

Work together, learn together, achieve together.

Breakwater Academy Newsletter

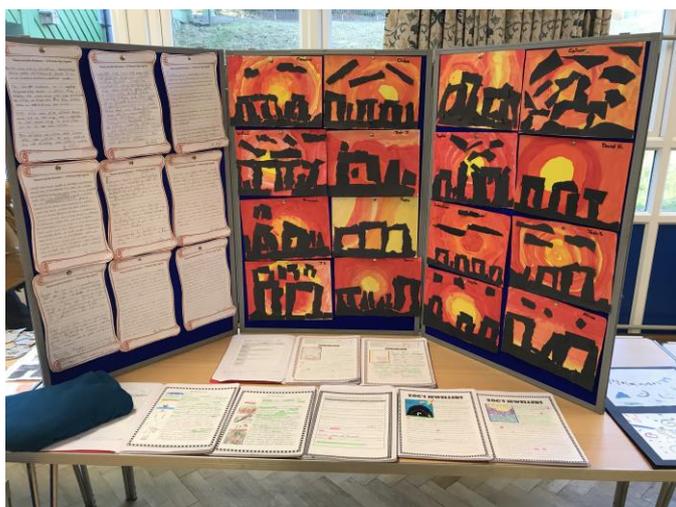


Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for all your support throughout the autumn term. The children have learnt so much and have made very pleasing progress indeed. Have a very enjoyable Christmas and a happy new year.

End of Learning Celebration

It was great to see so many of you at our end of term celebration of the children's learning. The children all had a history focus this term, with Year 1 and 2 learning about The Tudors, Year 3 and 4 learning about Scavengers and Settlers and Year 5 and 6 learning all about The Romans. It was a pleasure to share with you the work the children have been completing throughout the term.



Back to School – 3rd January 2018

We will be back to school on **Wednesday 3rd January 2018**. We look forward to seeing you back then after a restful Christmas break.

School trips

You should have all received a letter sharing with you all the trips and visits that we have planned for your child this academic year. We hope that by providing you with this now, we are giving you enough time and warning as to when we would be asking for money throughout the year so that you can plan for this. If, for any reason, you feel that paying for these trips or visits will cause any problems, please book an appointment to see Mr Rogers to discuss this further.



Attendance

Thank you for your support in improving the school's overall attendance. We have improved from 93.5% at the end of the summer term to 94.8% this term. We can only improve your children's learning when they are in school, so please continue to send your children to school regularly to allow us to support your child in reaching their full potential.

So far this year, each individual class's attendance has been:

Class	Attendance
Jellyfish (Early Years)	95.7%
Octopus (Year 1)	94.2%
Turtles (Year 2)	93.6%
Shells (Year 3)	96.5%
Pirates (Year 4)	94.5%
Buccaneers (Year 4)	94.7%
Driftwood (Year 5)	95%
Orcas (Year 6)	98.4%

Can we once again remind all parents to ring the school office before 9.00am if your child is unwell and unable to attend lessons.

It is also vital that you keep us updated with changes in contact details, especially mobile numbers. We never want to be in a situation where your child is sick or has hurt themselves and we are unable to get in touch with you.

Class Assemblies

Please remember that all parents are invited to share in the celebration of children's learning during our Friday celebration assemblies (2:30pm). Each week a few children from a specified class will share some work that they are particularly proud of from this term. Please see below for when your child may be sharing some work in assembly.

Date	Class
Friday 5 th January	Pirates
Friday 12 th January	Shells
Friday 19 th January	Turtles
Friday 26 th January	Octopus
Friday 2 nd February	Jellyfish

PTA events

Thank you for your support this term in our PTA events. We have had a school disco as well as the Christmas Fair. We have raised £853.58 from the two different events, funding key developments within the school.

Next term we have another disco and an Easter Egg hunt planned in. More details to follow in the New Year.

Sports Hall Athletics

Congratulations to all those pupils who represented Breakwater Academy at the South Down Junior Sports Hall Athletic championships in Hailsham on Thursday 30th November. 22 pupils took part in the event with various team wins on the track and some excellent throws and jumps in the field events. We are proud to declare that out of 18 schools in East Sussex, Breakwater came a credible 10th. Well done to all those pupils who represented the Academy.



Food Bank

Our weekly Food Bank is going from strength to strength. As I am sure you have seen, Dawn Woodgate and her team are available in the school car park every Thursday from 8:30am. We have also had a couple of families receive support from the food bank through the means of food parcels. If you would like to get some further support from the foodbank but would prefer to discuss this confidentially with a member of staff first, please speak with Mrs Jones (SENCO) or Mrs Hyde (Learning Mentor) who would happily discuss the situation with Dawn on your behalf.

Remembrance Day



Thank you to our Head Girl and Head Boy, Samantha Godden and Alfie Waller, for representing our school so well during the Newhaven Remembrance Day service at the war memorial.

E-safety

We know how amazing the internet is in so many ways. However, can we please take this opportunity to remind you that there can also be many dangers to face your child online. The Think U Know website (<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>) is an excellent resource to tap into if you have any concerns or want to discuss online issues with your child. In brief, we would suggest, at the very minimum, the following aspects of online safety are adhered to in order to keep your child safe:

- Parental Locks/filters put in place for all devices that can connect to the internet.
- Computers placed in communal areas in the home so that you can keep an eye on the sites being visited by your child.
- Remind your child never to give out personal details over the internet.
- Talk to your child regularly about what they are doing on the internet and the sites they visit.

Advent poems

We recently ran an in school competition for the children to write an acrostic advent poem. Congratulations to Alise Lazenby-Groom, Leila Spencer and David Harvey who have been chosen as the winning entries. Please take time to read their superb poems:

A is for His arrival we are longing for

D is for the day He was born

V is for the voices raised to Him in praise

E is for our Eternal God and King

N is for night that turned our world to day

T is for the Holy Trinity

And so during advent we prepare our hearts for Jesus Christ.

Alise Lazenby-Groom (Buccaneers)

A time to reunite with family and friends

December is the time when Advent begins

Very much enjoy the time while it lasts

Everyone sings and merrily laughs

Naughty or nice, take Santa's advice

Twinkling lights shine brightly tonight

Leila Spencer (Driftwood)

Amazing Christmas is waiting for you

Doors are decorated old and new

Voices are singing Christmas carols

Eating mince pies and wine by the barrels

Neighbours' lights all shining bright

Telling stories throughout the night

David Harvey (Buccaneers)

Diary Dates

December 2017	
18 th	Key Stage 2 Carol Concert 9:00am Key Stage 1 Nativity 2:00pm
19 th	Key Stage 2 Carol Concert 9:00am Key Stage 1 Nativity 2:00pm
20 th	Last day of term
January 2018	
3 rd	Back to school