

# DI INIANIE THURSDAY LETTER Issue 18

17<sup>th</sup> February 2011



Dear Parents

Half term is nearly upon us and I think that everyone is in need of a relaxing week. I think we underestimate the toll these dark winter nights and mornings have upon us! Wherever you go I hope you have a lovely time.

We have had some busy days at Dunannie. Last Thursday I deliberately took time out of my day to go to Michael Truss' Year 1 Astronomy lecture...and I wasn't disappointed! He really made the night sky come to life and accessible to old and young alike. The children's questions were most impressive and I believe Michael was astounded by the depth of their questioning.

The quiz night was a great success and I must say a big thank you to Toby, Caryn, Noni and the FOD's committee for all their hard work and congratulations to the winning teams!

What a surprise Reception children had when Sir John from Arundel Castle, Knight Town, arrived in the classroom. He had written to the children the week before asking for their advice on how to rescue a princess from a castle keep. As you can imagine, he was inundated with imaginative, resourceful and fanciful ideas!

We have had some wet days this week and I have noticed some of the children are not wearing their red cagoules or raindrop coats. I should be grateful if you could make sure there is one in school as they are essential for outside play and class visits.




On Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March we shall be celebrating World Book Day. An eventful day of book-related activities is planned. The children may come to school that day dressed as a character from a book (no camouflage gear please!) We also want to go 'Around the World in 80 Books'. If you have any books from foreign countries, fiction or non-fiction, we would love to borrow them for a display in the Library.

Well done Year 3 children for adopting their new roles of 'Helping Hands' with such enthusiasm. At playtimes, those on duty help staff by making sure everyone is happy and sorting out many minor problems that may occur. Thank you everybody.

Have a good half term.  
With best wishes

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## REMINDERS FOR PARENTS

-  **Book Tokens: World Book Day Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March:** You should receive a book token for each of your Dunannie children with this letter.
-  **Sports Shop is closed tomorrow, Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February.**
-  **Lost Property:** There is a table of lost property in the entrance hall. Do please have a check through it.



Congratulations to the following children for all their hard work in Mathletics...

Rachel (1 Bronze)  
Leela (1 Bronze)  
Freya (1 Bronze)  
Henry (1 Bronze)  
Elliot (1 Bronze)  
Edward (1 Bronze)  
Theo (2 Bronze)  
James (1 Bronze)  
Lola (1 Bronze)  
Tiger (1 Bronze & 1 Silver)  
Isabelle (1 Bronze)  
Adam (1 Silver) Brilliant

Well done  
David

## SCIENCE CHALLENGE

When you blow up a balloon with your own breath it would fall to the ground. The balloon needs to be filled with Helium to float to the ceiling as Helium is a gas lighter than your breath. Several children made this observation. Well done to Charlie, Anne, Felicity, Hamish, Evie, Ernie, Daisy, Lorenzo, Giselle and Leela. Anne and Felicity asked why there wasn't a ceiling. Tiger, Theo and James said that the balloons are missing their strings. Molly and Hamish asked why the balloons have reflections. Well done everyone. David

## Nursery News

We have had another busy week in the Nursery! We made heart shaped biscuits on Monday for Valentine's Day following on from our heart shaped splatter painting. We have listened to the story of Itchy Bear and retold it using the delightful puppets from our story sack. Some of us have been drawing and writing about the story. Do come and see the work in our folders.



We have been thinking about colour and used the class cameras when out and about to take pictures of things to add to our colour display. We also found a few signs that Spring is on the way!



Have a great half term,

Sharon, Donna, Bridget, Harriet & Belinda



## Challenge Class

As the half term approaches both Year 2 and Year 3 have been hard at work finishing off several of their projects.

Year 2 have spent the past few weeks designing and making balsa wood airplanes. They decided on an aerodynamic design, measured, cut and sanded balsa wood before testing their effectiveness. After they had decided how to improve them they were finally painted. The finished models will be on display after half term.



For their science work, the Year 2s have been investigating changing materials. They have identified materials that can stretch, twist and bend and have discovered how some materials keep their original shape afterwards.

Year 3 have been working on building bridges this term. The 'Streams' group have designed their own bridges based on a 'truss' style. They measured, cut and sanded wood to make a basic bridge frame and then decided how to strengthen them. They are all strong and well built and the children are eager to add other features.

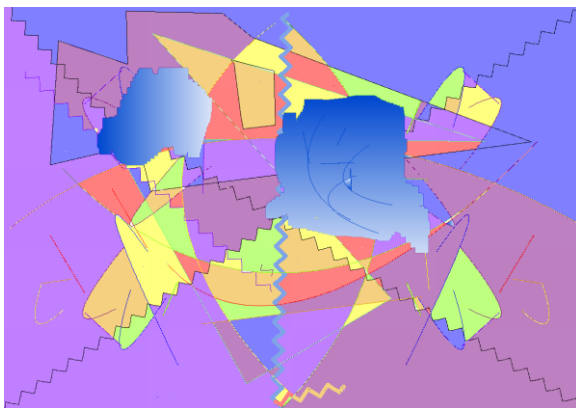


With their science project, the Year 3s have been studying rivers and river bank. They all investigated a river and discussed different materials found on the river bed at different stages of the journey. They then made models to illustrate the different stages of a river – from its source until it reaches the sea.

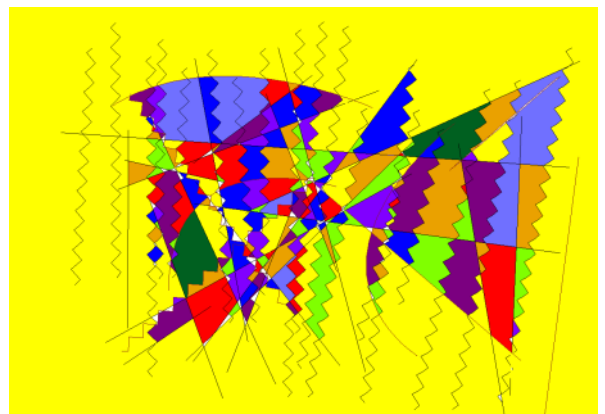
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In ICT both Year 2 and Year 3 have been using paint and drawing software to create their own pictures. They have principally used Colour Magic but have also experimented with using the drawing tools within Microsoft Word. Year 3 have recently explored symmetry tools as evidenced by Archie's car below and Daisy's heart (just for Valentine's day).

Year 2 have been recently using some of the drawing and fill tools to create some stunning words of art.



Charlie



Shanklin

Have a great half term.  
David



## BEDALES ARTS

Dance by the young, and for all ages, closes the first week after half-term when the annual Youth Dance Platform is presented in two performances, at 5pm and 7.30pm on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> March. These feature the two Hampshire County Youth Dance Companies and local school and independent groups, including the Petersfield and Sally Johnson Academies of Dance, Churchers College, Loose Moose Theatre Arts from Basingstoke, the Liss Forest School of Ballet, Dunhurst and Bedales. Tickets for this very popular event have been held at £5 for another year. The programmes for the two performances are identical. Do try to book soon, especially if your children are performing!



On Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March the highly respected theatre company Trestle visits the Theatre as Trestle Unmasked. 'The Birthday of the Infanta' is a new adaptation of Oscar Wilde's bittersweet story. Adults and young people alike are invited by the Infanta, the Spanish princess, to her twelfth birthday party. This is the only day of the year she is allowed to play with other children, but mixing with those not of her own rank comes at a price.

The running time is 90 minutes plus interval and the production is advertised as suitable for ages 9+ (though this is a guideline, of course, and you are best-placed to judge in relation to your own children). Tickets are £10 for adults and £8 for children. Box Office contact details are [tickets@bedales.org.uk](mailto:tickets@bedales.org.uk) or 01730 711 511.

## [Playball Half term Camp](#)

[Wednesday 23rd February](#)

[For 3-6 year olds](#)

[10am - 12:30pm at The Avenue, Petersfield](#)

[You do not have to be a Playballer to come along, anyone can join us...](#)

[The cost is £15 and spaces are limited.](#)

[Children should bring a drink and snack and be dressed appropriately for the weather.](#)

[There will be games, ball skills and the ever popular treasure hunt!](#)

[Booking essential by 18/02/11](#)

[www.playballhampshire.co.uk](http://www.playballhampshire.co.uk)

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