



w/c 08.01.2018

The Head Teacher, writes ...

2018, and the spring term is now well underway. We are all excited to see what this year will bring new opportunities, new experiences and plenty of new things to learn. Not forgetting the prospect of some longer, warmer days ahead!

Looking back, some of you may have heard about our final Christmas assembly, described by one of our younger pupils as, 'the best thing ever at school'. If you are not aware of what went on, I will enlighten you...

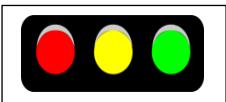
I 'persuaded' the staff to join me in retelling the Christmas story, not so remarkable you may be thinking. However, the plan was that they would interrupt me and then proceed to come onto the stage wearing cobbled-together costumes and adding impromptu words and actions. Never work with children and animals – whoever wrote that evidently never tried working with a disparate band of 'holiday happy' staff! The result was somewhat hilarious, watching the children's faces turn from disbelief to amazement at the acting prowess of some of their teachers, was a joy to behold! Hopefully, amongst all the fun, we also managed to portray the familiar story in a meaningful way.

In retrospect, what struck me was that us staff, us adults are really no different in the way we approach a new, unfamiliar task from the children we teach.

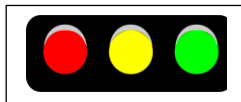
When I initially mooted the idea in the last week of term, I was met with a mixed response. There were looks of pure joy, looks of total horror, looks of indifference mixed with a smattering of excitement as the possibilities offered were explored and the plan took shape. However, by working together and encouraging one another, I believe we pulled off a fairly memorable performance. How we top it next year I'm not quite sure!

The staff reactions mirrored what we see every day in school and in every class from the youngest to the oldest pupils. Some children are always ready for a challenge whilst others are more reticent and lacking in confidence and take a little more persuading to tackle something new or outside of their comfort zone. Our job is to lead their learning, help them to become more independent and ready to face new challenges and concepts. Perhaps sometimes we as adults need to remember that we all approach things differently, whatever age we might be!

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL



BEHAVIOUR



At St David's, we promote a positive, caring community that encourages pupil learning, positive peer and teacher relationships and self-motivation. On the whole, our pupils are very well-behaved and usually a few words from a teacher or a verbal warning will be sufficient when that invisible line is crossed.

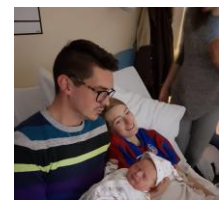
We recently reviewed our Behaviour and Discipline policy and the updated policy may be viewed on our school website under 'policies'. We encourage pupils to take responsibility for their behaviour choices and to reflect on how their behaviour affects other people. We use the traffic light system in Years 1 to 6, with every child starting the day on **green**. They may be moved down to **amber** for minor misdemeanours and **red** for persistent misdemeanours and/or serious misdemeanours. We feel strongly that consistently good or exemplary behaviour should be rewarded and so we have introduced **platinum** to our traffic light system. This achievement will be recognised in an end-of-term Celebration Assembly.

During our PSHEE lessons and assemblies this week, we have been discussing with the children the sorts of behaviour they think are unacceptable and should lead to them being 'moved down' to **amber** or to **red**. It was reassuring to hear that the children consider this to be a fair system.

Mr Hunter says.....

Wow, what an exciting Christmas holiday for my wife, Charlotte and I.

Firstly, I would like to say thank you so much for everyone's kind gifts at my surprise baby shower! Everyone was very generous and we were both overwhelmed. It truly was a massive surprise as I was told by Mr Mutti that the pupils were in a huge amount of trouble and that's why we had to go to the hall! All the staff did a very good job at keeping it quiet which was a surprise on its own. After 4 days in hospital, my wife and I were blessed with the most gorgeous daughter, Annabella Susanne. We had some lovely comments on Facebook so thank you!! We look forward to introducing you to her soon. Thank you again for such lovely support!!



We do listen...

- In response to a request at parent council to minimise the number of half days during the year, we are proposing to run some activities/a film afternoon on the last day of this term (28th March). Pickup will be at 4.00 that afternoon for any pupils who would like to stay. As some families may have already arranged to make an early get away then the alternative and usual end time of (11.30) will still be an option. We will contact you nearer the time to confirm your preference
- All classes are now using Class Dojo to communicate with you. Hopefully you are all signed up and ready to receive information from your class teachers
- A Parent Information evening has been arranged for Tuesday May 15th when staff will update you on any changes and new initiatives happening throughout the school

Year 2 enjoyed decorating doves and making a concertina fan for the wings. Each dove holds a green leaf in its mouth and on this is written their New Year resolution. We discussed how the word 'resolution' contains one of the St David's 3 'R's – to be resolute. In writing their resolution, the children looked back and reflected on the last year and on their strengths and weaknesses. Then they looked ahead and thought about resolutions that would be appropriate and achievable.



Hope4Malawi

Next week:

Monday 15th
Tuesday 16th
Wednesday 17th
Friday 19th
Saturday 20th
Tuesday 23rd

Friday 26th

Tuesday 30th

FEBRUARY

Friday 2nd

Monday 19th

Friday 23rd

Prep

Saturday 24th

Monday 26th

MARCH

Thursday 1st

Friday 2nd

Wednesday 7th

Thursday 8th

Friday 9th

Saturday 10th

Monday 19th

Friday 23rd

Saturday 24th

Monday 26th

Wednesday 28th

Anti-bullying workshops

Pre-Prep visit from Perform

School Council

U11 Football v Alleyn's (A)

ISA National Swimming finals

8.00am Year 5 parents meeting re Carroty Wood

U11 Football v City of London (A)

Yrs 5 & 6 Netball v Rosemead (H)

Prep choir to Young Voices concert

Maths Number Day

Half Term: Monday 12th to Friday 16th

3.00pm Parent interview sign up sheets
In Justin Hall

ISA Regional U11 Netball at Lingfield

PTA Quiz

Parents' Interview Week

World Book Day

Visiting author and illustrator

Quiz Club at Bishop Challoner

Life Bus

Yr 1 & Yr 5 visit from The Bugman

Life Bus

Bromley Primary Schools Cross Country
at Crystal Palace

Yrs 5 & 6 Cross Country Festival (H)

Music Festival

OPEN DAY

Yr 5 to Carroty Wood

PTA Easter Egg hunt

Yr 5 return from Carroty Wood

End of term: 11.30am or 4.00pm pickup

REMINDERS

Parents are not to drive onto the car park when dropping off and picking up children at any time.

Please do not attempt to talk to the member of staff dismissing the children at the end of the day until they are free.

Parents must send in an absent note when a child returns from any sickness or absence. Also please remember if your child has diarrhoea or vomiting, they should not return to school until 48 hours after the last 'episode'. This is a legal requirement as we have to submit the data to London Borough of Bromley, Education Department.

AMAZING, WONDERFUL, GENEROUS, OUTSTANDING, THOUGHTFUL, ENTERPRISING, WOW, HELPFUL, KIND

We are looking forward to Hope4Malawi coming in to see us on Monday when we will pass them a cheque for over £2,000. Such a fantastic amount, if you haven't brought in your money 'lunch' boxes, it's not too late!