

# FRIDAY FOCUS

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2019

School finishes today for the half term holidays; we hope you have a relaxing break. We look forward to welcoming you back in school on **MONDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> JUNE 2019**, refreshed and ready for the busy and exciting final term of this academic year.

## SCHOOL PHOTOS



Lafayette photographers will be in school on **MONDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> JUNE 2019** to take class photos. Can parents please ensure your child is wearing a red jumpers/cardigans or polo shirts as the photos will be taken against a white background. Children will come home on photograph day with their proof, and orders must then be placed online via Lafayette's website or over the telephone.

**UNFORTUNATELY, THE SCHOOL OFFICE CANNOT TAKE ANY ORDERS.**

**WE HAVE SENT A TEXT TO ALL PARENTS THIS WEEK IF YOU DO NOT WANT YOUR CHILD TO BE INCLUDED IN THEIR CLASS PHOTO PLEASE LET THE OFFICE KNOW BY 9.00am on MONDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> JUNE 2019**

## KINGSWOOD YEAR 4 RESIDENTIAL VISIT & YEAR 6 PGL RESIDENTIAL VISIT

Can we please remind parents with children in years 4 & 6 that they leave for the residential trip to Kingswood on **WEDNESDAY 5<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2019** at 1:30pm and to PGL on **FRIDAY 10<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2019** at 12:30pm. On the day of departure luggage must be taken into the large hall. For Health & Safety reasons no cars will be allowed on to the car park to drop bags off. If your child requires medication whilst on the trip, please place it in a named bag/container with full dosage instructions and give it to Mrs Auton-Budds for Kingswood and Mrs Maude for PGL. **Dinner arrangements will remain as normal.** Parents are welcome to come along to wave their child off on the trip but will not be allowed on to the coach.

## MAGNIFICENT 7

On Thursday Year 4 children took part in a multi skills event at Woodlands Centre. Everyone had a great day, here is an account by one of year 4 students - Aasha M 4KP

"At Magnificent 7 it was amazing. I enjoyed it so much. My favourite activity was speed bounce. I have never had so much fun in my life I loved it. I honestly think everybody did very

well and I hope they loved it too."



### **HEAD TEACHER'S AWARD**

<b>1DD</b>	Sabinaya S	For gaining the most Dojo's. Always trying her best.
<b>1KM</b>	Grace G	For excellent writing
<b>1VG</b>	Bella G	For her kind and nurturing ways
<b>2AS</b>	Freya D Golden Pencil Award	For increased confidence across all subjects Yasmine Ali
<b>2AD</b>	Barnaby G Sean E	For super scientific investigations - great discovery of micro-habitats. For being a reading superstar! Reading with great expression and fantastic reading comprehension skills!
<b>2RM</b>	Summer Rose M	For extra effort and improved confidence in English.

### **A SPECIAL WELL DONE TO YEAR 2**

Well done to all our Year Two children who have now completed their End of Key Stage One SAT's. They have been working extremely hard and have displayed a mature and resilient attitude throughout.

### **VIRUS HUNTERS**

A group of children from year 5 went down to the Wedge on Wednesday to collect some water samples from the river. They collected a range of samples and then brought them back to school to test using an aquarium test strip - which shows acidity, hardness and pollution levels in the water. The information and sample was then sent to scientists at Warwick University. The scientists will use their electron microscope to look for viruses in the water (smaller than fleas and even smaller than germs). The scientists hope that this can help identify new 'bacteriophage' that might even help to attack bacteria that make us sick!

### **SCIENCE AT BABLAKE**



On Tuesday a group of children from year 5 went to Bablake School for some Science activities. They took part in biology activities based on circulatory and respiratory systems- including looking at real life animal's heart and lungs. Following this, they completed some chemistry focusing on gases in the air - Max even got to blow up a hydrogen balloon. Finally, they investigated physical forces around us and Zikra had the opportunity to experience the Van der Graaf generator and its power to electrocute!!



After half term, we will be taking part in Pyjamarama, which is being run by BookTrust; the UK's largest children's reading charity. Children, adults and businesses around the country are going to be spending the day in their PJs – all to help raise money to make sure that no child goes without a bedtime story. Too many children miss out on the joy of snuggling up and experiencing the joy and warmth of bedtime reading. BookTrust want to make sure that these benefits are available to all children.

However as the official day is happening whilst our Year 4 and 6 children are away on residential visits, we have decided to rearrange our day to WEDNESDAY 12<sup>th</sup> JUNE. All money raised will still be forwarded to the charity. All you need to do is bring the children in their PJs together with £1 donation.

On the day, we will be having a repeat performance of our successful 'Breakfast with Books' morning and we ask that children bring a breakfast bar / fruit and a drink and a book to share with their peers.

### **GOODBYE AND GOOD LUCK: 3KB**

This half term we have had to say goodbye to Miss Blowers (3KB) who has gone on maternity leave. We wish her and her partner, Max, all the best and look forward to meeting their new little bundle of joy soon. Miss Masterson will be taking over the class. However, due to unforeseen circumstances, regarding her child's health, she is now unable to start until the end of June. Mrs Richardson and Mrs Alford will cover the class until this time.

### **P.T.A NEWS**

Thank you for the donations of chocolate from non-uniform day, we have received a wide selection of items which will be used for the chocolate tombola at the Summer Fayre on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June.

### **Raffle tickets**

We have received £500.00 worth of prize donations towards the summer fayre raffle and have decided to sell raffle tickets in advance of the fayre. Further details will be available after the half term.

### **Helpers needed**

We are in need of helpers in the run up and on the day of the Summer Fayre. If you have some time to spare before the event with sorting chocolate and prizes, or can help with set up on the day or during the event then please get in contact with the PTA team via email: [pta@coundon.coventry.sch.uk](mailto:pta@coundon.coventry.sch.uk) or via our Facebook Page.

### **Bric-a-Brac Stall**

We will be having a Bric-a-Brac Stall at the summer fayre. **If you have any unwanted good quality items we welcome donations.** Please either give items to class teachers or the school office before Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June.



### **THANK YOU**

Amy, Issabelle and Erin in year 6 would like to thank everyone that attended their joint birthday party and for the lovely gifts. We had a great time and hope you all did too.

### **ASSEMBLY DATES**

Year 6 Leavers assembly for Grandparents will take place on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July and the parent's assembly will take place on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July at 6pm.

Nursery Am assembly parent will take place on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July 10.30am

Nursery Pm will be on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2.30pm



## Educational Assistance Dog

We are excited to share with you that we shall be having an Educational Assistance Dog named Winnie training to eventually work with children at Coundon School from the end of this summer term. Winnie will belong to our Inclusion Leader Mrs Cheshire and she will attend school on the days that she has no teaching responsibilities. She will be based in Mrs Cheshire's office and will have very limited interaction with pupils until she reaches a year of age in 2020. Before then pupils are unlikely to see much of Winnie as she will be working '**behind the scenes**' at Coundon.

It has now been proven through research that educational assistance dogs can support children with stress, anxiety, behaviour, attendance and also with their academic learning. We are certainly very excited by the prospect of Winnie becoming a part of the team at Coundon.

Currently there is no benchmark standard of training in the UK in order for a dog to come into school yet approximately one in three schools across the UK have an Educational Assistance Dog or a visiting dog. However, to ensure that Winnie is safe to work in an educational environment, Mrs Cheshire has registered and is training through the charity 'Dogs Helping Kids' (DHK). DHK are one of the only organisations in the country training and assessing dogs purely to work in an educational environment. Their training ensures that the dogs can be both educational and therapeutic aids. Please find the link at the bottom of the page for further information provided via the 'Dogs Helping Kids' website.

**Please note** that no child will ever be forced to interact directly or work with Winnie. Further, if we hope for your child to work with Winnie directly when she reaches an appropriate age then a consent form will be sent home and will need to be completed. No 1:1 or small group interventions with Winnie will take place without parental consent. Winnie will be based in Mrs Cheshire's office and will never leave Mrs Cheshire's office unaccompanied. When leaving Mrs Cheshire's office she will be on a lead at all times. She will not be going into classrooms.

Mrs Cheshire has written an in depth Risk Assessment and an Educational Dog Policy, both of which have been shared with school governors and will be available on the school website. On these you can find more information about how we will address issues such as jumping up, allergies and toileting.

**Although you are unlikely to see much of Winnie during this first year of her training, if you do see her, it is important that you ignore her unless directed to do otherwise. Mrs Cheshire has spoken to all the children about the importance of this as Winnie needs to learn how to remain calm and feel safe in an educational environment.**

Rewards such as stickers and certificates will be given out to children that demonstrate they can follow these instructions and model being responsible around Winnie.

We will send updates on how Winnie is progressing with her training via Friday Focus.

If you do not find the information you are looking for in the Policy or Risk Assessment on the school website, you are welcome to contact Mrs Cheshire directly with your questions.

<http://www.dogshelpingkids.co.uk/>

