

To all parents/carers

### **Spring Term Newsletter**

The Spring Term seems to have flown by and with such a short second half term there has been quite a lot of work to fit into a short space of time. We have continued the building improvements fitting new door stops, closers and magnetic locks to improve safety and security. Those of you who have come into school will also have seen that we have had an internal gate fitted to improve safety on staircases. Unfortunately two primary classes have had to be temporarily moved out of their classrooms into spare classrooms because of problems with drains. Work on the drains was completed in the half term holiday but there is still a residual smell that is taking time to dry out and disappear. We want the smell to have completely gone before we move the classes back into their own rooms. We have also developed plans to improve the reception area and will be undertaking that work during the summer holidays.

#### **Cost of school lunches to rise to £2.00**

We are constantly looking to improve the quality of the school lunches provided for our children and staff. Part of that drive is the introduction of a new caterer **Pride Catering** who are taking on the existing contract from our current providers. We are looking to Pride to really promote tasty, healthy school lunches and they will be introducing themselves and their menus very soon. We are looking forward to them becoming part of Brent Knoll and making a real difference to the lunchtime experience.

However, the cost of school meals in schools across Lewisham is rising to £2 per day and the cost of the Brent Knoll meals will rise in line with this. The new cost of £2 will be applied from May 2<sup>nd</sup>. This is the first price increase since May 2014 and still represents very good value for Brent Knoll families. There will be no additional cost for free school meal recipients.

#### **Lewisham Live Voices**

Our Makaton Choir now known as 'The Big Sing and Sign' performed as part of the Lewisham Live concert in front of a packed Broadway Theatre on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March. Staff and students meet every Friday lunchtime to enjoy singing and learn Makaton signing and this was their first public performance outside the school. The

choir performed a medley of four songs - Heroes, We Will Rock You, Brave and I Need Your Love, as well as joining in the big finale with over 200 performers from across Lewisham schools.



### **Art in the Park**

Pupils from Brent Knoll were invited to submit work to an exhibition entitled 'Community'. Pupils in year 7 made paper mache picture frames, and drew and printed images of their friends.



Our primary children looked at how refugees are living in Britain. They made tents and produced drawings using a range of materials. All of the work was exhibited and the children were proud see it hung in the Gallery in the Park in Bermondsey.

## **Brent Knoll – Mini boccia champions of London**

Our primary team won the London Youth Games boccia competition at Crystal Palace to become champions of London! The team of Mehdi Tales, Ruben Andre, Bradley Hollis and Rayan Idri were presented with the trophy and their gold medals by Maggie Alphonsi, ex England Rugby Union and Sportswoman of the Year.



## **The Jack Petchey Award Presentation Evening**

The Jack Petchey Award Presentation Evening was held at The Broadway Theatre, Calford on Tuesday 1st March and Brent Knoll was well represented. Award winners from 2015 were presented with commemorative medals and had their photographs taken with the VIPs!



Award winners from across Lewisham secondary schools were honoured and treated to some superb music and dance performances by Lewisham students. In addition to our student award winners Ellen Davis, our school counsellor, was awarded an Outstanding Leader award for her wonderful caring work with our children.

## **World Book Day**

Brent Knoll celebrated World Book Day on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March. The school was full of favourite characters from childrens books and there was a special assembly and character parade to mark the event.



Some of our secondary students went into the primary classes to read stories and at our whole school assembly some teachers read from their favourite books.

## **Important dates and events**

Term begins on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April

May Day Bank Holiday: Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May

Half term holiday: Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June

INSET day: Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June

Beginning of half term: Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> June

Parents Evening: Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July

Achievements Assembly and end of term: Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July