

Newsletter - February 2013

GYMNASTICS

We took a record number of six teams (25 pupils) to the city wide competition at Wisewood Sports centre on the 6th February.



The children performed at a very high level and two of the teams will be competing in the South Yorkshire finals. Very well done to **all** of our gymnasts who achieved a raft of personal best scores. Good luck to the Y3/4 Foundation and Y5/6 Advanced teams in March.

JOB OPPORTUNITY

School is currently advertising for a cleaner. The job is 15 hours per week over 52 weeks. Hours of work are 7.00am - 8.00am in the morning and then from 3.30pm - 5.30pm.



Hours in the school holidays may vary depending on the needs of the school and the deep cleaning schedule.

Further details are available on the Sheffield City Council website at www.sheffield.gov.uk/jobs. Application forms can also be picked up from the school office.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

We are delighted to have been chosen to host a group of student teachers who are visiting the UK to see our teaching practices in action.



We will be joined in April by 4 students from University of Georgia. I'm sure our entire school community will make them feel very welcome and we are all looking forward to showing off everything Ballifield is best at.

PARENTS GROUP EASTER FAYRE

Our parents group are now preparing for their next event which will be the Easter Fayre on Sunday 24th March from 11am—1pm.



The parents group usually meet on a Monday night in school from around 6.30pm onwards. As a parent at school you are automatically enrolled as a member of the PTA and will be very welcome to join us at any meeting.

Please remember that Friday 15th February is a Staff Training Day. Therefore Children finish at 3.15pm on Thursday 14th February for the Half Term break and return on Monday 25th February.

GOVERNOR ISSUES

Recently, school has received several complaints from our neighbours regarding inconsiderate parking by our parents at the beginning and end of the school day.



The complaints have centred on grass verges being churned up and access to driveways blocked.

Please park considerately when dropping off and collecting your children. We appreciate this may mean a short walk but I'm sure that the safety of all our children is our main concern.

Our children always receive praise when we are out and about on visits. Ballifield has a strong reputation in the community. It is such a shame that our neighbours are often subjected to unpleasant confrontations with some Ballifield parents who consistently park selfishly.

WINTER WEATHER

We always do our best to make sure that Ballifield stays open throughout the winter. However, if in extreme circumstances a decision is taken to close we will send out a message on our text alert system and an announcement will be made on Radio Sheffield.



If Ballifield is **not** mentioned on Radio Sheffield then we are **open**. We will also send out a text message as early as possible.

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER...

It's been a busy start to the year, especially for our Y6 pupils who are starting their final preparations for the end of Key Stage 2 SATs tests which will take place week commencing 13th May.

There will also be assessments taking place in other year groups at the same time and throughout the first half of the Summer Term after Easter. It will be important that the children achieve a high attendance as every lesson counts!

We are all looking forward to milder weather. I am sure you will agree that Mr Jenkinson did a great job of keeping the pathways safe during the recent cold spell.

I know many of you appreciate early notice of the holidays and training days so please find the calendar for the next academic year on the back of this newsletter.

Many thanks for all your support this term.

Sheila Haigh