



£363.75 raised for Children In Need

Our hall was packed out for today's Children In Need dance off. It was great to see so many parents in attendance and to see our pupils onstage, confident, full of enthusiasm and having fun. Thanks for everyone who came and donated and to the children and staff for their efforts in organising the entertainment. Finally, thanks to Mr Crosby and Mr English for being our comperes.



Parent Workshops

Thanks for parents for demonstrating the HEART values of Brunel with the enthusiasm you continue to show through your attendance at, and participation in, our parent workshop programme. In the last fortnight, parents have attended workshops looking at Mathematics with Mr Roberts and at the new Tapestry programme that we are trialling to inform parents about progress for children in Nursery. Both workshops were well attended and parent feedback tells us that these events are really useful in helping parents get involved in the learning process.

Attendance

Attendance for the first week back after half-term was very disappointing at only 94.9% for EYFS and 94.1% for KS1/2, which is well below our target of 96%. We really need to maintain the improvement we made as a school in the first part of the autumn term and make sure our attendance doesn't slip as the weather gets colder. Please remember that attendance is a key

focus for us this year and needs to improve on last year. We will continue to do all we can to ensure that attendance improves but we really need parents' help to make the improvements we need as a school.

Macbeth

On Tuesday 10th November, children in Y6 performed Macbeth at RADA Studios in central London as part of the Shakespeare for Schools Festival along with other Ark Schools. Pupils had been rehearsing for several weeks in school, honing their acting skills and preparing for the event.

After a busy dress rehearsal in the afternoon, Brunel actors pulled out all the stops and gave the performance of their lives. They were praised by the festival organisers for their costuming, lighting, sound effects, and the sheer drama conveyed in the entire play. The audience was hooked from the moment the three witches began to speak, and the cheering at the end was phenomenal. Sarah, who played the role of Lady Macbeth brilliantly, said "It was scary but when we got on stage, the lights meant that you couldn't see beyond the first row. I'm glad that I did it and am proud of myself."

We are extremely proud of all the children and the resilience and hard work they gave over the last six weeks. Congratulations, Year 6.





Uniform reminder

We would like to remind parents that children's uniforms should have their name clearly marked on it (we recommend the back of the logo on jumpers/cardigans and on the back of school ties – not on labels, which can be cut out). This way, if uniform gets mixed up (as is sometimes inevitable in a school), it is easy to match items to the correct child. Please regularly check that names have not faded. Finally, PLEASE check that your child has not worn someone else's uniform home; and if they have, please return it to school the next day.

Homework club at local libraries

There is a homework club available at the libraries listed below on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30-5:00pm. The libraries listed offer trained volunteers, a wide range of books, computers with access to online resources especially for homework, a printer/copier and friendly surroundings. The club is for children aged 7 to 11.

Kensal Library, North Kensington Library, Kensington Central Library, Brompton Library and Chelsea Library.

Remembrance

We marked Remembrance Day with a short period of silence on Wednesday. We will remember them...



Humanutopia

Years 5 & 6 worked again with the Humanutopia group this week, developing citizenship and life skills that will help them in their future lives. One session dealt with thinking about the different emotions we and others feel and how to best deal with these.

Later on, the classes imagined being in charge of their own islands, imagining what issues might exist and how best to deal with them. Yasmine in Y6 thought it was really beneficial saying "It was really good as it taught us how to solve problems like ones we might have to face in the future."



Shoebox Appeal

A huge thank you to all who have donated a shoebox as part of the Link to Hope Appeal to help those in need at this time of year. It's wonderful that we can send gifts to people suffering in other parts of the world and sends a message to our pupils about our value of thought and caring for those less fortunate. Today is the final day for donation and we are able to donate 39 boxes on behalf of Ark Brunel. Thank you again.

