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Friday 24th January 2020

Xīnnián hǎo



The Deputy Head writes:

I am in the privileged position of spending time with almost all of the children and staff at St David's each week, teaching most year groups, supporting the class teachers in and out of lessons, attending assemblies, meeting and greeting on the car park each morning and one of my favourite times, sitting with the children at lunch. Yes, lunchtimes in the Hall can get noisy but the children love to chat and they can say the funniest things and ask the most personal questions! This week, I have enjoyed getting to know our wonderful new Y1 teachers, Mrs Hills and Mrs Jones, and to see how their class has responded so well to their warmth and enthusiasm. I have been in lessons about Mary Anning with Y6, non-verbal reasoning with Y5, looking at partitioning and exchanging with Y4, swimming lessons with Y3, new beginnings in R.E. with Y2, supporting writing and division sums in Y1 and helping Pre-Reception to get dressed for Forest School. But it is not the content of these lessons which I remember now as I reflect on my week, but the interactions with the children and staff. I think of the child in Pre-Reception who asked me my name and then stared at me and said, "Your badge is upside down!" And indeed, it was! The Y5 girl who asked me at lunch, "Do you miss having your own class?" which led me to reminisce, the Y6 child who was so upset because the pages in her book were stuck together, the conversations with teachers on a range of different topics. I really feel that I have seen evidence of our School Aims in action – to encourage and support all pupils to develop the confidence and resilience to become self-motivated, independent learners, creative and curious to take responsibility as young learners – throughout this busy and enjoyable week.

SPECIAL AWARDS – WELL DONE!

The following pupils have been awarded Excellence Awards from Mrs Foulger:

Alisa (1) – for excellent 'scratch' programming
Felix (1) – for excellent story writing
Zac (3) – for 30 things to be grateful for!
Leo O (3) – for distinction in Grade 1 piano
Isabella (3) – for excellent spoken Spanish
Emily (5) – for excellent story writing
Connie (5) – for excellent story writing
Naomi (6) – for distinction in Grade 3 piano



AUTUMN TERM CHESS RESULTS

Champion	Ashley (5)
Most improved	Leonardo (2), Louis (2), Esha (3)
Year 2 Champion	Mia
Year 3 Champion	Evan
Year 4 Champion	Henry J
Year 6 Champion	Jack
Year 6 Champion	Olivia
Suicide Champion	George B



We all love hearing about Old Davidians and Mrs Foulger enjoyed receiving the following email from Mrs Angela Drew, Head Teacher at Bromley High School:

*'Kate is our Head Girl and achieved 10 A*s at GCSE. She is immensely talented in Music, having written and directed her own musical just before Christmas and is still a member of the 1st VII netball team. She has just been offered a place to read Biology at Jesus College, Oxford. I should add that she is also a lovely person.'*

If you have any more girls like Kate, please do send them in our direction!'

ECO-COMMITTEE

We were delighted to hear that we had achieved our Eco Schools Silver Award in January.



The Eco Warriors are litter picking every Friday on the school field to keep the school environment litter free.

They are also collecting raw food waste from the kitchen regularly to make our own compost in the wormery or compost bins. Every class now has dedicated light monitors who turn off the lights when the classroom is empty. Energy Eco Warriors will be patrolling at lunchtime doing 'silent monitoring' of the classes that are turning off their lights.

Watch this space as we work towards the prestigious Green Flag Award.



Our Junior Travel Ambassadors were also delighted to receive the **SILVER LEVEL ACCREDITATION**, awarded by the London Borough of Bromley, in recognition of achievement in active and safer travel initiatives.

'by swapping car journeys for active travel together we can make a difference' Travel Plan Advisor Road Safety Team

DROP OFF AND PICK UP

Please can we remind everyone to take care when driving down St David's Close and also turning out on to Beckenham Road when dropping off and picking up your children. Remember to park considerately for our neighbours and especially for the safety of children coming to and from School.

YEAR 3 LITTER PICKERS!

If you'd walked through Blakes Park on Thursday you would have seen our enthusiastic Year 3 class helping the rubbish dropped, using the litter pickers and buckets kindly bought for us by the PTA. Here are some of the things they said about it:



'The best thing about litter picking was we are making a little change' *Leo O*

'I was shocked at how much rubbish there was. I picked it up no matter what' *Kairav*



'We found so much rubbish, even a bag of Christmas lights. We put it all in the bin' *Esha*

'Each person collected a bucket full of rubbish, there was so much plastic' *Olivia*



'I felt really good and that I was doing the right thing' *Amelie*