



# Borden News

7th July 2017

We aim to provide a happy, secure and Christian learning environment for all members of our school community

## Dear parents and carers,

The school term seems to be coming rapidly towards the end of the year– 10 school days until the end of term. Many people believe that teachers have long holidays and it may seem like that but I know that many staff at Borden complete their preparations for the next term and the next year in their “holidays”. I will be tying up the ends this summer, finance, school plans, school evaluation forms , grab bags for evacuation procedures... At the moment the list seems endless. Mrs Godsell and I will be in school over the holidays handing over so that the start of the September term can run smoothly.

However, some projects are coming to an end. You may have noticed that the quiet area, where the stage is, has suddenly taken shape. The astro is down, the arbour is up and the benches in place. We have letters cut out for the school values of Love, Hope and Forgiveness to be displayed on the mirrors. So far we have spent £905 of the sponsor money from the walk in April. Our biggest saving has been on labour which has come from Mr Jordan and some volunteers. My thanks go to them for giving up their time to help get this project underway. I am handing over the area to Mrs Miller who has worked with the school council to put together ideas but will now be more hands on. So watch out– I’m sure there will be further volunteers needed early in September to work with trellis and plants etc.

Finally, I have received many requests for leave of absence for children this year. After the court case some months ago the collaboration is considering its position on fining. I know that the Chairs of Governors of all the collaboration schools have discussed this issue. The guidance states that fines can be imposed if a pupil has had 10 unauthorised sessions of absence in 100 sessions. That is 5 school days in any 50. In this instance the school’s course of action is limited by the Government, KCC guidance and the law. The Head of school does have some discretion in exceptional circumstances but weddings are not considered to be in the exceptional list, neither are holidays to visit relatives. Please be aware when considering booking holidays, short weekends away, special birthday celebrations etc that you may be liable for a fine if the absence total exceeds the 10 sessions in every 100. I hope there will be more clarification soon but thought I should give the parents at Borden a “heads up” to a changing situation.

*Sheila Dunk* Head of School

Out of Africa– September theme for Maple and Cherry

If you have lived in an African country and could come in and talk to the children in Maple and Cherry in term 1 please speak to Mrs Clark before the end of term. Could you teach the children a song, show them a Powerpoint, bring in some objects to look at and pass round? We would be pleased to see you. Come and share your experiences with us.

## Attendance Winners of the Week!

Maple Class 100%!!!



Ice creams for sale Just one Cornetto... Give it to ME!

Ice creams will be on sale on the last few Fridays of the term. The FOBs will have a stall in the playground at the end of every Friday including the last day of term. If you can help with the running of the stall please let a member of the committee know. Here’s hoping for some hot(ish) weather!

Thanks to the FOBs for providing extra water for Otterden and sports day next week.



## Summer Reading Challenge – Animal Agents.

The Summer Reading Challenge runs from 15 July – 16 September in all Kent’s libraries, and enables children to have fun reading over the summer holidays. They receive a special folder which introduces the mystery and the Animal Agents who are trying to solve it. They collect stickers for reading books, and receive a medal and certificate when they have read 6 books.

## Otterden Reminder Letter

Please check your mail for the Otterden reminder letter. If you have not received it please let us know as the trip is next week on Tuesday 11th July.



## SCHOLASTIC Book Fair

Thank you to all the parents and children who supported the half price book fair that was in school this week. It was a great opportunity to stock up on books for the summer holiday and keep on track with the reading, as well as having fun.

This week we sold £361 worth of books, a percentage of which is donated to the school, enabling us to buy new books for the library and to support the curriculum.

## Thought for the week...

*Grant me grace in all things to do Your will.*

11th July School trip to Otterden Estate, Countryside Learning

14th July Statements of achievements and new classes sent out

14th July, Sports Day 1.30pm

18th July, Borden’s Got Talent 2pm

20th July Certificate assembly 2:15pm

21st July Leavers service and final day of the term 10.30am

4th Sept, Inset Day

5th Sept, First Day of Autumn Term