



26th January 2024

Dear parents / carers,

Year 6 WW2 topic

Report by Huxley, Muna and Rhona

In Year 6, we have been learning about World War Two. On Tuesday last week, we went on an amazing school trip to Downs Junior School to visit an air raid shelter, preserved for viewing, and learnt about the air-raid sirens and the gas masks. When we went down to the air raid shelter, the guides informed us that the children would have entered in single file in an orderly fashion. Inside, the girls would sit on one side and the boys on the other. We felt how cramped and cold it was. There would have been little light when the children were down there so they couldn't work but, to entertain themselves they would sing, listen to stories or practise their times tables. We were able to experience what it would have felt like during an air-raid - they switched out the lights and shook the benches we were sitting on and played the sound of enemy planes flying over to give us a true and real experience. As we were walking through, we saw the displays they had set up: inside an Anderson shelter, a bedroom and a kitchen in the 1940s. We had several discussions about why the windows were taped up, and what the wardens used to wear. We also learned about Neville Chamberlain's announcement, D-Day and the celebrations for when the war was over. We also were lucky enough to talk to people who were alive during World War Two; we got to hear about their experience and ask lots of questions. They taught us about what life was like during World War Two, especially in Brighton and Hove. We saw lots of pictures of the local area during World War Two, we saw many different types of gas masks and how they changed over the years. In addition, we learnt about rationing and evacuation. It was an utterly amazing trip - one of the best days of my life. I could have been there all day listening to and learning all about the air raid shelters. It has really brought our World War Two learning alive.



Saturday 27th January is Holocaust Memorial Day. We remember those who not only suffered in the Holocaust, but those who have been persecuted or oppressed just for being who they are or for their race and religion.

Poetry Competition

In the Autumn Term, the whole school enjoyed a poetry day on the theme of 'Refuge.' Children's poems were inspired by safe and beautiful places and where they find refuge. Some year groups wrote about the joy of escaping into a good book. We held a poetry writing competition based on this theme and are delighted to announce that the winners are Tommy (KS1), Alice (KS2) and Chikaima (KS2). Shortly, you will see the winning poems displayed in the window of 'The Book Nook' in Hove, and the children will also receive a prize from this treasure of a book shop. Well done to all.



No Title

In my safe place I can see crawling caterpillars and growing trees.

In my safe place I can hear bees buzzing around.

In my safe place I can taste a smokey BBQ.

In my safe place I can smell fresh air going into my nose.

In my safe place I can feel the grass tickling my feet.



Written by Thomas, Year 2 St P

The World Beyond

I walk over to the window, I look up at the stars. I'll spend hours looking through the sturdy piece of glass.

I wonder what the world holds, beyond my street, my town. I'll look up at the trees, the ones with leaves brown.

It is the time when sparrows go through the air and soar up in the sky, but then the seagulls come and caw up so high. The clouds are now beginning to meet, I am awake now and on my feet.

There are special places in the world, many you can see. But I find the world beyond is the perfect one for me.

Written by Alice, Year 4 St L

My Skin

My Skin is like chocolate light and creamy, some hate me for my skin, Boom, Bang!

They blow up all my hopes and dream others are envious of me because they know I am my ancestors dream, some are loathsome, they criticise me, I'm suffering as I walk away.

The ridicule rings in my head like an on-going bell... I want home...pain pain pain.

I see a bright yellow light, is this heaven?

I wake it was all a nightmare, a shadow moves slightly, was it all a nightmare?

A face shines in the light, it's mama her honey voice sings like birds in the morning sky so this is what home feels like.

Written by Chikaima, Year 6 St B

Wishing you an enjoyable weekend. Rachel Breen, Headteacher

**Parent Consultation Meetings. 3.20 pm – 6 pm.
Tuesday 6th and Thursday 8th February
(Monday 5th instead of Thurs for 6 St Benedict)**

Our SchoolPing online booking system will be active for you to make appointments until Monday 29th January. If you would prefer the potential option of a face to face meeting, please request this at the time of booking by writing 'face to face' in the comments section. In addition to the Parents evening consultation, you have the option of also receiving an Interim Report, which will identify your child's level of attainment, whilst also noting progress and future targets for core subjects. The contents of these will always be discussed verbally regardless of if a hard copy has been requested or not. Should you require a hard copy, we ask that you email your child's class teacher by Monday 29th January. This will be discussed verbally in the meeting and a copy emailed to you straight after. Mrs Mullans will continue to provide extra meetings for parents of children with additional needs / SEND. Please email Mrs Mullans directly to book your appointment, for the same dates, with her; annamullans@cottesmore.brighton-hove.sch.uk. If your child is registered as having additional needs, you are able to book a consultation with their class teacher as well as an additional one with Mrs Mullans. The teachers look forward to working in partnership with you.

Year 1 Phonics Screening

On Friday 23rd February, parents / carers of those in Year 1 are invited to a Parent meeting about the statutory Year 1 Phonics screening check, which will happen for Year 1 children in June. The meeting will be in the school hall and begin after drop off, at 8.55am and will be lead by Mrs McFarland, the Phonics lead. Please enter the hall from the KS2 playground. The purpose of the meeting will be to explain the process undertaken for the phonics screening check and how you can support at home. A video version will also be provided for those unable to make it. The meeting will last approximately 30 minutes.

THE BOOTH MUSEUM
OF NATURAL HISTORY

Discover our Diorama

Sponsored by Esmée Fairbairn Foundation

The Booth Museum of Natural History would like to invite you, our neighbours to the launch of our brand new Diorama, 'Life in a Garden' - the first to be built there in nearly 100 years.

Saturday 27 January
Free admission
Open 10-5pm
All ages are welcome

Created by ethical taxidermist Jazmine Miles-Long and designed by our under 10s audience, this new diorama aims to reflect the wildlife we see around us every day in our modern city.

We look forward to seeing you and welcoming you to the Booth Museum.

& BRIGHTON & HOVE MUSEUMS **MA** Esmée Fairbairn Collections Fund

Teaching Assistant Vacancy at Cottesmore

Have you considered a career in schools?

We are seeking to employ a Teaching Assistant to work Monday - Friday 8.45am – 1pm. We would welcome applications from those who have experience of working with children in a school setting and also from those who may not have had this specific experience, but who have a desire to explore a career in education. We provide a personalised range of training and opportunities to ensure that all members of staff are able to learn and develop through our culture of growth.

Below is a link to the adverts. If you have any questions please contact Anna Mullans who would be happy to discuss the role further.

<https://www.cottesmore.brighton-hove.sch.uk/page/job-vacancies/> Closing date is Monday 29th January.

Buddy Masses at Cardinal Newman Catholic School in the chapel.



- Year 1 and Year 5 – Thursday 1st February 9.10am with Canon Colin
- Year 6 & Reception – Thursday 22nd February 9:10am with Canon Colin

Entrance for parents will be via the lower gate at Cardinal Newman School, Upper Drive and registering via the office. Children will be brought across with their classes for the Mass and then will return to school afterwards. Parents will not have general access to school toilets so please come prepared for this. We look forward to seeing you there.

Governors Building Fund – Gift Aid Donations

We are currently writing to all families to remind them of our Governors Building Fund. We always ask that, in order to raise enough money to pay 10% of any successful bids for essential maintenance works, that families make a minimum voluntary contribution of £10 per term, or £30 a year, PER Pupil (not family) so that we are able to meet these financial commitments. Some families are in a position to pay more, for which we are extremely grateful.

As an Aided school, if we are unable to provide 10% towards successful bids, through parental contributions, the money is lost and any essential capital or maintenance spend has to come out of money that is provided by the Local Authority for the children. This money then has to come out of our main school budget which could then mean that we can't offer all the extra enrichments that we currently do.

We also request that families complete a Gift Aid declaration form if a UK tax payer.

In addition, as we approach the end of each tax year it may be that, if you run a business, you are looking to make an additional charitable donation to enable you to offset tax. If you are - or if you know someone who is - and you would like to make a company donation to Cottesmore, via our Governor's Building Fund, we would be very grateful. Any donations make such a difference as the more bid money we can go for, to ensure that the building is of a good standard, the longer we can continue to offer all the wonderful things that we do for the children in our care. Thank you for your generosity and support.

JANUARY/FEBRUARY	
MONDAY 29th	Last day to book parent consultation meetings / ask for interim reports
TUESDAY 30th	Year 5 and 6 to Newman to watch dress rehearsal of Shrek
WEDNESDAY 31st	- Year 5 St Oscar Forest School am - Year 1 St Teresa Forest School pm
THURSDAY 1st	Year 1 and Year 5 Buddy Mass at Cardinal Newman School Chapel – postponed Year 3 pedestrian training
FRIDAY 2nd	
MONDAY 5th	
TUESDAY 6th	- Safer Internet Day – extra online safety lessons in school - Parent Consultation zoom calls and face to face and SEN 3.15pm – 6pm - Year 5 school trip to the Royal Pavilion
WEDNESDAY 7th	Honeypot Party
THURSDAY 8th	Year 3 pedestrian training Parent Consultation zoom calls and face to face and SEN 3.15pm – 6pm PTA uniform sale after school – items between £1 and £2
FRIDAY 9th	Mental Health Awareness Day to mark the end of Mental Health Awareness Week PTA Valentines cake sale after school Saturday 10 th = Chinese New Year Sunday 11 th = International day of women in science
HALF TERM Monday 12th February – Friday 16th February Outdoors Project Holiday Club on school field	
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MONDAY 19th	Reception have chicks coming into school to visit them
TUESDAY 20th	
WEDNESDAY 21st	- International Mother Language Day - Year 4 St Lewinna Forest School am - Year 1 St George Forest School pm - Year 5 & 6 Boys Cricket Tournament, BACA Sports Hall pm – info to those attending
THURSDAY 22nd	Reception and Year 6 Buddy Mass 9.10am Newman Chapel – parents welcome
FRIDAY 23rd	Possible Year 3 Multiskills event, BHASVIC - info to those attending
FEBRUARY/MARCH	
MONDAY 26th	
TUESDAY 27th	Fairtrade Fortnight (until 12th March)
WEDNESDAY 28th	- Year 4 St Cuthman Forest School am - Year 1 St Teresa Forest School pm
THURSDAY 29th	
FRIDAY 1st	
MARCH	
MONDAY 4th	Fairtrade Fortnight (until 12th March)
TUESDAY 5th	Year 5 & 6 Girls Cricket Tournament, BACA Sports Hall pm - info to those attending
WEDNESDAY 6th	- Year 3 St Martin Forest School am - Year 1 St George Forest School pm
THURSDAY 7th	World Book Day (dress in pyjamas and comfy clothes)
FRIDAY 8th	International Womens Day
MONDAY 11th	
TUESDAY 12th	
WEDNESDAY 13th	- Year 2 St Monica Forest School am - Year 3 St Cecilia Forest School pm - Year 4, 5, & 6 Swimming Gala, Prince Regent pm - info to those attending
THURSDAY 14th	Year 3 & 4 Albion Cup Boys, Lancing am - info to those attending
FRIDAY 15th	- St Patrick's Day (Sunday 17th) - Year 3 School Trip To Cuckmere Haven