

Cheriton Bishop Community Primary School

Snippets from the Classroom and Beyond

No 164 November 2014



Goodness, doesn't time fly? We are now on the run up to half term which begins on 27th October. What has happened in the school since October's Snippets. I am told that the School's Harvest Festival Service in St Mary's Church went off well with accolades for the singing, the spoken word and refreshments after the service. A big Well Done is due to all who took part. Also, I understand that there has been a Great Cherry B Bake Off held at the school with each class being judged and a list of winners prepared. The occasion was used as a fund raiser and, indeed, raised some £102.00 in a very short space of time. The whole thing was sponsored by the PTFA. You'll notice from the calendar that each class has got a Baking Day allocated after the New Year. Again, this will be arranged by the PTFA.

Continuing with the fund raising theme, the Macmillan Coffee Break generated the princely sum of £44.00. The school made this up to £50.00. This is a very creditable sum for such an event.

I regret that I have no feedback of results from the Swimming Gala held on 15th October and I'm not sure what sports have been taking place this half of term. Whatever has taken place, I'm sure that the children have acquitted themselves well.

Not on last month's calendar of events, the 20th October will see a Themed Day when each class will have its own theme allied to their class topic. Hence Class 1 will have a family theme and will be learning to bake. They have to come to school dressed as waiters or waitresses ready to serve up their resultant goodies to the parentage.

Class 2 will be following a Tudor theme and will be spending the day dressed as rich or poor Tudor people. They will have to produce their own quill so that they can practise Tudor writing! The children will also be making their own 'Tudor Rose' clay pot.

Class 3 are going to be having a food themed day during which they will be learning all about foods from around the world. The idea will be that they will be split into groups with each group studying the food and culture of their allocated country. The children will be expected to arrive at school dressed in clothes that represent the country they are studying.

This all sounds marvellous and it will be very interesting to see the outcome of each class's efforts. Somehow, with all the various baking activities both this term and next, I feel that the Great British Bake Off television programme has a lot to answer for! That doesn't mean I'm against teaching the children culinary skills, I'm very 'for' it. In my day I believe it was called Domestic Science. Wheels and rotation come to mind.

The Calendar:

- 24th Oct – Class 2 Baking Day**
- 27th-31st Oct – Autumn Half Term**
- 28th Nov – Non-Uniform day**
- 5th Dec – Christmas Fayre (in School)**
- 10th Dec – Christmas Dinner**
- 11th Dec – Christmas School Jumper Day – in aid of *Save The Children***
- 12th Dec – Christmas Services – 1400 and 1800 – St Mary's Church**
- 19th Dec – End of Autumn Term**

19th Dec – Christmas Carol Singing around the Village

31st Jan 2015 – Class 1 Baking Day

27th Feb – Non-Uniform Day

27th Mar – Class 3 Baking Day

As must be obvious, the Christmas season is upon us.

On then to more mundane topics and the first to raise its head is the subject of parking, an old favourite. There are three black spots in Cheriton Bishop and all are up at Cheriton Cross. Once again I have heard complaints about all the cars and vans that have taken to parking at the 'throat' of Church Lane. The line of cars seems to extend almost up to the white lines. With no places to draw in to the left, the driver up the hill has to remain in the right hand lane up to the junction all the way from the entrance to Hescane Park. I don't know whether the vehicles are owned by residents or by car sharing pool drivers but they need to show some consideration for others. The next black spot is vehicles parked opposite the throat of the Yeoford Road. This causes access difficulties both into and out of the Yeoford Road. The situation there is exacerbated by the parking outside the shop. Traffic on the main road in both directions is frequently forced across to the wrong side of the road. The line of sight for many drivers is blocked by many of these vehicles. It's a case of taking one's life into one's hands when attempting to clear the area. I have no solution to the latter problem. All I can say is 'Please be careful'. The shop needs the trade and customers need to park. Oh for the Halcyon days of Checkers Filling Station and the big car park!!!

Last month I praised the dispensary for the efforts they have made to ensure that we can all get the requisite pills and potions prescribed by the doctors. Somehow they always seem to remain so cheerful. Well, now I want to say a great big thank you to the Surgery and the doctors, nurses and everybody else who helps to create the surgery that we are lucky to have. I have always found everyone I've dealt with to be unfailingly polite, cheerful, understanding and patient (sic). When put together with the dispensary we have got a first class facility which is the envy of many other areas. Long may it remain so. Once again, a big thank you is due to you all.

On, then, to the subject of the railway. The normal weekend heritage services have stopped, First Great Western have done their skid-pan training and the stage is now being cleared for the Polar Express, details of which can be found on the internet. The Polar Express coaches have been brought down to platform 2.

The station Buffet will still be opening at the weekends, though neither this weekend nor the next because Mary is taking a very well earned holiday. Normal service will be resumed the following weekend. As some of you will be aware, Westcountry Models have moved out of the shop on the station and I believe they will be relocating to the Arcade in Okehampton. The Class 47 which has been the subject of considerable dispute, has been bought by Nemesis Rail from its owners and was taken away on Wednesday to its new owners' works where it will be restored to main line standards I believe.

West Devon Folk Choir will be taking part in a WREN concert in St Stephen's church in Exeter in December.

Don't forget the clocks, they go back an hour overnight on 25th/26th October!!

PGR