



**abacus**  
BELSIZE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Weekly Newsletter



12th May 2017

Dear parents,

We've had another busy week at Abacus! This week we have been thinking about wildlife in preparation for our 'Walk 4 Wildlife' sponsored walk next Friday. We are hoping to help break the Guinness World Record so if you'd like to walk with us, it's not too late to join in. Please specify on the form you received via Parent Mail if you intend to do so and also where you will be picking up your child from. In terms of further details, we are awaiting 40 families response to the collection request we sent out on Parent Mail last week. We cannot arrange details until we know how many parents are planning to collect from each pick up point. Once we have these in, we hope to release a detailed outline of the afternoon on Monday. Hopefully we will be walking in lovely sunshine but regardless of the weather, the walk will still go ahead. Therefore, please ensure your child has appropriate outer wear for the afternoon (a coat / hood if necessary). Thank you for all your kind donations so far – remember you can donate as little as £2 all via our just giving page

Just a reminder about morning and afternoon buses. We cannot keep buses waiting for late arrivals. This impacts on the start of the day for the whole bus if it waits for late comers. When children arrive at school, they go straight into their lessons and so by arriving later, they lose out on valuable curriculum time. Similarly, we have noticed a number of children being collected late on a regular basis. Support staff are not paid for this additional time and so it is unfair to rely on them to look after your child. We understand that emergencies can cause lateness and as long as we know, we can communicate this to our support staff. If your child is not collected by 3.40 / 4.40 then they will return to school with a member of staff. We are then charged overtime by the bus company, which is a cost we may pass over to late parents should this continue. Thank you for your ongoing support with this.

**Mrs Vicki Briody**  
Headteacher

**Mrs Stephanie Savvides-Howell**  
Assistant Headteacher

Hello guys,

### Reception

I hope everyone has had a great week. This week in Reception we have been changing the characters in the *Gruffalo* story. On our story maps we have replaced the fox, the owl and the snake. Next week we will be changing the *Gruffalo* character to our own terrible monster. In Maths we have been learning all about shape. We have investigated 3D shapes and thought about different ways to describe them, thinking about their faces, edges and corners.

In our topic work this week we have been learning about the terracotta warriors. We investigated some miniature terracotta warriors that Mr Owens had brought in and sketched our own design. We then made our own warriors from clay and will paint them next week.

Home work and reading books have been sent out in bags. Please keep hunting for books left at home. If books don't get returned then there will not be enough to send back out for reading.

Have a wonderful weekend and see you all soon.



### Current Vacancy

We are a small and friendly staff seeking someone who is flexible and has the ability to multi-task. The position is for a full –time, 8am – 4pm (term time only) HLTA or Teaching Assistant to support children with their learning. The role will involve supporting in class or in small groups as well as the transport arrangements for the children. You will have experience of working in a school, but above all you will be an enthusiastic self-starter who would be excited to play an integral part in our school. The ideal candidate would start working with us in September.

Salary will be dependent on experience and qualifications. An enhanced disclosure DBS check is required.

For information including how to apply, please email: [HR@abacus-cfbt.org](mailto:HR@abacus-cfbt.org)

Closing date: Midday Friday 19th May 2017.

Interview date: Week beginning 5th June

### Donations for Walk4Wildlife

Here is the website link, where you can donate and be a sponsor for our part in Walk 4 Wildlife:

[Abacus Belsize Primary School Walk 4 Wildlife](http://Abacus.Belsize.Primary.School.Walk.4.Wildlife)

### Year 1

Happy Friday everyone.

In English this week we have been innovating the Willow Pattern story to create our own characters. We have been drawing our own story maps and retelling our stories. Next week we will be changing the ending and events before rewriting them. In maths we have been making our own rulers and measuring objects around the classroom in cm. We have sent the rulers home with you today so that you can use them to measure objects around the house. In topic work we have been investigating geographical features in China such as rivers, mountains and major cities and comparing the school life in China with our school in London.

Please keep an eye out in book bags for homework this week.

Have a lovely weekend everyone

### Year 2

We have had a great week in year 2. This week we have been looking at mixed equations in maths and writing our stonecutter story in English. We investigated hygiene in science and have been using atlases to map China. Next week we will begin our SATS assessments. We have prepared the classroom with the children so that they are aware but there is no need to discuss the tests with your child over the weekend. They will come in as normal on Monday, possibly do a 'quiz', and will be as amazing as they are every day of the week! Please ensure they are getting enough sleep and have a filling breakfast to give them the best possible start to their day. Make sure they are on the bus or dropped to school in plenty of time, as arriving even 5 minutes later can disrupt their normal start to the day. We would love you all to have a relaxing and fun weekend so we wont be setting any homework.

Thank you for your support and have a lovely weekend.

### Year 3

Hello everyone! We hope you've had a great week.

This week we have looking at length and mass. We have been learning to convert between different lengths. Using a place value chart has really helped us. As well as knowing facts like, to convert from m to cm, we multiply by 100 because there are 100cm in 1 metre.

The King of Beasts, our key text, was revamped this week when we added a new event of our choice. We then wrote it during Big Write. Next week we will be inventing and writing our own fables.

In Art we created shadow puppets and performed a shadow puppet story to the class. The performance was based on a poem called 'The Caterpillar'. We can't wait to make our own shadow puppets stories!

Have a lovely weekend, Miss Bell, Fred and Miss Dilks



### Dates for your diaries

**Friday 19th May**—Wildlife walk (whole school, more details to follow)

**Friday 26th May**—INSET Day (school closed for children)

**Week beginning 12th June**—Year 1 Phonics check

**Friday 14th July**—FAB Summer fair and Community tea party

**Friday 7th July**—Sports day and summer picnic

**Thursday 13th July**—End of year reports for parents

**Friday 21st July**—End of Term (No afterschool clubs on this day)

### Gold Stars of the Week

Reception: Chelsea

Year 1: Adi, Loulou, Savannah, Lola

Year 2: Joseph, Bonnie, Hassan

Year 3: Daria, Elvis, Leo, Sophia

Attendance

Target: 98%

Reception: 93%

Year 1: 98%

Year 2: 96%

Year 3: 96%