



**Headmistress: Mrs Z. Sylvester**

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26 January 2018

Dear Parents

### **Staffing News**

We are delighted to welcome Miss Catarina Lopes to Broadhurst this week as our new float assistant. Miss Catarina comes to us as a graduate with experience working in both a Nursery and Nursery and Infant School and has taken the place of Miss Nymee who joined Class 1 in January. I am sure that you will get to know Miss Catarina very soon. She has enjoyed the week getting to know the children and our school routines.

### **School Visits**

Yesterday afternoon I ventured out of town to St Albans High School for Girls for a meeting with Heads from a number of IAPS Prep Schools. It was a valuable meeting giving an opportunity to discuss subjects as far reaching as inspections, ideas for assessing children's writing and Growth Mindset. We also listened to a very interesting and thought-provoking talk about mindfulness and well-being for children and adults. The over-arching message seems to be that if we take care of ourselves we will be in a stronger position to take care of others, most importantly the children.

### **Security**

Can I please remind parents that, if leaving school by the front door outside of normal drop off and pick up times, you ensure the door is securely closed behind you.

### **Term Dates**

Please find the attached term dates for the academic year 2018-2019. These can also be found on the school website.

### **Curriculum News**

Class topics at Broadhurst are mostly centred around the subject area 'Understanding the World'. This curriculum area is broken down into three aspects:

- People and Communities
- The World
- Technology

Children learn about the world around them through touching, holding or experimenting with how things work. It is important for children to have opportunities to explore, investigate and test out their ideas.

## People and Communities

As children learn about the world around them they find out about the past through talking to parents, grandparents and friends and they develop an interest in their own story as well as the stories of other families.

## The World

Understanding of the world develops as children take notice of everything around them. This aspect also focuses on learning about cause and effect and is developed through having conversations with adults and other children about the things they observe.

## Technology

Recognising the role of technology at home or in a setting is important because this helps children to identify the different types of technology and what they are useful for.

Activities at home that will help your child learn more about the world around them include:

- Gardening
- Cooking
- Visiting a Museum
- Collecting, sorting, counting and making patterns with natural materials such as leaves, pebbles or shells.
- Exploring water at bath time and talking about sinking and floating or full and empty.
- Reading, looking at and discussing non-fiction books.

## Class 3 News

We have been exploring our topic 'All About Me' and learning about our Great City of London. We painted different landmarks, including Big Ben and The London Eye. As part of exploring London we have been playing in our Post Office social role play area where we have been posting lots of letters to our families!

Thank you for all the lovely family photos. The children have had great fun sharing them with their peers and talking about their home environment.

We would like to say a huge thank you to Sena's Mummy for making delicious pizzas with us. We had great fun choosing different toppings! Our favourite overall was cheese!





I wish you all a lovely weekend.

With best wishes

**Mrs Sylvester**  
Headmistress

**Proprietor:**  
**Mr. B. J. Berkery**