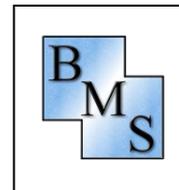




# BROADSTONE MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



FEBRUARY 2017

ISSUE No 8

## PARENTAL FEEDBACK

STATEMENT	AGREE OR STRONGLY AGREE – JAN 2017
My child is happy at this school	98%
My child feels safe at this school	99%
My child makes good progress at this school	97%
My child is well looked after at this school	99%
My child is taught well at this school	99%
My child receives appropriate homework for their age	93%
The school makes sure pupils are well behaved	93%
The school deals effectively with bullying	89%
The school is well led and managed	97%
The school responds well to any concerns I raise	97%
I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress	94%
Would you recommend this school to another parent?	98%

Thank you to all of you who completed feedback forms at the recent Book Look evening. We are really pleased that you are overwhelmingly happy with what we are doing. We promise that we are working very hard to achieve the very best results possible and will use this feedback to continually look at how we can improve.

I wrote to you at the beginning of the week regarding bullying and hope that you will fill in the questionnaire on Show My Homework (now with link!) so that we can get a clearer picture.

Some comments were made regarding the new report format. Some of you were not happy with the level of information. We moved to this new format as we are able to produce these more regularly. If you have any specific comments about what else you want to see on the reports please contact me. *Mrs Wilks*

### PUZZLING ACTIVITIES TO INSPIRE INQUISITIVE MINDS

On Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> January, a selection of Year 6 mathematicians were given the opportunity to represent the school in the Bryanston School Mathematics Challenge. Schools from across Dorset attended to compete in a series of puzzling maths tasks. In pairs, the children competed three rounds against the clock, including problem solving, algebra and worded problems. The children's determination resulted in the girls placing 13<sup>th</sup> and the boys 15<sup>th</sup> out of 28 schools. A great achievement amongst an extremely talented selection of children. Well done to Emelia J (6V), Erin W (6V), Andy S (6Z) and Finley N (6X).

*Miss Gallanders*

## YEAR 7 & 8 MATHSWATCH

The Mathswatch website has had a complete upgrade. The new format website now enables pupils to complete homework tasks electronically - so no more worksheets. That said, I would still recommend that pupils have a paper and pencil to hand for jottings. As answers to questions are submitted, they are automatically marked and the result for the task is recorded on the Maths teacher's register. Each question also allows for a resubmission of an answer until the correct one is submitted. The familiar videos designed to help with the topics and questions are now featured on the page of the homework task.

**New Address:** [www.vle.mathswatch.com](http://www.vle.mathswatch.com)

**New user names:** All new user names are in the form of capital first initial followed by surname beginning with a capital @bms

e.g. Joe Blogg's username is JBloggs@bms

**New Password:** Everyone's password is currently broadstone

It would be advisable to change and personalize your password. A video guide on how to change your password is on the website. Please make your password something that you'll be able to recall. If you get locked out or can't remember your password please see me or email me [n.williams.st@bmsweb.co.uk](mailto:n.williams.st@bmsweb.co.uk) and I'll be able to reset it.

Mathswatch is also used by Corfe Hills and continues to support students with their Maths up to GCSE. Last year on transfer day, our Year 8 pupils were given Mathswatch tasks to do over the summer by the Corfe Hills Maths Department in order to get them ready for their start in Year 9. It's vital that they become familiar with the site, in fact, now with electronic homeworks, it's a necessity. During our Book Look evening many parents commented on how useful they found the site, not only to support their child's understanding of the Maths but also their own.

Good luck on using the site and if you've any queries please ask via the above email.

*Mr Williams Keystage 3 Maths Lead*



## YEAR 7 SCIENCE - ACIDS AND ALKALIS

As part of a unit of work on chemical reactions the pupils have been learning about reactions between acids and alkalis. Today they have been making their own pH indicator solution from red cabbage, and then studying the indicated pH changes when adding sodium hydroxide and hydrochloric acid, with some very colourful results!

*Mr Littleboy*



## YEAR 5—THE ROMANS

To finish our topic on the Romans, Year 5 pupils wrote, produced then performed their own playscripts based either on the story of Boudicca or the story of Julius Caesar. Preparations included the creation of authentic Roman artefacts such as shields, helmets and togas. We then invited parents and carers in to provide a very real audience and show off what we learned!

*Miss Faber*



Thanks very much for all your comments and suggestions regarding the uniform changes proposed. We are looking at these very carefully to ensure we fully take into account your views. We do need to do some further research - particularly around sourcing low cost suppliers - and will be sharing this information after half term. *Mrs Wilks*

## SOUNDSTORM

All Year 7 pupils and those Year 8 pupils who expressed an interest in music have been visited by music teachers from Soundstorm this week. Sessions have involved looking at rhythm, exploring different instruments and recording a group piece. Soundstorm will be back again next term, to help the pupils to work towards a final performance in the summer term. *Miss Faber*



We would like to remind parents that pupils are not allowed into the school building before 8.30am unless they are attending an early morning club. The school is unable to take responsibility for pupils arriving at school before this time as we are unable to provide supervision by school staff.

## SPACE ODYSSEY DOME

Last week, the Year 6 pupils started off their new topic 'Evolution and Inheritance' with an exciting visit from the Space Odyssey dome. Inside the dome, their journey started over 65 million years ago when dinosaurs walked on planet Earth and soon they were in awe as they watched creatures evolving before their eyes. They also learnt about the key scientists involved with the theory of evolution and there was even a little bit of time for some star spotting before they went back to class. Everyone had a great time and the experience generated some fantastic questions for the pupils to discuss in class. *Miss Swann*



**BROADSTONE MIDDLE SCHOOL**



Currently has a vacancy for  
**PARENT GOVERNOR**

If you have an interest in local education or wish to give something back to the school, why not volunteer to join our friendly team.

Information packs can be found on the school website or collected from the school office.  
Closing date: Friday 24 February 2017

Broadstone Middle School, Duneats Road, Broadstone, BH18 8AE  
Tel: 01202 696121  
Email: office@bmsweb.co.uk  
Website: www.bmsweb.co.uk



## CULTURAL STUDIES

Last week, the cultural studies group were treated to a tasting session of Thai food. From spicy prawn crackers to squid, students enjoyed trying new foods and flavours cooked by Tien Thai restaurant right here in Broadstone. They explored colour, texture and flavour whilst getting a taste of the real cuisine.

*Mrs Williamson*

