



PRINCE OF WALES

PRIMARY SCHOOL & CHILDREN'S CENTRE



NEWSLETTER 24th January 2014

Listening Excellence Attitude Respect Negotiate Enjoy Responsible Support

Dear Parents, Carers, Governors and Friends,

A group of Dutch teachers and school leaders visited us on Thursday to find out about the use of ICT in English schools and learn about our education system in general. Before they left we asked for their feedback about our school which I would like to share with you.

"It is clear that your staff care very much for the children. They are very dedicated." "At your school learning is central compared with the emphasis on teaching in our schools." "Prince of Wales is clearly a very creative school with many opportunities for children such as art and music." "Are all schools in England giving this importance to public speaking, philosophy and debating? In Holland we are not this advanced stage yet." "You have an impressive school, it is well looked after." "We saw great examples of teaching and involving the children in their learning." "Our school is in a similar area as yours but we aren't able to offer the same range of opportunities as you do." "You have a very child-centred approach to teaching your children." "Thank your teachers and children for being so accommodating and making us feel so welcome."

Jan M Bless
Headteacher

Value of this Month: *HUMILITY*

The story of the Bamboo and the Mango Tree was told to illustrate the peril of boastfulness. Can your child retell this story?

These children received a certificate and baton for demonstrating humility at our school this week, well done: Jah'Quan 1M, Marwa 1N, Viany 1S, Geneve 2C, Danielle 2G, Tuana 2R, Yusuf 3D, Ellie 3G, Havin 4F, Sanaa 4H, Aleyna 4S, Renee 5H, Myah 5S, Selay 5T, Joshua 6A and Theo 6B.



P4C – Philosophy for Children and Communities

The children are using P4C to develop a community of enquiry at Prince of Wales. P4C is a wonderful opportunity for children to develop their critical thinking skills. Children are given a thought provoking stimuli such as a story, a piece of music, a question, art work or a quote. From this stimulus the children create their own questions about it. The class then choose one of these questions to discuss. The P4C lesson is an 'enquiry' as the children are guided to listen and respond to each other's points of view. P4C supports the children to think deeper and listen to a range of opinions. Children learn to disagree and challenge through a reasoned debate. Here are a few examples of stimulus questions; what is a true friend? Is it fair to treat everybody the same? Are you the same person you were a year ago?

Mrs Stylli, P4C Co-ordinator

Next Week: Pupil feedback on P4C.

Attendance this week

Years 1,2,3 Family

1M 95.66% 2C 94.33%
1N 96.66% 2G 94.66%
1S 98.33% 2R 91.33%

Years 4,5,6 Families

3D 91.66% 4F 96.15% 5H 98.21%* 6A 91.72%
3G 98.66%* 4H 93.33% 5S 95.51% 6B 93.54%
4S 97.50% 5T 94.82%

Well done to **3G & 5H** for best attendance this week.

School Target: 95.5%

Overall attendance since September: **95.22%**



READING PARENT WORKSHOPS

It was lovely to see so many parents on Tuesday 21st January when Anne Davies presented two workshops on supporting children with reading at home. Anne talked about the importance of inviting children to tell you about the books that they are currently reading. This is a very good way of sharing books with your child, checking their comprehension and also developing children's interest in reading for pleasure. Do tell them about the kinds of reading that you do -This will help them so see how vitally important reading is as an everyday tool. She also talked about encouraging children to read in a variety of different situations eg menus in restaurants or when ordering a Take Away as well as reading packaging in the Supermarkets. Do make use of your local libraries as this will help children to choose from a huge selection of books and if a particular book is unavailable the librarian will order it for you.

Mrs Thambiah – Reading Recovery Teacher

Pedal power

On Tuesday afternoon, Year 4 had a science lesson about how to generate electricity from riding a bike with Andy from Bike IT. First of all, the children had to ride the bike to generate enough electricity to turn on the low energy light bulb. They were able to keep the light on for a little while before they got tired.

The next step, was the challenge of trying to keep a higher energy bulb on. A lot of children took up the challenge but all that could be achieved was enough energy to make the bulb flash. The children learnt exactly how much energy it takes just to give power to small things, especially if you leave things on standby or mobile phone chargers left on when they aren't charging the phone.

The final challenge was to generate enough power to play a CD. This was not an easy task because they had to have enough power to load the CD before it would play. From those who took the challenge, the longest time that the CD was played for was 29 seconds. You can see in the photos how hard Kai Neil-Edmonds was working to keep the CD playing and did brilliantly to keep it going for so long.

It was a fun afternoon and lots of cheering and calling for them from the children, Coach Chris and Mrs Fletcher joined in too.

Miss Neyland



Fencing

This week, all Year 4 & 5 pupils took part in a fencing lesson. The children were shown the basic skills required and were then given the opportunity to take part using a foil and dressing in the specialist clothing. Pupils thoroughly enjoyed the session and the instructors were so impressed with our pupils that a fencing club may be coming to POW soon!!

*Mrs Vourloumis,
Assistant Headteacher*

Confident Speaking

All Year 5 children have participated in Public Speaking training over the last two weeks. They have learned how to present themselves and how to talk to an audience, with confidence, about an interest, hobby or topic about which they feel strongly. This is quite a daunting task for many adults but a challenge that all of our children to rise to. It is a skill which will stand them in good stead for the future. Well done to all Year 5 children.

Year 6 children all participated in debate training led by successful debating members of the English Speaking Union. They spent the day learning the processes of a real debate and learned about the role of the proposition and opposition speakers in addition to practising how to use rebuttals and points of information. Our debating team will be representing our school in the Mayor's Debating Competition on 4 February at Merryhills School.

Miss Clarke – Deputy Headteacher and English Coordinator

Dates for your Calendar

17.02	Half Term Break (school closed 1 week)
24.02	Start second half term
03.03	Book week
03.03-05.03	Year 5 Residential visit
28.03	Report Cards
01.04	Parents' Evening
03.04	Easter Bonnet Parade
04.04	End of Term
Easter Break: Monday 7th April to Monday 21st April 2014	
22.04	Start Summer Term

