

## **NEWSLETTER 21 – 13<sup>th</sup> February 2015**

Dear Parents, Pupils & Governors,

**Athletics** – Miss Drissell took our athletics squad to an indoor competition on Tuesday. The children rose to the challenge and came **FIRST!!** The team are through to the Regional finals to be held on 2<sup>nd</sup> March during school time.

**Antarctica Day** - An exciting expedition lead by Captain Thackway, Dr Greygoose and Lieutenant Walsh took our year 1 and 2 pupils across glaciers, a crevasse and mountains whilst carrying out scientific research into rocks and fossils. Thank you to parents for organising the long list of supplies, and supporting our end of topic day. As always, we have been amazed at the volume of knowledge consumed by the children - they really are Antarctic experts now!

**Safer Internet Day** – Mr Thackway took a collective worship this week with e-safety ambassadors from KS2, to highlight safety when using the internet. Children will watch a safer internet program after half term.

**School Governor News from our Chair of Governors** - Governors continue to monitor school performance and improvement plans through formal meetings with staff and at Governing Body meetings. In addition we visit school, in small groups, during a day each term to 'see for ourselves' the hard work that is being done by staff and children. The visits this term have comprised talking with children about their views on learning, talking to staff, conducting a workbook trawl, and observing lessons. Talking with children and staff enables us to get their views first hand - which is always positive and reflects the reports presented to us by the School. Lesson observations are a great way for us to see what's happening in action. We arrive unannounced and see attentive children, great teaching, active participation and a good learning environment. These visits are invaluable in providing evidence to substantiate the formal written reports we receive from School. The visits have illustrated that good progress is being made in many areas, and that the School always tries to find new ways for further improvement, as we continue to see good levels of attainment and progress across the school.

**Story Competition** – If you have an entry for the 500 word story competition that has not yet been returned, please email it to Mrs Hall-Dix @ [Dix.J@welearn365.com](mailto:Dix.J@welearn365.com) by 20<sup>th</sup> Feb or to [bbc.co.uk/500words](http://bbc.co.uk/500words).

### **Clubs Update**

- There will be no Street Dance on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February & 27<sup>th</sup> March
- Netball is restarting Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February.

### **Dates for your Diary –**

- Party Church at St Laurence's Church on Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb 4.00pm - Find out more about Joshua, one of God's great friends. There will be crafts, songs, food and even a wall to knock down!!
- World Book Day is on Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> March, please send your child to school dressed as a character from their favourite book along with the book (no superheroes or footballers)
- Teacher Training Days – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March and Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May – School closed to children.
- Year 6 SATs will take place during week commencing 11<sup>th</sup> May.

**Book of the Week** – Pupils in year 2 have been reading 'Tom Crean's Rabbit' by Meredith Hooper. The children were thrilled to meet a relative of Tom Crean, who travelled with both Scott and Shackleton on their Antarctic expeditions. Tom is known for his heroic 800 mile row from Elephant Island to seek help after the Endurance was crushed by ice.

**Mr A Simms**

## ***The latest from the BSA...***

### **Bags 2 School**

In your child's bookbag this week, you'll find a small bag for collecting clothes and other household items to donate via Bags 2 School. If you have any unused items hanging around the house then please fill the bag and bring it back into us in the school hall on the morning of **Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> February**. You can even arrange for us to collect your bag (or bags) from you if it's difficult to bring it to school – just let us know.

Bags 2 School is a great way to make some money for the school, and also put your unwanted clothes to good use.

### **Quiz and Curry night: Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March, 8pm (arrive from 7.30 for an 8pm start)**

A reminder about the quiz – if you still have forms to return then that's no problem, just let us know. Tickets are £8 per person, to include quiz entry, a welcome drink on arrival and a delicious curry meal. There will be a bar on the night.

Teams can be between 6 and 8 people – you can plan to join as a team, or you can be allocated to a team of individuals on the night. We only need to know the numbers of people coming, not team details. There will be a cash prize for the winning team!

Please note this event is just for grown-ups but you are welcome to bring friends and family along.

Keep checking our Facebook page for the latest information.  
Search for "Bidford School BSA" or sign-up to volunteer on "BSA Volunteers"

#### ***The BSA Committee:***

***Emily, Glenda, Laura and Emma***

Emily Lee – Chair (07989323997)

Glenda Vassie – Vice-Chair (07928656855)

Laura Simpson – Secretary (07712166158)

Emma van Zyl – Treasurer (07879665914)