

Dear parents,

Bishop Ridley School's Shakespeare Festival

As you know we recently commemorated the 400th Anniversary of Shakespeare's death by reviving the three plays in our repertoire, 'Richard III', 'Julius Caesar' and 'Macbeth', which were performed at Townley Grammar School in their theatre. The children's performances were once again absolutely superb and a credit to our school. Thank you to everyone who took part in the event, and a special 'thank you' to Ms Chapman, Mrs West and Mrs Donegan, who gave up so much of their time and energy to preparing the children for the show and to Mrs Wickens for organising the box office and programmes.

Attendance

These were the attendance figures for March 2016:

Nursery	88.2%		2T	95.8%		4H	96.5%
Gruffalo	95.8%		2C	95.6%		5G	94.1%
Elmer	95.6%		3T	97.5%		5N	95.2%
1MC	96.1%		3H	95.6%		6M	94.4%
1DT	94.6%		4S	93.7%		6C	95.5%

This gives a whole school attendance rate for March of 95.1%.

Acts of Kindness

At the end of last term the School Council organised a scheme to send an Easter card and gifts to our neighbours in the immediate locality. This was suggested by some parents as part of an initiative called 'Acts of Kindness', with the aim of building bridges between Bishop Ridley School and the local community. The children (accompanied by a member of staff) delivered the cards and chocolate and we have had some very nice responses. This is particularly pleasing since most of the contact we have with local residents is about inconsiderate parking and abuse from parents.

Change of date

Please note that 5G's Friday assembly has been moved to 1st July.

Junior Summer Concert

We have also moved the date of the Summer Concert to the penultimate week of the summer term. Year 6 will be performing 'Bugsy Malone', supported by the other junior classes. Because of space in the hall being limited for this production Classes 3T, 4S and 5G will be performing on Wednesday 13th July and Classes 3H, 4H and 5N on Thursday 14th July. The performances are due to start at 1.45pm. We will send out further information nearer the time.

School Closure Reminder

A reminder that the school will be closed to pupils on Thursday 5th May for use as a polling station in the GLA Election and on Thursday 23rd June for the EU Referendum. The school will also be closed on Monday 6th June for our final Inset Day of this academic year.

SATs

Our year 6 pupils will be taking their SATs (national tests) in English and Maths during the week beginning 9th May. It is important that all the children attend school every day so that they can be

assessed in readiness for their transfer to secondary school. The year 2 SATs are also starting soon and again it is important that children come to school unless they have a valid reason to be absent.

History Week

We will once again be having 'History Week', where the children are invited to dress up in costumes from the period in history that they have been studying. We will be holding it during the week beginning 23rd May:

Monday 23rd May will be Ancient Egyptian Day for Year 3;

Tuesday 24th May will be Roman Day for Year 4;

Wednesday 25th May will be Viking Day for Year 5;

Thursday 26th May will be Medieval Day for Year 6; and

Friday 27th May will be Victorian Day for the Infant children.

Children can come in costume for their particular day, when we try to recreate a little of what it was like to live at that particular period, with activities that are both educational and fun. Please note that the children will be in costume all day so please make sure they are able to sit down and move around in them! Also, please don't feel obliged to buy an expensive costume – a little ingenuity will go a long way.

Water Bottles

As part of our 'Staying Healthy' drive please note that there should only be water in the children's water bottles. Juice, squash, flavoured water and other drinks are not allowed.

Well done to those of you who spotted the deliberate mistake in the last newsletter. This month's prize, which goes to Mrs Trellis of North Wales, is a tin of the world's most elusive suet pudding - the Lesser Spotted Dick.

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Hall
Head Teacher