



# BEDFORD ROAD LOWER NEWSLETTER



April 2013

## Dear Parents and Carers

### Welcome Back!

The Summer term has started and here's hoping the weather continues to improve now. Please check out the last page of this newsletter for our term dates.

### Bedford Festival

On Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2013 the Bedford Road Lower School choir participated in the Bedford Festival of Music Speech and Drama at the Corn Exchange. Everyone was nervous but very excited as it was the first time the choir had performed in front of so many people! After weeks of intensive practice, the choir sang three contrasting pieces – Stage Fright, Can you feel the Love Tonight? and Soualle – all of which they performed beautifully. I was very proud of everyone.

Mrs Caunt  
Choir teacher

### Sporting Success!

Once again, Year 2 pupils have made us proud in the recent KeyStage1 Multi Skills festival held at Westfield Middle School. Three teams took part in scoreball, uni-hoc and dance respectively, along with pupils from a number of other local lower schools.

Happily, all competitors had a great time and the scoreball team showed commendable sportsmanship and good skill development in their passing and catching techniques, during their rounds of competition. Stepping things up a gear, the uni-hoc team came in a shining second place in their category - excellent team work showing them to be real contenders for first place! To top it all off, our dance troupe sashayed their way into the top spot, gaining first place in their competition, as well as being commended on their timing and synchronisation by the judging panel!

Well done to all who took part, you are a real credit to Bedford Road Lower School! We now look forward to the forthcoming Year 3 multi sports festival, to take place at Harrowden Middle in the very near future with high expectations! Finally, a very big thank you to all parents who kindly made donations towards transports costs for the competition. Without your valuable support, it would be difficult for us to attend as many events as we currently do, and these opportunities are a great introduction to competitive sport which further encourages our children to live healthy, active lives!

Mrs Chand  
Sports co-ordinator.

### PTFA events

Thank you to everyone who took part in the bonnet competition and the sponsored bunny hop. We had some amazing bonnets which made judging very difficult but I'm sure you will agree that the PTFA gave very generous prizes to everyone who took part. So thanks goes to the PTFA committee for their hard work in organising this event.

The bunny hop sponsor money has started to come in, if you have any sponsor money for the PTFA, please bring it in as soon as you can. As soon as we know what has been raised we will let you know.

The magician show was also a great success and the children thoroughly enjoyed being entertained by Mr Marvel!

### Year 3 fundraiser

Year 3 children worked together to organise a tea/coffee event which was held on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March. The children planned the event, worked out the costs, went shopping for the items needed, baked biscuits and served parents on the day. £125 was raised which has been presented to the charity Youth Matters to help purchase posters/roofing materials for a school in Sierra Leone. Well done Year 3; we are very proud of you. Thank you to all who supported this event.

**Mrs Clarke**



# ECO News

**Outdoor Learning**  
Your child may have mentioned about participating in outdoor learning. This is usually a half hour

session once per fortnight that is taken outdoors (weather permitting). Mrs French and Mrs Symes lead outdoor learning. These sessions give the children an opportunity to learn about the environment both globally and locally. Some of the activities that the children have already taken part in are a litter survey, making mini beast hotels and gardening. The tubs in the playground were planted up with bulbs by Year 3 during outdoor learning last autumn and are looking magnificent now. If you have any resources that you think may help us with outdoor learning and gardening or you have any spare time that you could offer to help with our afternoon sessions, please get in touch with Mrs Symes or Mrs French.

**Mrs French**

## Attendance

At present our school attendance is 94.4% which means that when compared with other schools in the country, we are in the bottom 40%. This is one of the reasons we do not authorise holidays as a matter of course.

We recognise that many children have been very poorly this academic year and thank you for supporting us by getting your children to school when they are well.

This term Year 3 had excellent attendance and shared 40 gold badges between them. We look forward to presenting more children with gold badges next term.

The target we set for all pupils is 97%.

**Mrs Holden**

**Family Support Worker and Attendance Officer**

**If you have any unwanted items, please use our recycling bank. Thank you.**

**Rag Bag can accept the following items:**

- All men's, ladies and children's clothing
- Paired shoes (tied together)
- Handbags, bags, ties & belts
- Soft Toys
- Blankets
- Underwear to include socks, tights, pants and bras
- Household textiles to include towels, bed linen and curtains



School has been very fortunate to receive another Ward Fund donation. Some of the money has been used to purchase numicon resources to support the teaching of numeracy. Your children will be able to tell you how they use numicon to help them in numeracy lessons.



The other donation has been used to purchase a new pond liner for our environmental area on the field.

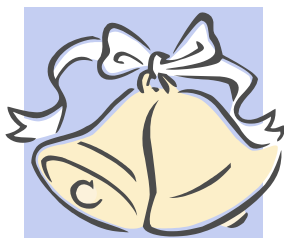
Please remember that dogs are not allowed anywhere in the school grounds whether carried or on a lead, (no matter how cute and cuddly!).



Thanks for your cooperation with this.

### **Exciting News**

During the Easter Holidays Miss Thompson, one of our Year 1 teachers got married! Please join me in wishing the happy couple all the best for their future together. Miss Thompson's new name is Mrs Felice. The weather stayed fine for them and I know that Mr and Mrs Felice had a fabulous time on their big day!



### **Appointments in school time.**

Please let the office and the class teachers know as soon as possible, if you have an appointment for your child and need to collect them during school hours. Thank you.

### **Faith tour**

As part of the KS2 RE curriculum, Years 3 & 4 recently visited the Guru Nanak Gurdwara, Westbourne Road Mosque and All Saints Church in Queens Park for a Faith Tour. The children enjoyed the opportunity of looking around each of the places of worship. Everyone was very well behaved and listened carefully to all of the information shared with them. Well done to KS2.

Dates for this term:

13 <sup>th</sup> May	Pond dipping road show workshop in school.
20 <sup>th</sup> May	Welcome meeting for parents of new Foundation Stage starters in September. 2013.
24 <sup>th</sup> May	Foundation Stage trip.
TBC	Year 4 trip—date to be confirmed.
12 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 3 trip.
17 <sup>th</sup> June	Class Photos
25 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Day: Foundation Stage, Year 1 and Year 2 in the morning Year 3 and Year 4 in the afternoon.
2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Year 2 trip.
3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Sing on year 3 (more details to follow) evening concert at the Bedford Corn Exchange 6.00pm.
4 <sup>th</sup> July	Annual Reports home to parents.
9 <sup>th</sup> July	KS2 Production to parents –adults only, no small children, morning performance.
10 <sup>th</sup> July	KS 2 Production to parents – small children welcome, afternoon performance.
10 <sup>th</sup> July	4.00pm –5.30pm Open evening for parents – more details nearer the time.
11 <sup>th</sup> July	In school transfer – children meeting next year's teacher – parents welcome to come into school at the end of the day to say Hello to new teacher and see new classroom.
11 <sup>th</sup> & 12 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 4 Middle School Transfer Days Robert Bruce and Daubeney.
19 <sup>th</sup> July	Leavers' Service Kempston East Methodist Church – Year 4 parents welcome.

Our values for the month of April are Simplicity and Humility.

