm, KS2) and 4 May (5.00-6.30pm, FS/KS1) The **BSA Summer Fete** will take place on Saturday 30 June.
- Parents of children in **Years 1 and 2** are advised that a new **Dance Club** started this week after school on a Wednesday. The response has been very positive and the club is oversubscribed.
- Many parents have commented on the superb photographs that are on display around the school. Chair of Governors, **Mr N Evans**, arranged for his friend **Ian Scott** (of [www.ianscottphotography.co.uk](http://www.ianscottphotography.co.uk)) to do a free photo shoot last term.
- Do you have an 'old' coat that your child has grown out of or is no longer needed? If so, please leave it at the School Office. We will then pass on the coat to a family facing financial hardship.
- Look out for '**Strider**' the **Walk to School Mascot** around school. Thank you to our **Eco-Schools Leader, Mrs A Dale** for organising Strider's second visit to Broadfield.
- Looking for a child minder? Please call in at the Windmill Children's Centre for a list of registered local child minders.

**APPLICATIONS FOR RECEPTION PLACES.** For children born between 1.9.07 and 31.8.08 the deadline to apply for a Reception place starting in September 2012 is Sunday 15 January. Applications may be made via [www.hertsdirect.org/admissions](http://www.hertsdirect.org/admissions).

**CONSULTATION ON SCHOOL ADMISSIONS ARRANGEMENTS FOR 2013/14.** Hertfordshire County Council is running a consultation on the proposed admissions arrangements for the school year 2013/14 and is seeking responses from parent/carers, schools and community groups. The main change proposed is to allow an increase in the number of preferences from three to four, i.e. parents will be able to apply to four schools, as opposed to only three as currently. Views are also being sought on :

- A rule to prioritise children of school staff
- Amending the priority area rules and "nearest" school definitions
- Other proposals for the treatment of twins/multiple births, a single sex priority area and in year admissions

The consultation period runs until 29 February 2012. Please visit [www.hertsdirect.org/admissions2013](http://www.hertsdirect.org/admissions2013) for more information and to respond online or call Mini Harish on 01992 555840 for a copy of the consultation document.

**BROADFIELD STARS.** Well done to the following children who have each achieved something special:

- **Connor Share**, 3B, who was recently graded as a white belt in Kick Boxing
- **Natasha Machinbidzofa**, 2B, who achieved the Bronze Standard on the Advanced Student Roll of Kumon.
- **Aaditaya Sooriyakumar**, 2W, who passed his Stage 2 assessment in swimming and has now moved on to Stage 3. He received an award for completing Stage 2 and for being able to swim 5 metres.
- **Amy Hayward**, 3B, who achieved a remarkable four awards and badges (led by St John Ambulance). These included a caring badge, bronze paw print for completing 3 subjects, 100% attendance award and the most prestigious award of all - 'Badger of the Year 2011' Amy also completed her level 3 with Sapphire Gymnastics. What a week, Amy!
- **Frances Coles and Keeley Rist**, 3B, who competed in a tap dancing show at Longdean School. The girls have been learning tap dance for the past four years. They gained an impressive two trophies and three medals between them.
- **Melody Abderrakib**, 3D, and friends (Frances, Isobelle and Louise) who presented 'Around the World 2011' at Longdean School. All the girls performed perfectly with routines such as Scottish, English and Hawaiian in front of a large audience in excess of 200 people.
- **Jake Whitby**, 3D, who won a golf competition at Redbourne Golf Club. He received a medal. About 60 young people took part in the competition. Jake has an impressive handicap of 16.
- **Matilda Sangster**, 6T, who raised over £900 for Watling View Special School and Young Carers in Hertfordshire by welcoming visitors to **her light and sound displays at her home** last term. Matilda helped organise the events and despite the freezing cold she dressed up and collected donations and handed out goodies to the visitors.
- **Sadie Aldous-Moore**, 2W, who received a certificate for being 'Star on the Bar' from Sapphire School of Gymnastics.

- **Lianna Fung**, 5S, who passed her Grade 4 in piano with Merit.
- **Andrew Boardman**, 5B, who sang a solo of 'Once in Royal David's City' unaccompanied at a Carol Service at St Mary's Church in the Old Town over Christmas.
- Class 2B teacher, **Miss C Buckley**, highlighted to me some lovely writing that her class has done this week. The children have been learning about attempting to answer a question using casual connectives. The question ('Why did the Great Fire of London spread so far?') was related to their work in History. Here is a sample of the children's responses:

**Ryan Earle** - *'The Great Fire of London spread because the houses were made out of wood. As a result of the wind blowing, the fire spread so far and got bigger.'*

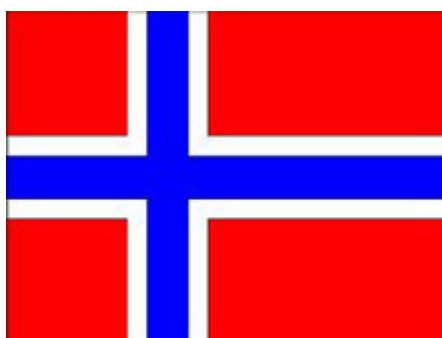
**Tommy Farrow** - *'The Great Fire of London spread so far because the homes were made out of wood. The fire far so the people ran into their boats. The Great Fire of London spread as a result of the wind blowing.'*

**Precious King** - *'Why did the Great Fire spread so far? Because the wind was pushing it. As a result of the bakery catching fire, the first house caught on fire. The fire spread all over London so everyone got into their boats.'*

**Jamie-Lee Stevens-Shreeve** - *'The Great Fire of London spread because the houses were so close together. The Great Fire of London spread as a result of the wind pushing the fire.'*

Has your child achieved something special? Do let me know.

**FAMILY MATHS CHALLENGE** During the Olympics many national flags will be on display.



Here's a chance to investigate some of them.

Pick a flag and investigate some of the following:-

What shapes can you see in it? Can you describe them and their angles?

Does the flag have any lines of reflective symmetry, if so how many lines?

Can you find any pairs of parallel lines? If so mark them on your flag.

Are there any lines perpendicular to one another?

Finally, do you know which countries the flags represent?

# Broadfield Primary School Parents' Calendar 2011 – 2012

Please note that letters may be sent out later in year which amend this calendar

## SPRING TERM 2012

12-Jan	Thursday	Y5 swimming resumes
14-Jan	Saturday	
21-Jan	Saturday	
23-Jan	Monday	Whole School Coffee Morning (9.05 - 9.45am) <i>Governors' Day</i>
28-Jan	Saturday	
30-Jan	Monday	<i>The Sun Executive Sports Editor visiting school (10.15am)</i> <i>Maths Week</i>
31-Jan	Tuesday	<i>Maths Week</i>
01-Feb	Wednesday	<i>Maths Week</i>
02-Feb	Thursday	<i>Maths Week</i>
03-Feb	Friday	<i>Maths Week</i> KS2 BSA Valentine Disco (6.00-8.00pm)
04-Feb	Saturday	
06-Feb	Monday	<i>6T visit to Age Concern</i>
08-Feb	Wednesday	Parent/Teacher consultations (Yrs 1 – 6) (3.30-6.30pm)
09-Feb	Thursday	Parent/Teacher consultations (Yrs 1 – 6) (3.30-6.30pm)
10-Feb	Friday	<i>Y6 visit to RAF Museum</i>
11-Feb	Saturday	
13-17 Feb	Monday - Friday	<b>HALF TERM HOLIDAY</b>
18-Feb	Saturday	
20-Feb	Monday	<b>School resumes</b> <i>Readathon launch Y1-6</i>
25-Feb	Saturday	
27-Feb	Monday	<i>Readathon</i>
28-Feb	Tuesday	<i>Readathon</i>
29-Feb	Wednesday	<i>Readathon</i> Parent/Teacher consultations – Nursery (Jan intake) RS and RF (3.30-6.00pm)
01-Mar	Thursday	<i>Readathon</i> <i>World Book Day</i> Parent/Teacher consultations – Nursery (Jan intake) RS and RF (3.30-6.00pm)
02-Mar	Friday	<i>Readathon</i>
03-Mar	Saturday	
05-Mar	Monday	Olympic Week 2
06-Mar	Tuesday	Olympic Week 2
07-Mar	Wednesday	Olympic Week 2 <i>World Maths Day</i> Y6 Swimming Gala at Cavendish School (1.30-3.00pm)
08-Mar	Thursday	Olympic Week 2
09-Mar	Friday	Olympic Week 2
10-Mar	Saturday	
12-Mar	Monday	
14-Mar	Wednesday	<i>Broadfield's Got Talent (6.45 - 8.00pm)</i>
17-Mar	Saturday	
20-Mar	Tuesday	Y6 School Journey to Rock UK Frontier Centre
21-Mar	Wednesday	Y6 School Journey to Rock UK Frontier Centre
22-Mar	Thursday	Y6 School Journey to Rock UK Frontier Centre
23-Mar	Friday	Y6 School Journey to Rock UK Frontier Centre
24-Mar	Saturday	
28-Mar	Wednesday	Y2 visit St Albans Cathedral
29-Mar	Thursday	Last Y5 swimming this term Nursery Ends Last day for After School Club
30-Mar	Friday	<b>Last day of Spring Term (School closes at 2.15pm)</b>
31-Mar	Saturday	
02-Apr	Monday	<b>EASTER HOLIDAYS</b>

## SUMMER TERM 2012

16-Apr	Monday	<b>Staff Training Day (School closed)</b>
17-Apr	Tuesday	First day of Summer Term (incl Nursery)
21-Apr	Saturday	
25-Apr	Wednesday	FS Sponsored Circuits
26-Apr	Thursday	FS Sponsored Circuits

		BSA Bag to School collection (2.00pm)
27-Apr	Friday	Y1 – Y6 Fun Run (1.30pm)
28-Apr	Saturday	
01-May	Tuesday	Y1 visit to Discovery Centre, Bracknell
02-May	Wednesday	KS2 Parents' Maths Workshop (3.15 - 4.00pm)
04-May	Friday	BSA FS/KS1 Disco (5.00-6.30pm)
05-May	Saturday	
07-May	Monday	<b>Bank Holiday: School closed</b>
12-May	Saturday	
14-May	Monday	KS2 SATS
15-May	Tuesday	KS2 SATS
16-May	Wednesday	KS2 SATS FS/KS1 Parents' Maths Workshop (3.30 - 4.15pm)
17-May	Thursday	KS2 SATS
18-May	Friday	School Photographer – Classes/Teams
19-May	Saturday	
21-May	Monday	
26-May	Saturday	
29-May	Tuesday	Y6 top up swimming (for non-swimmers only)
30-May	Wednesday	Y6 top up swimming (for non-swimmers only)
31-May	Thursday	Y6 top up swimming (for non-swimmers only)
01-Jun	Friday	Y6 top up swimming (for non-swimmers only)
02-Jun	Saturday	
04-08 Jun	Monday - Friday	<b>HALF TERM HOLIDAY</b>
09-Jun	Saturday	
11-Jun	Monday	<b>Staff Training Day (School closed)</b>
12-Jun	Tuesday	<b>School resumes</b> Olympic Week 3
13-Jun	Wednesday	Olympic Week 3
14-Jun	Thursday	Olympic Week 3
15-Jun	Friday	Olympic Week 3 Broadfield Olympics at Jarman Park Athletics Track (all day)
16-Jun	Saturday	
18-Jun	Monday	Whole school theatre performance - Olympic theme
21-Jun	Thursday	Open Evening and Book Fair (6.00-8.00pm)
23-Jun	Saturday	
28-Jun	Thursday	Parents' meeting – new entrants to Reception (4.30pm)
30-Jun	Saturday	BSA Summer Fete (11.30am-2.00pm)
02-Jul	Monday	Y5/6 Production dress rehearsal (FS, KS1, Y3 + Y4 watching) (1.30pm)
03-Jul	Tuesday	Y5/6 Production (1.45pm)
04-Jul	Wednesday	Parent/Teacher consultations – children leaving Nursery (3.30-5.00pm) Y5/6 Production (7.00pm)
05-Jul	Thursday	Y6 Induction Day at new secondary schools Y2 to Roald Dahl Children's Gallery Parent/Teacher consultations – children leaving Nursery (3.30-5.00pm)
07-Jul	Saturday	
10-Jul	Tuesday	Transition afternoon (all classes N – Y5 with new teacher) (1.30-2.55pm)
11-Jul	Wednesday	Parents' Meeting – New entrants to Nursery (2.00pm) Leavers' Disco (6.00-8.00pm)
12-Jul	Thursday	Y2 Parents' meeting – moving to KS2 (2.15pm)
14-Jul	Saturday	
19-Jul	Thursday	Last day of Summer Term for Nursery Last day for After School Club
20-Jul	Friday	FS/KS1 Closing Assembly (9.45am) Y6 Leavers' Assembly (10.45am) <b>Last Day of Summer Term (School closes at 2.15pm)</b>
21-Jul	Saturday	
23-Jul	Monday	<b>Occasional Day (School closed)</b>
24-Jul	Tuesday	<b>Summer Holiday</b>