



Dear Parents/Carers,

Ofsted visit to Lab_13!

Last week, Lab_13 hosted Brian Cartwright, who is Ofsted's Lead Inspector for Science. We are delighted that he was so impressed by what he saw – take a look at his letter, which is overleaf! However we are always looking for ways to improve Lab_13, and currently interview children every half term to find out their thoughts about what is working well, and what could be done better. It would be absolutely fantastic to also hear your thoughts about the lab. We would really appreciate it if you could give us feedback about Lab_13 by going to this website and responding to the online questionnaire by Fri 22nd May:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Z23S3GR>

DIARY DATES

Some changes since last week's newsletter, please see the NEW dates below. And sadly we are cancelling International Food Evening this year as it is so close to the Summer Fair and arranging for a later date will fall in Ramadan.

Diary dates	
Mon 4 th May	Bank Holiday (school closed)
WKBG 11 th May	Y6 SATS Week
Thu 14 th May	NEW Website Launch Event
Tue 19 th May	10am KS2 Music Show
WKBG 25 th May	Half Term
WKBG 1 st June	Healthy Eating Week
Wed 3 rd June	Y4 to Cheltenham Science Festival
WKBG 8 th June	Science Week
Sat 13 th June	Summer Fair
WKBG 29 th June	Y5/6 School Journey to Cardfields
Wed 15 th July	Reports to parents
Thu 16 th July	Sports day
Fri 17 th July	Last day of term for pupils
Mon 20 th July	INSET Day

Class assemblies

14 th May	Year 5
11 th June	Year 2
18 th June	Year 1
25 th June	Year 3
2 nd July	Year 4
Leavers Show TBC	Year 6

Scooters

Reminders: Please label your child's scooter clearly and children should not be riding on scooters that do not belong to them. Thank you.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Reception Teacher Anneli who is expecting her first baby in the Autumn term.

Attendance Matters

Week beginning	Attendance winner	Punctuality winners
13/04/2015	Year 3	**
20/04/2015	Rec & Y2	Rec & Y2

** Wow. Reception class, Years 2, 3, 5 & 6 were all 100% punctuality winners. What an excellent achievement. Well done!

Leave in term time

Families are strongly urged not to book any holidays during school term time starting before Friday 17th July 2015 or to book holidays that run in to the next academic year which begins on Wednesday 2nd September 2015.

All children are expected to be in school for the whole of the summer term unless there are exceptional circumstances why they cannot attend school. A leave of absence form (from the school office) needs to be completed for all leave in term time.

All children are expected to return to school following the summer break on Wednesday 2nd September. This is a crucial time for children to settle back into being at school, with a new teacher and to begin learning all the new routines and expectations for their class.

End of year Raffle

Children with outstanding attendance will go in to our annual raffle. Those with 98% and above will have a chance to win a tablet computer or iPod shuffle amongst other great prizes!

FoG News- Summer Fair

Preparations for the Summer Fair are well under way and we have collected some amazing raffle prizes already. If anyone has anything they can offer as a prize please contact Louisa (louisa@davefielding.net). You may also be having a bit of a clear out over the bank holiday. If you have any unwanted items (books, DVDs, toys, jewellery, old cameras, bikes etc) that are of **good resalable quality** please put them aside for the brick-a-brack stall. We will start collecting for this after half term.

We will be closed on Monday 4th May for the Bank Holiday. We remind you that school is not used for polling and therefore open as usual on Thursday 7th May.

Yours sincerely, Mark Owen Headteacher

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Mr M Owen
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Dear Mr Owen

LAB 13 activities: note of visit

Thank you for your time, and that of your staff, governor and pupils when I visited your school on 21 April 2015. I observed the early morning meeting of the Lab 13 committee, then an activity where some pupils worked on processing data as part of a 'double blind' survey into the benefits of manuka honey.

I was impressed by the enthusiasm and initiative shown by the pupils as they took part in science activities. The LAB 13 model does allow pupils to take a high degree of ownership of their science learning, with a clear structure that ensures all school pupils have an opportunity to contribute to planning activities over the year. The scientist in residence ensures safe practice and operation of the specialised laboratory, and the approach does give pupils genuine experience of doing systematic scientific enquiry.

The key strength, however, is evident in the high level of technical and academic science experimental work, and the positive impact this is having on pupils' communication and numeracy skills. Pupils were analysing experimental data confidently, discussing articulately how the manuka honey study might be improved further, and also showing a surprisingly deep knowledge of the structure and properties of matter as they explained a 'dissolving sugar' experiment. It is this depth of knowledge, skill and understanding that marks out the impact of this science curriculum approach. And is the way that the LAB 13 operating model develops pupils' skills of communication, collaboration, debate, leadership and resilience that will have long-term benefits for these pupils beyond their learning of science.

Yours sincerely

Brian Cartwright
Her Majesty's Inspector
National Lead, Science