



Friday 8th November 2019

The Grove Valer

Brendon Batson

The school were extremely lucky today, as we had a questions and answer session with the famous ex-footballer Brendon Batson. The children from years 2-6 had an assembly, where they had the opportunity to ask him any questions.



Brendon was a pioneer for black footballers in England. He was the first black player to play for the Arsenal first team. In 1978 he followed Ron Atkinson to West Bromwich Albion, where along with his team-mates Cyrille Regis and Laurie Cunningham, he became a key figure as a members of 'The Three Degrees' (nicknamed after the vocal trio of the same name). Their success played an integral part in the development and improved conditions for black players within the English leagues. Brendon was forced to retire in 1982, following a serious injury and joined the PFA as senior administrator, rising to the position of Deputy Chief Executive. He was awarded an OBE in 2014 in recognition of achievements and services to football.

Brendon shared his experiences of life living in Grenada and being part of the Three Degrees at West Bromwich Albion and the racism he has experienced during his lifetime. He also spoke about racism in football now. The children were inspired by his story and mantra of 'remember, who you are, where you are and who you represent'. Brendon commented on the exemplary behaviour of our pupils. He also met with our school football team and spoke about future tactics!

Guru Nanak 550



As it is 550 years since the Birth of Guru Nanak Dev Ji's (Who was the founder of Sikhism and the first of the ten gurus) – we will be celebrating at school by running a competition for both Ks1 and Ks2 .

This will entail the child to produce the following:

- An A4 or A3 poster about Guru Nanak Dev Ji
- A Poem or hymn
- A story about his life
- His main message/golden rules.
- Or any other ideas are welcome too.

The best two entries from each class will receive a prize in school and have their work displayed in school.

The deadline will be 11th of November 2019.

Time Zone

On Monday, Year 4 were visited by TimeZone for a Viking day. They started off by getting dressed up in tunics and learnt all about how Viking families lived and worked. They were then shown different Viking artefacts and learnt all about how they were made, only using things they had access to like bones and wood. They got to have a go at working with replica artefacts such as grinding their own flour using large stones and drilling holes using 'pump drills.' They had a go at creating their own thread as well as weaving using traditional looms before heading out with spears and shields to practise our own battle cry and march. All in all, we had a fantastic day and it was the perfect start to our Viking topic.

Book Fair

Thank you to everyone who supported our book fair during the last week of term. We sold £1189 worth of books, which entitles us to £600 of books for the school.

Parents Evening

Thank you to all the parents who attended parents evening. After a very successful launch of the new online booking system we had 378 parents make appointments, 89 % of our parents attended. Please contact your child's class teacher to make an appointment if you were unable to meet them last week.

Visiting Artist

We have been very lucky this week that the artist Darrell Wakelam, has been working with some pupils to create some fantastic art work for the school library.

The theme was famous children's authors and, I am sure you will agree, the final pieces are amazing. These will be on display in the library very soon.



Children in need

On **Friday 15th November** it is BBC Children In Need. At Grove Vale School we take pride in supporting this worthwhile fundraising event. On this day the children can come into school in non-school uniform and we will be asking the children to wear as many spotty items as possible. We will also be asking for a donation of £1 from the children who choose to dress up. In addition to this we will be selling Children in Need wrist bands @ £1 We hope you will all support this day and if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the school.



Year 2 SATs workshop for parents

On Thursday 14th November @ 9.30am we would like to invite our year 2 parents to a workshop regarding the end of key stage 1 statutory tests in May.

Poppies

On Monday 11th November we will hold a minutes silence throughout the whole school at 11am .



Odd Sock Day

Next week is anti-bullying week. To raise awareness on **Tuesday 12th November** the children can come in odd socks to celebrate how they are unique. Throughout the day children will access lessons on anti-bullying through PSHE lesson.



Testing week

Next week the children in years 2-6 will be completing tests in maths, English and SPAG. These are used to help teachers with their end of term assessments of the pupils. This is the second year we have completed these termly assessments.

Year 1 phonics parent workshop

On Wednesday 20th November @ 9.15am we would like to invite our year 1 parents to a workshop regarding phonics and reading.

Additional School Closure

We have been informed that our school will be used as a polling station in the General Election on **Thursday 12th December**. Please note that school will be closed to all pupils on this date.

Christmas Events

Friday 29th November: pupils wear non-uniform. Donation Day, children to bring in donations for the tombola's stalls at the fayre. (bottles of alcohol, non-alcoholic drinks, chocolate or send £1)



Thursday 5th December—Pupils wear a Christmas jumper. Also please send in cake donations, for the cake stall at the fayre.

Thursday 5th December Christmas Fayre straight after school

Wednesday 11th December—Christmas Dinner Day

Monday 16th December—Polar express theme day, children to wear pyjamas to school



Friday 20th December—Christmas Party Day—children can wear party clothes for in class parties.

Year 5—parent showcase

On **Friday 22nd November** @ 2.30pm we would like to invite our year 5 parents to a workshop to have a look at all the work the pupils have been completing as part of their topic 'Operation lift off'.

Christmas Dinner

On Wednesday 11th December it will be our Christmas Dinner day. If your child would like a dinner on this day please pay via Parent pay.

Vegetarian option available.

The cost is £2.40



Monday 11th November @11am	Minutes silence
Tuesday 12th November	Odd sock day—Anti bullying
Monday 11th-Friday 15th November	Testing week
Thursday 14th November @ 9.30am	Year 2 SATs workshop for parents
Friday 15th November	Children in need
Wednesday 20th November @9.15am	Year 1 Phonic Parent workshop
Friday 22nd November @ 2.30pm	Operation Lift off—year 5 parent workshop
Tuesday 26th November @ 9.30am	Year 6 sewing parent workshop
Tuesday 26th November @ 1.30pm	Year 6 sewing parent workshop
Wednesday 27th November	Year 5 Black Hole Planetarium workshop for pupils
Thursday 28th November @2pm	Year 4 Parent workshop—Bayeaux Tapestry
Friday 29th November	Donation day - non uniform
Tuesday 3rd December @ 9.15am	Years 1 and 2 Carols and Christingle assembly to parents
Thursday 5th December	Xmas jumper day—bring a donation of cake
Thursday 5th December 3.45-6pm	Christmas Fayre
Tuesday 10th December @ 9.15am	Little Valers and reception Nativity to parents
Wednesday 11th December @ 2.30pm	Little Valers and reception Nativity to parents
Wednesday 11th December	Christmas Dinner day
Thursday 12th December	SCHOOL CLOSED—POLLING DAY
Monday 16th December	Polar Express theme day—non uniform day—pupils wear pyjamas.
Tuesday 17th December @ 2.30om	Years 3 and 4 carol service—parents welcome
Wednesday 18th December @ 9.15am	Years 5 and 6 carol service—parents welcome
Wednesday 18th December @ 2.30pm	Year 3 Christmas Cornet concert to parents
Friday 20th December	Party day—non-uniform (party clothes)
Friday 20th December	Break up for Christmas Holidays
Monday 6th January	Spring term start—pupils back to school

