

Work together, learn together, achieve together.

Breakwater Academy Newsletter



Monday September 24th 2018

Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,

Welcome to the first (news) letter of the academic year. I am delighted to be the new head teacher here at Breakwater, and am looking forward to meeting all of you over the rest of this term. For those of you who have been able to attend the 'Meet the Teacher' sessions, I hope you have found them informative. They are the beginning of a series of opportunities for adults to be involved in the learning and teaching at Breakwater. Watch out for further dates later in the term, for both information sessions, and opportunities to get involved in lessons.

As I have said at those meetings, the children have made an excellent start to the new term – we have high hopes for them and they have responded brilliantly. You should be extremely proud of them – we are!

Communication

Attached to this letter are dates for this term. I am very aware that we need to improve the way in which we communicate with you about events happening in school, for example we should have informed you beforehand about the individual photos being taken last week. This should not have happened and I would like to apologise to you all. I will be working hard this half term to ensure that we communicate with you as often as needed and in a way that reaches you in good time.

The new Parentmail system continues to cause problems across ALL STEP schools; this is really frustrating for all of us, and we are hoping that it will be resolved soon. Therefore you should receive this letter by both Parentmail, and as a paper copy. Copies of letters sent out are also available from the school office. Please bear with us while this wider issue is resolved.

It is also vital that you in turn keep us updated with any changes in your 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.

Attendance

As you know, it is incredibly important that children attend school on a regular basis so that they are not missing learning that could lead to gaps in their later school lives. Please send your child in unless they are too unwell to attend.

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

Class	Attendance
Jellyfish (Early Years)	97%
Starfish (Year 1)	90.5%
Turtles (Year 2)	96.9%
Coral (Year 3)	94%
Kittiwake (Year 4)	93.4%
Rockpool (Year 5)	89.8%
Sea Glass (Year 5)	87.9%
Pufferfish (Year 6)	97.7%

PTA

Following on from the letter sent out previously, there will be a meeting for the new PTA on Monday 1st October 2 – 3pm. Please come along if you are interested in supporting the variety of activities which raise vital funds for school. All are welcome.

News from the summer....

Breakwater's Snail is now installed as part of Brighton and Hove's Snail Trail, raising money for the Martlets. You can visit our snail at Volks Railway Aquarium and Visitor Centre from Saturday 15th September until Sunday 18th November. Various events, linked to the Snail Trail, are taking place over the next few weeks and full details can be found at: <https://www.snailspacebrighton.co.uk/>

Barry the Big Blue Breakwater Snail

Our snail has been inspired by our local area, Newhaven. We have included a lifeboat and lighthouse as these are things you often see locally, they are both a mark of something that we are really proud of in our area.

Our snail's design was created by five children in our school: Nathan, Leila, David, Maximo and Lenny. The design was then painted onto the snail by our very own Breakwater artists: Nathan, Leila, David, Lara, Maximo, Lenny, Lacey and Amelia!

Designed by: **Breakwater Academy** 🐌

Say hello at: **Volks Railway Aquarium and Visitor Centre**



Finally, it would be great if you could join us this coming Friday for our Macmillan coffee 'morning' (except ours is at 2.45 – 3.30pm). If you would like to donate a cake for us to sell (home-made or not), then obviously that would be amazing, or just come along to buy and enjoy a coffee and a slice of cake. All proceeds will of course go towards this very worthy cause. I hope to see you there.

Best Wishes,

Zoë Griffiths
Head teacher

Diary dates Autumn Term 2018

September	Event
Monday 24 th September	Year 3 Meet the Teacher (2.40pm)
Wednesday 26 th September	Year 1 Meet the Teacher (2.40pm)
Friday 28 th September	Macmillan Coffee 'Morning' (2.45 – 3.30pm)
Friday 28 th September	Fire Safety Talk to Yr 2 and Yr 5 children
October	
Monday 1 st October	PTA meeting 2-3pm
Tuesday 2 nd October	Year Reception Meet the Teacher (2.40pm)
Thursday 4 th October	Reception/Year 6 Height and Weight Check
Monday 15 th -19 th October	Scholastic Book Fair
Thursday 18 th October	Harvest Festival – all parents and carers welcome (2.30pm)
Monday 22 nd – Friday 26th October HALF TERM	
Tuesday 30 th October	Parents Evening 3.30 – 6.00pm
November	
Thursday 1 st November	Group and sibling photos
Thursday 1 st November	Parents Evening 3.30 – 6.00pm
Wednesday 14 th November	EYFS Phonics Information Meeting - all Reception parents and carers welcome – 9.00am
Friday 16 th November	Children in Need
December	
Thursday 1 st December	PTA Disco - Year 1 & 2 – 3.15 – 4.30pm Years 3 – 6 – 4.45 – 6.00pm
Friday 7 th December	Christmas Fair 3.00 – 4.30pm
Thursday 6 th December	Flu Immunisations
Friday 14 th December	Christmas Dinner Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Save the Children
Monday 17 th December	KeyStage 2 Carol Concert 9.00am Key Stage 1 Nativity 2.00pm
Tuesday 18 th December	KeyStage 2 Carol Concert 9.00am Key Stage 1 Nativity 2.00pm
Wednesday 19 th December	Last day of term
Thursday 3 rd January 2019 - First day of term	