

Batheaston Church School



Dream...Aspire...Achieve

Termly Newsletter – Thursday 1st April

Dear Parents,

Overall, this has been an incredible term and one like no other. We started with two weeks of remote learning and ended up with four weeks back in school with only a weekend between to try and switch from one to the other. It has taken a while to get used to the idea of being back after 11 long weeks of absence. I will be honest and say it has not been easy. The children have done their best to try and settle back into a routine and we are so proud of them for all that they have done this term. They well and truly deserve the Easter break. The staff have worked so hard to try and make the transition as smooth as possible and in my opinion have gone above and beyond to help support all our children so that they feel safe with the return to school and that parents have been kept informed as much as possible. I really do hope that you all enjoy the Easter holidays and enjoy some of the new freedoms we have after a long, hard winter.



Our Easter Bonnet competition and lunch was a huge success and I hope you have been able to view the classes displaying their amazing Easter bonnets and enjoying their lunch on our Twitter feed. A massive thank you to all the parents and FOBs and businesses within our local community who helped out with the decorations and donation of prizes and a massive thank you to Yvonne and her team who made lunch so special and gave the children the yummiest looking cupcakes for pudding

We are also very excited about the work that is due to take place on our school grounds tomorrow on Good Friday. One of our dreams has always been to develop the pond area and try to open back up the wasted space in front of the pond that is currently fenced off. With thanks to a dedicated set of parents who have been the driving force behind moving this project forward, we are finally making a start on renovating the area and with the money you have raised over the last couple of years, we hope to open the space back up and eventually turn the pond area into a beautiful space that children can enjoy for many years to come. We can not thank those parents and to all of you that have donated in some form or another enough because without your time, help and support, this would have taken longer to organise and be more expensive. THANK YOU!!

On behalf of all the staff, we would like to wish our families a very happy Easter and we look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday 19th April.

Best wishes

Sally and all the Staff x



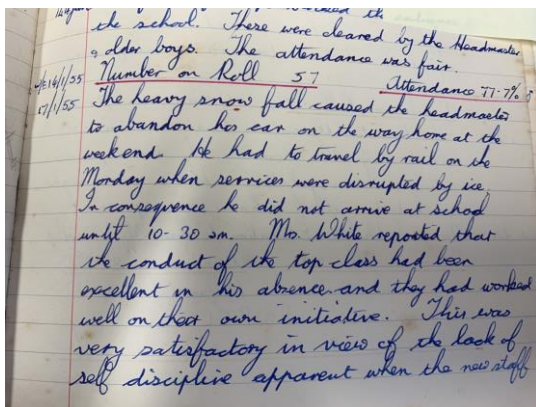
CENSUS week

Last week, we spent some time during our Collective Worship discussing the importance of the Census that takes place every 10 years. We talked about what life might be like for the children in the future leading up to the next Census in 2031 (some of them will be young adults) and what life was like in the past.

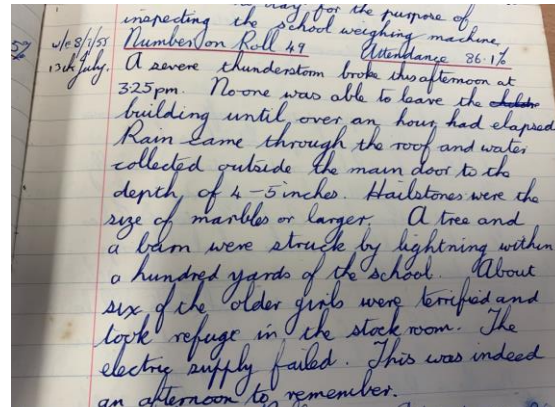
At some point last year, we were clearing out one of the cupboards at the back of Maple class and came across some very old books. Some of which contained the school accounts and some were the logs belonging to the Headteachers of the past. One log went back as far as 1955 and I shared some of the extracts with the children. On one particular day, the headteacher wrote about a bad thunderstorm where the children had to stay in school for an extra hour while the storm passed. While on another day, an extract was written about a terrible snowstorm which made the headteacher abandon their car and had to catch the train the next morning, not arriving until 10:30am. Some of the children were really fascinated to learn about what their school was like in the past and I hope to share more extracts with them over the Summer term.

It seems that the headteacher back in 1955 gave up at some point writing about events and the rest of the book is blank. However, this made me think about future generations to come and although I have never written a Headteachers log, I do feel we should document the year we have just gone through so that in 100 years time, the children of Batheaston can learn about the experiences of the children who lived through the 2020 pandemic. So, my plan is to use the blank pages in this 1955 journal and document some of our experiences during this time so children of the future can once

again learn about children of the past.



the "school." There were cleared by the Headmaster
of older boys. The attendance was fair.
Number on Roll 57 Attendance 71-7%
17/1/55 The heavy snow fall caused the headmaster
to abandon his car on the way home at the
weekend. He had to travel by rail on the
Monday when services were disrupted by ice.
In consequence he did not arrive at school
until 10:30 am. Mrs. White reported that
the conduct of the top class had been
excellent in his absence and they had worked
well on their own initiative. This was
very satisfactory in view of the lack of
self discipline apparent when the new staff



Number on Roll 47 Attendance 86-1%
13th July A severe thunderstorm broke in the afternoon at
3:25 pm. No one was able to leave the school
building until, over an hour, had elapsed.
Rain came through the roof and water
collected outside the main door to the
depth of 4-5 inches. Hailstones were the
size of marbles or larger. A tree and
a barn were struck by lightning within
a hundred yards of the school. About
six of the older girls were terrified and
took refuge in the stock room. The
electric supply failed. This was indeed
an afternoon to remember.

Easter Bonnet Winners

We were so impressed with the wonderful array of Easter Bonnets that arrived in school yesterday. The designs and creativity was fabulous and the children really enjoyed showing their creations off. They also enjoyed a lovely Easter lunch and some classes even went on an egg hunt. All in all it was a great day.

Well done to all our winners and thank you to everyone who supported the event.





Spring Concert



I know many of you tuned in last night to watch our Virtual Spring Concert. A huge thank you to Chloe for organising this and putting it all together and well done to all the children who took part. A special well done goes to Sam and Rupert who were brave enough to submit their own solo videos. Well done boys, I was very impressed. If you haven't already seen it, you will find it posted on your class teams under the general channel. Every class is involved, and it is another way for you as parents to see your young children and cherish as a memory.