



Headmistress  
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Dear Parents and Guardians

I would like to offer a very warm welcome to all new families joining our school and welcome back everyone returning this term. We look forward to a busy but exciting term ahead.

### **Charities week**

We had an extremely busy Charities week at the end of last term. There many exciting activities going on each day, all of which were enjoyed by the pupils. We are very proud of the pupils in each year group for running their sponsored activities and sales, particularly those who came up with their own fundraising activity. Thanks must also go to the staff who helped to organise the many activities and who also gave up their break times to help with queue organisation and money collecting.

The total amount raised so far is just over £3000, which will be shared equally between The Primrose Hospice and The Brain Tumour Charity. We will let you know the final total as soon as all of the money has been counted. The Charities Committee are hoping that representatives of the charities will be able to come into school to accept their cheques.

### **Ski Trip**

This year's ski trip ventured to a new destination, Davos in Switzerland. The location and facilities were superb but sadly the weather was not; unbelievably there was too much snow. Thankfully skiing managed to take place every day except for one when the conditions were extreme. The pistes were vast allowing every ability from beginner to expert to have great fun. The behaviour of every pupil was exemplary and certainly promoted an excellent image of Bromsgrove School. My sincere thanks go to Mr Sutherland and the other staff who accompanied the pupils on this adventure holiday. Mr Sutherland is now taking bookings for next year's trip to Fiesch. Places are filling up quickly so please collect a form from Mrs Taylor as soon as possible if you wish your child to attend.

### **Year 4**

On Wednesday, Year 4 visited the Birmingham Central Synagogue to enhance their term's learning about Judaism. They were given a detailed tour by one of the synagogue's wardens, who showed them around the 'hall of assembly' and explained to them the different parts and their significance. They were even allowed to look into the ark and see the Torah Scrolls up close. The pupils also learned about the rituals and traditions of the Jewish faith, such as the dietary requirements and the festivals. All children were on their best behaviour and showed a great amount of respect and enthusiasm, and they have recommended to make this an annual trip for the Year 4's.

### **Choir**

Congratulations to the Chapel Choir who sang so beautifully at the Worcester Competitive Arts Festival Winner's Concert, held in Worcester last night. Their singing was glorious and remarked upon by members of the other choir we sat by. I was extremely proud of them all and thank Miss Hyland for her hard work and time.

### **School Music Success**

Many congratulations to the following pupils for passing their recent ABRSM Music exams in school. Learning to play a musical instrument requires hard work and commitment but is such an important aspect of a child's education and development as well as being great fun.

Olivia Mckelvey	Piano	P
Juliet Woolmore	Piano	P
Harrison Brown	Trumpet	1
Daniel Goodwin	Piano	1
Daisy Grey	Tuba	1
Lola Hill	Violin	1
Amy Pinfield	Violin	1
Lucia Goodwin	Piano	2
Daniel Grove	Piano	2
Christopher Smith	Trumpet	2
Imogen Thomas	Trumpet	2
Georgia Doohan-Smith	Guitar	3
Bethany Lawson	Piano	3
Alice Liversidge	Piano	3
Fenella Stone	Euphonium	3
William Dunlop	Piano	4
Sophia Meadows	Trumpet	4
Catriona Ranger	Jazz Alto Sax	4
Imogen Vaughan-Hawkins	Piano	4
Thomas Chapman	Jazz Alto Sax	5
Joshua Lawson	Jazz Alto Sax	5

### **Saturday Activities**

There will be no Activities this Saturday due to a Staff meeting.

### **Bromsgrove Charity Cycle Challenge – Thursday May 7<sup>th</sup>**

This Summer Mr Widdop (Head of Geography) is hoping to take on the very adventurous challenge of cycling the length of Britain (Land's End to John O'Groats); a distance of 950 miles in 12 days. To support him in his challenge Mr Widdop has arranged a challenge for pupils, and parents if they so wish, to join in with.

Mr Widdop will present an assembly to pupils on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May outlining his challenge. Immediately afterwards he and two other members of staff (yet to be named) will start the challenge on three static bikes in Cobham Hall in order to try and achieve the distance of 265 miles; the distance from Land's End to Bromsgrove. However, the staff are hoping that they will not be doing this all by themselves. Mr Widdop would like any parent or pupil who would like to support this venture to give approximately fifteen minutes of their time (this can be longer or shorter) to take their turn on one of the bikes. The Challenge will run from 8.50am until 5.00pm on the day.

To help in this charitable fundraising effort, Mr Widdop is hoping that all participants would make a minimum donation of £1.00 to be placed in the collection bucket on the day. His charities for this, and his summer adventure are the McMillan Cancer Support and Diabetes UK. He would also be most grateful for any other donations even if you are unable to participate in the event itself.

If you would like to take part in this fantastic challenge please contact Mr Widdop by e-mail ([rwiddop@bromsgrove-school.co.uk](mailto:rwiddop@bromsgrove-school.co.uk)) stating the time of day you would like to come and cycle. He is hoping to keep at least one bike going all day.

### **Bank Holiday Monday**

Please be aware that this is a normal school day for Bromsgrove School and all children are expected to attend school.

### **Confirmation Service**

The Bishop of Worcester will preside at the Confirmation Service on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May at 10.30am in the Memorial Chapel. This year there are two Prep School confirmands for this special service. Everyone is warmly invited to attend.

### **Staff News**

Sadly Mrs Leather will be leaving the Prep School at the end of this term, after 24 years at Bromsgrove School. Mrs Leather has been appointed as the Deputy Headmistress of St Andrew's Preparatory School in Turi, Kenya. We are delighted for Mrs Leather and wish her every success and happiness in her new role and this new adventure but we are equally saddened that she will be leaving the Prep School after such a long and dedicated service.

Sadly Mrs Evans will also be leaving Bromsgrove at the end of this term to move to Great Ballard School near Chichester where her husband is Headmaster. We wish her every success in her new role.

### **Apple watch**

I am aware that with today's launch of the new Apple watch some of our pupils may plan to wear one to school. I strongly recommend that pupils do not wear one of these devices to school as a timepiece but if they do then they will be treated in the same way as mobile phones and they must signed in with Mrs Taylor, due to the interactive nature of the watches. If a child does bring one to school and fails to hand it in to Mrs Taylor then the matter will be dealt with in accordance with the School's Disciplinary Policy; we will not accept any responsibility for an Apple watch which has not been signed in and is subsequently lost or damaged. Please may I ask parents to support the school in this matter and not permit their children to wear these new watches to school.

### **Sports Fixtures**

Please may I remind all parents that if a child has been selected to represent the Prep School in a sports fixture then the pupil is expected to play; it is an honour to represent the school in this way. If for any reason your child is unable to play, except for absence from school due to illness, then please request my permission for your child to be excused from a fixture in advance of the match.

### **Pre-Prep Prize winners 2014**

We hope your child has enjoyed displaying their trophy or shield at home which they received at last year's Pre-Prep Prizegiving. However, it is now time for the trophies and shields to be returned to the Pre-Prep so that we can prepare it for this year's recipient.

You will appreciate the time it takes to get the cups returned and engraved with this year's recipient's name and would therefore ask you to return it to us no later than Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May in order that it can be delivered to the engravers the following day.

If you are returning the award via the Prep School Office please mark it clearly for return to the Pre-Prep Office and return it by Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May so that it can be taken over in good time.

### **Amendments and additions to the white calendar**

- Friday 1st May and Monday 4th May Year 8 German/Spanish orals
- Tuesday 5th until Thursday 7th May Year 8 French orals
- Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May – Whole School photograph 11.30am
- Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May Half term commences for Years 3,4,5,6 at 3.50pm and Years 7 and 8 at 4.30pm
- Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May – no U11 cricket
- Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June – Year 4 Activities Choices forms 8.30 – 9.00am
- Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June – Years 3, 5, 6, 7 Activities Choices forms 8.30 – 9.00am
- Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June Aegon Classic tennis tournament (not 9<sup>th</sup> June as published)
- Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June - 3.00pm Living and Growing DVD for parents plus meet the Year 4 teachers
- Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June - 2.45pm Year 3 Fabulous Finish Assembly
- Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June – Year 3 Trip to @Bristol Science Museum

**Headmistress' Commendations** this week were awarded to: Amelie Delahunty, James Moberley, Olivia Whitfield, Tallulah Bond, Hannah Batham, Sebastian Harrison, Isabella Howdle (2), Lucy Arnold, Prabhneet Sondhi, Melissa Goulden-Page (2), Gabriella Brown, Jake Lowe, Ash Kandola, Arseniy Goncharov, Edward Aston, Danila Iakushov, Pranisha Gurung, Eloise Robbins, Anabel Crowder (2), Jensen York, Olivia Slater, Tavan Biran, Louis Schell, Cameron Owen, Edward Ashmore-Wells, Katie Murray, Hannah Hunt (2), Henry Jones, Sadie Gardner, Eleanor Hughes, Callum Savage, Luci Broadhurst, Yannis Schell, Luke Bond, Henry Scott, Katie Murray, Amelia Barnes, Joseph Boardman, Jack Scott, Alexander Williams, Evie Stephens-Jones (2), Chloe Derbyshire, Eleanor Rea, Charlotte Brown, William Hicks, Phoebe Fletcher, Louise Osborne, Evie Derbyshire, Charles Abraham, Molly-Jo Sword (2), Isabella Walters, Paris Siviter, Ella Kershaw-Crombie, Harrison Brown, James Box, Lexie Wright, Joshua Collett and Mustafa Ebrahim.

### **Fine Diners**

Congratulations to this week's Years 3 and 4 Fine Diners: Max Shaylor, Gabbie Billig, Kaashif Ali Baig, Olivia McKelvey, Bella Chance, William Pridden, Edward Thompson, Tess Pickering, Kate Parmar, Max Jehan, Zaeem Croce, Ben Collett.

### **Credits**

The winners of the Lent term's Credits own clothes day was Watt and this will now take place on Friday May 1st. This means that everyone in Watt House may come to school on Friday in their own clothes, and not in school uniform, although our school rules concerning hair, jewelry and sensible shoes remain the same. Well done to everyone in Watt and better luck next time Boulton, Telford and Darby.

### **Sports Results**

#### **Boys**

Last Sunday Bromsgrove hosted the Worcestershire county U13 and U10 cricket teams. The seniors lost and the juniors won. On Wednesday the U11A and U11B cricket teams played away versus The Down's Malvern College Prep School winning both their matches.

#### **Girls**

On Thursday, the U12 girls team qualified to play in the Midlands Round at Cannock Hockey Club. The team played well, not conceding a single goal during their match play. The girls won their pool and were drawn against Kings Worcester in the semi final. This was a highly competitive game and the final score was 0 – 0, so it went to penalty strokes. Sadly for the girls Kings beat us and so went through to the final. However, the girls should be very proud of their overall position as 3rd in the Midlands.

**Pupil News**

On Sunday 12th April Grace Warren took part in the British Youth Championships Under 10 Epee at Oundle School, Northamptonshire. She made it to the quarter finals and came home with a British Youth Championships medal. Congratulations to Grace.

**Exchanging rooms**

The uniform exchange is quite low on stock of new uniform including blazers, jumpers, cardigans, winter and summer dresses for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. If you have any uniform you wish us to sell on your behalf items can be left in the school shop, at the senior school gate house or in the school office or brought into the exchange when open. Please include your name and contact details.

**Assembly Theme:** Keep our school tidy - all litter in the bin

**Pastoral Focus:** Being Open Minded. Be prepared to think differently

Yours sincerely  
Jacqui Deval-Reed  
Headmistress, Bromsgrove Prep School