

**Dear Parents**

It is difficult to believe that we have already reached the end of the first term this year – and that next week is already Christmas! We are saying goodbye to Cognita at the end of the month with our thanks for all they have done for the school over the past years and we look forward to a prosperous partnership with Blenheim Schools as we enter a new and exciting stage in the school's history.

The children have managed to pack in an amazing amount of activities since half term and I hope you enjoy looking through them in this newsletter. As ever, my warm thanks to everyone in the community for making this such a successful and enjoyable Autumn Term.

**Remembrance Assembly**

Thank you to all our families who joined us for our Remembrance Service at the Church of Christ the Saviour on 5th November. This annual event reminds us of the huge sacrifice many made for our country. We remember our school virtues when reflecting on the meaning of 'Remembrance' including, Justice, Fortitude and most importantly Love.

Thank you to all the children who performed so well, from our youngest in Reception who joined with children from Years 1 & 2 to sing 'Wear a Poppy Today' to the beautiful singing from the choir and year groups. We also listened to poignant poem readings and prayers together with a wonderful performance by our school band and pupils in Years 3 & 4 of the song 'We Will Remember'. Thank you all for taking part in this important event and for donating to the Poppy Appeal.





## Anti-Bullying Week – ‘The Power for Good’

Clifton Lodge had a wonderful Anti-Bullying week focussing on this year's theme: The Power for Good.

In Nursery & Reception, the children learned about using their ‘power for good’ to make kind choices. They dressed up as superheroes, shared kind words and actions, and talked about how unkind behaviours can make others feel sad or left out. Through stories, discussions, and play, the children learned the importance of kindness, friendship, and inclusion.

From Year 1 to Year 6, we started the week with workshops run by OpenView Education on the theme of ‘Power to be Kind’.

The children listened to a story told by a puppet called Milly, that helped them understand how to be a good friend and show kindness through words and actions.

Through drama, movement and role-play, they learned how to share, include others, and use the ‘Stop Sign’ to speak up in a calm and assertive way.

On the Tuesday, we held a super special 'Odd-Socks Day' which is all about embracing and celebrating people's differences. During the week all pupils did activities in classrooms focussing on kindness to others and demonstrating our School Virtue of 'Love'.

Year 2 thoughts on the workshop:

“We heard a story about 3 little pigs and a wolf and the wolf didn’t know how to be happy, he was unkind. By the end he learnt how to share and be kind”. (Eless)

“I liked it when the puppet Milly read us the story”. (Sienna)

“My favourite part was when we had a movement break where we stretched and shook our bodies to make sure we were calm and ready to learn”. (Esma)





## Immersion in Science

On Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November, our Year 3 pupils had a wonderful day at the Science Museum. They took part in the following sessions, IMAX film Antarctica 3D, The Wonderlab and had a general tour of the museum.

Here are some of their thoughts from the day:

Parisa – “I liked the IMAX film because I didn’t know such strange creatures lived under the ice in Antarctica.”

Sosuke – “I liked the IMAX movie. It was very long, but very interesting!”

Kloe - “The slides in the Wonderlab were really fun because they were all different speeds.”

Maria – “The best slide in the Wonderlab was the middle one. It was made of plastic and it was so slippery!”

Caspian – “My favourite slide was the brown wooden one, which was the fastest of them all!”

Kento – “Playing with the ferrofluid (a liquid that becomes a magnet when a magnetic field is applied) was really cool.”



## Nursery & Reception Nativity

Our Early Years Nativity took place on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December at St John's Church. Thank you to all the parents who joined us and to our staff who worked so hard with the children to create such a festive event. The children did so well, learning their lines & songs and they loved performing in front of their families. We are sure this helped to get everyone into the Christmas spirit.



## Pre-Prep Choir Visit to Threen House Nursing Home

We made our regular visit to bring some festive cheer to the residents of Threen House in Mattock Lane. Our Pre-Prep Choir entertained everyone with traditional, festive carols and songs. It was lovely to see some of the ladies and gentlemen singing along with our choir.



## Early Years trip to Ealing Cinema to see the Gruffalo

On Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December our Nursery & Reception classes visited our local cinema to see a showing of the Gruffalo. They were so excited and loved the film.



## School Carol Service

Thank you to all who joined us for our annual Carol Service at Christ the Saviour Church in Ealing Broadway. We were so proud of all the children for the wonderful singing, readings and instrumental performances. Thank you also to Ms Carlon, Mrs Hennah and Mrs Shen who did readings and to Mrs Velkova for all her hard work preparing the choirs for the event.



## Wear a Christmas Jumper Day

On Thursday 11th December there was great excitement with a visit from Father Christmas for all the children arranged by our wonderful 'Friends of Clifton Lodge'. It was also Wear a Christmas Jumper Day and donate to Save the Children. Thanks to your generosity over £300 was raised!

At lunchtime the pupils and staff enjoyed a delicious Christmas lunch prepared by Rohan, our chef and Marie his assistant.







## House competition

The last day of term was buzzing with excitement as the children took part in the end of term House Quiz. We added the points for this to their art competition and sports inter-house fixtures, finishing off the term with a round up of the results so far. The current standings are:

1st Cass

2nd Northover

3rd Mayet

4th Ward

It all remains to play for as we enter the coming two terms.

## Year 6 Senior Schools

The Year 6s have had a very busy term with a number of assessments and interviews taking place. They have worked so hard and we are all very proud of them. A few more to go after the Christmas holidays – one last push!

## And finally....

A big thank you to our 'Friends of Clifton Lodge' for arranging the sale of Christmas trees again this year. Thank you to our families for sharing the wonderfully decorated creations, we guarantee they will make you feel Christmassy!







Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and we look forward to seeing you back at school on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Belsito".

Michael Belsito  
Head