



Parents/Carers Newsletter - Christmas 2012

It has been a long and eventful term here at Brent Knoll with lots going on and plenty of exciting new developments. It was good to see so many of you at Parents Evening. Thank you to those of you who took the time and trouble to complete our feedback questionnaires and we are pleased that the new format termly reports have been popular with the vast majority of parents/carers. We hope to see many of you at the Christmas events over the festive period.

A brand new minibus for Brent Knoll!



Brent Knoll was presented with a brand new 17 seater minibus this term by the charity Beauty with a Purpose. Making the presentation was the current Miss World, Wenxia Yu, Charlotte Holmes who is Miss England and Kitty Williams, Miss Brighton who had raised over £8000 for the school. They were accompanied by Julia Morley who runs Beauty with a Purpose and the charity work of the Miss World organisation. We are incredibly lucky to have been supported by Beauty with a Purpose and are very grateful for all those who raised money on our behalf.

Our visitors also took the time to visit several classes in the school and we hope that this is the beginning of an ongoing relationship. There is a video of the presentation event on You Tube! Keep a look out for the minibus with its special logos around the local area!

New website and school video

The school website at brentknoll.lewisham.sch.uk has undergone a facelift which hopefully will make it a bit more user friendly. We aim to use the website increasingly to keep you up to date with news, dates and developments. There are also links to our Co-operative Trust website and Trust partners.

Visitors to our website will also be able to see a short promotional film about the school. It is hoped that this will give visitors and those interested in the school an impression of who we are and what we do and will replace the paper prospectus.

New sensory equipment for the Brent Knoll sensory room



We have been very lucky to have been able to install some state of the art interactive and

immersive technology into our Sensory Room. The equipment from OMI Interactive was donated to us and funds from Beauty with a Purpose paid for the installation. The equipment enables children who need additional sensory input to interact with sound, light and images in a way that has not been possible previously.

Brent Knoll and Watergate Co-operative Trust



Many people attended the Trust launch lunch at Watergate School earlier this term and a good time was had by all. The Trust is taking shape with Co-operative membership up to nearly 150 and the benefits of our partnerships are being seen in many ways including the development of speech and language therapy and occupational therapy provision at the school and the curriculum enrichment activities being created through Widehorizons.

There is now a website devoted to the Co-operative Trust which can be found at www.bkw.coop.

There are membership benefits to be gained as well. All Co-operative Trust members are entitled to a discount on the activities offered by Widehorizons and parents who are members of the Co-operative get a 5% discount on items of school uniform.

Membership forms can be obtained on the school and Trust website or from the school office. Membership costs just £1 and entitles members to

Important Spring Term dates

The school opens for the Spring Term on Monday 7th January 2013

The half term holiday will be from Monday 18th February to Friday 22nd February

Parents Evening will be held on Thursday 21st March

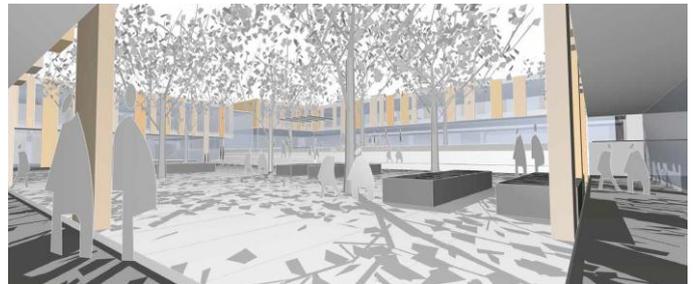
Achievements assembly will be held on Thursday 28th March at 10am and school will close for the Easter holiday at 1.00 that day

these benefits and a genuine say in how the Trust is run.

A message from the School Nurse!

Happy Christmas from the School Nursing Team! We hope you all have a lovely holiday and great start to 2013. Starting next term there will be monthly school nurse drop-in sessions on the following dates; Thurs 17th January, Thurs 14th February and Thursday 14th March. Please feel free to drop in to school from 1.30pm to meet with Rowan the school nurse if there are any issues or concerns you would like to discuss. You are also welcome to call on 0203 049 1573 at any time. Please remember to send in to school at the start of term any medications (clearly labelled) that your child may need to take at school. See you in the New Year!

The new Brent Knoll School building



Since the last newsletter there have been several developments in the plans for building a new school. A public consultation event was held earlier this month and the design concept met with approval. The objective is to complete the build on the site on Perry Rise and open the new building in September 2014.

There is still some design work to be done before the planning consent can be sought but it is very exciting to see our ideas taking shape. The architect's illustration above shows an impression of the central courtyard and play space.



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all!