



# Weekly Newsletter

3rd February 2017



Dear Parents,

Another great week here at Abacus. On Tuesday, we celebrated Chinese New Year with a special workshop for each class and a Chinese themed lunch! Thank you to Susie for organising a fantastic day for the whole school. Please stay happy and healthy as we all try to keep the dreaded flu bug away! Just a quick reminder on birthday celebrations. We love to share in your child's special day. If you would like to send in something for the whole class on their birthday please send in individually wrapped items. Previously we have had a small pencil or a ruler set or individually wrapped cakes. Please note as we run the bus service any item that is sent in will be given out at the end of the day and children are reminded to wait until they are at home with their parents before they eat their gift from their friend. Fruit or a non-edible gift is preferable and easily managed. Please also remember we are a nut free school and anything sent in containing nuts will not be given out at all.

### Site update

Also a quick update on the permanent site. As you know a paper was submitted to Lord Nash before the Christmas break to state the situation the school is facing in terms of site and a request was made to allow the school to be 1 form entry. As yet we have had no reply from Lord Nash and until we hear back from him we can't move forwards with plans. I believe his decision is due soon but I have no current date as to when. As always our school governors work tirelessly to ensure we aren't forgotten and we know we will be re-opening at the jubilee waterside this September. Some minor work will happen over the summer to allow us to host another class full of children. I'm also pleased to report that initial figures show that we have had at least 120 applications for Reception 2017. This again shows the outside world that we are a great school, doing amazing work in a temporary location. Our catchment area remains Belsize Park and the majority of our families will be from this area again this year.

Thank you for your support and patience during this time. As soon as a decision is made I will contact you and we will begin our journey of designing and building our future school.

Mrs Vicki Briody  
Headteacher

Mrs Stephanie Savvides-Howell  
Assistant Headteacher



### Reception

Hello everyone,

I hope you have all had a brilliant week. This week in Reception we have been learning our sounds which are made of three letters. We have now finished our phase 2 and 3 sounds. In Maths we have been recapping key subtraction facts and working out subtraction stories. Next week we will be finishing off subtraction by making our own subtraction story.

This week we have also been learning instructions for how to make a magic potion. We have been using important sentence starters such as first, next, then, after, finally. We will make our potions next week.

This week we have been celebrating Chinese new year. We had a very special Chinese dance class on Tuesday and have been making lots of arts and crafts linked to Chinese new year.

Home work and reading books are being sent home. Have a brilliant weekend and see



### FAB

**Thursday, 9th February, afternoon (TIME TO BE ANNOUNCED) AND Friday 10th February, morning (TIME TO BE ANNOUNCED),** Great British Bake off!! Valentine's Day Bake Sale Coordinated with parent afternoon/morning drop in parent/teacher meetings (Fundraiser-bake sale and card sale- items 50 p-1 pound) We are looking for bakers and homemade card makers. Please email FAB [abacus.fab@gmail.com](mailto:abacus.fab@gmail.com) if you can help.

Year 1

We have had some very special visitors in Year 1 this week! When we arrived at school on Monday morning a golden, glittery fairy door had appeared in our classroom. We enjoyed predicting how it got there and what might be behind it. This was a great stimulus to start writing our own setting descriptions in English lessons.



In maths this week we started learning about division as sharing equally. We used the story 'When the Doorbell Rang' to share cookies between different numbers of children. Next week we will be investigating what happens when we cannot divide equally. We had a great time celebrating Chinese New Year too! Here we are practising our dragon dance.

Have a lovely weekend.

Year 2

Hello! We have had a great week in year 2. It was so great to see so many faces at our class assembly this week and for the SATS meeting afterwards. If you have any more questions, please make sure to see me at the open afternoon/ evening next week.



In maths this week we started division. We have been sharing between ourselves before moving onto pictorial representations using circles and dots. The children did a great job demonstrating this during assembly. In English we have innovated our original setting description, changing some aspects of the forest for our big write today. Next week the children will use the skills they learned to write their very own setting description.

We really enjoyed ribbon and lion dancing to celebrate Chinese new year and practising out calligraphy skills in the afternoon. Have a great weekend!

Year 3

Hello everyone! We have had a great week in Year 3.



This week we took part in a Chinese dance workshop. We really enjoyed using ribbons to create amazing shapes and even learned a move called 'The Firecracker'. The children also took part in lion dancing and all got together to dance with the dragon puppet.

In English this week we learned our new Key Text called 'The Glade' which is based on the setting of A Midsummer Night's Dream. We learned actions to go alongside the words to help memorise it.

In Topic we have been writing all about Forests; What is a forest? What types of forests are there? We watched a video about forests and learned how to take notes- key words and phrases. We will be turning this information into a booklet.

Have a great weekend! Miss Bell and Fred

Dates for your diaries

- Year 1 Swimming: 13th January - 10th February 2017
- Year 2 Swimming: 24th February - 31st March 2017
- Year 1 class assembly: 9th February
- Half term: Mon 13th - Fri 17th February
- Spring term commences: Monday 20th February
- Reception's assembly will take place after the half term
- Coffee afternoons: every Friday, 2-3pm

Gold Stars of the Week

Reception: Keira, Che, Taya

Year 1: Ben, Ethan

Year 2: Zachary, Naomi V

Year 3: Cesar

Attendance

Target: 98%

Reception: 96%

Year 1: 91%

Year 2: 94%

Year 3: 96%

