

Pre-Prep Newsletter Friday 5th April 2019

Dear Parents,

At the end of the summer term 2019 I will be retiring after 21 years at Saint Felix as a teacher and the Head of Pre-Prep.

This has not been an easy decision for me to make, as there was never going to be a 'right' time to leave a place that I have come to think of as my second home.

I have loved teaching and being consumed by the daily energy and vibrancy generated by young children at the very beginning of their academic lives.

I started work as the Reception Teacher in 1998 and have taught over 300 children since then, many from the same family. I have enjoyed working with a close-knit team of professionals to build a department that produces happy, educated children, with a thirst for knowledge and the confidence necessary to pursue their dreams.

I would like to take this opportunity to say 'thank you' to all parents past and present, for the trust you have placed so firmly in myself and the staff of Bronte House over the last 21 years.

However, after so many years in the post, I believe that the time is right for Bronte to move forward under new leadership.

I remain totally committed to the children and to you as their families, until the end of the summer term and will work closely with the incoming Head to ensure a smooth transition for all. Thank you.

Star Assembly News

The Reception star workers this week were Francis and Florence Davani-Potts for two very different reasons. Florence had brought some wonderful examples of her pre-writing skills and now her free writing to show us. She was a little 'star struck' but we could clearly see the progress Florence had made from writing over yellow pen to now forming her words independently.

Francis has a real love of books. Mrs Laughland told us how Francis always has his eye fixed on books from the moment he comes to school each morning. Francis demonstrated his ability to read and interpret the pictures, by reading a story aloud to everyone about a little boy who was clever. We certainly saw evidence that both Florence AND Francis are very clever little people.

In Year 1 Charlie Moore was awarded his first star work certificate for settling into Year 1 so happily and for producing work to a good standard across all subjects. Charlie worked hard to learn new strategies for remembering his number bonds to ten and was able to demonstrate this to everyone. We then saw evidence of Charlie's knowledge of 3D shapes in both the wonderful castle model he had made complete with working drawbridge and in his corresponding maths worksheet.

Well done Charlie, you are a real asset to Year 1.

In Year 2 we had one special Star Award to hand out this week to Benjamin Roffey. Benjamin has amazed us all with his confident delivery of lines in the Easter play, demonstrating a real love of performing, which I had not expected! Benjamin has also produced a great piece of free writing all about the Year 2 trip to Orford Castle which he confidently read out in assembly. Well done for both emerging talents Benjamin.

Year 2 had hoped to show the dragons they have been making in art lessons. However, once we began to move the models they appeared too fragile, so I'm afraid they had to stay upstairs in their lair! These models bring to an end the Year 2 topic 'Knights and Dragons'.

PTA News

On Tuesday the children brought home a letter from the PTA explaining their Easter challenge for the children. They will be giving each child a tube of Smarties, which once empty of its contents, should be used to collect silver coins (20p/10p/5p) in payment for small chores or kindnesses. All tubes should be returned on Wednesday 24th April when they might win a prize!

Forthcoming dates for diaries

Summer Term dates: Tuesday 23rd April - Saturday 5th July (Parents' Day and Prize-giving)

Tuesday 30th April: Pre-Prep Field Trip to Carlton Marshes.

I wish you all a very happy, restful Easter break.

Mrs S Duckett
Head of Pre-Prep