



Dear Parents,

End of term:

Today is the last day of the spring term. Children will return to school on Wednesday 23rd April (Tuesday 22nd is an INSET day).

Y5 Ballet Rambert performance:

Throughout this half term, Y5 have been working with Ballet Rambert on a dance project that will culminated in a performance at Trinity Laban last night. The children performed a really entertaining dance about playground relationships set to the sounds of Little Red Rooster by The Rolling Stones. Several other schools performed as well and it was a real treat to see such creativity on display. Next half term it is the turn of Y3 who will be representing the school at a World Cup dance competition at the Scoop. Every school participating will represent a country from the world cup. Our children have chosen Brazil and Chantal, our dance teacher, is teaching them the art of capoiara.

Violin performance:

Our violinists performed a couple of lively tunes in assembly today and they made a sterling effort. After half term they will be doing a project with Year 4 and the Southbank Sinfonia called the "school's symphony project". Both Y4 and the violinists will have the opportunity to perform with this orchestra at the Southbank Centre and St John's church Waterloo in June. In addition before the end of the year, there will be a more formal performance opportunity for the violinists, the choir, the after school drama club and the after school dance club.

Ducks in EYFS:

As part of their CLJ unit on Growth, the children in have been watching the progress of some duck eggs given to us by the Vauxhall City Farm. Last weekend they started to hatch and we ended up with a total of 4 lovely ducks - Roger, Penfold, Daisy and Oscar. It has been fascinating for the children to see them hatch and grow so quickly. It has also been a great opportunity for them to learn about handling animals healthily and safely and about the life cycles of different animals. Sadly they were collected by the farm today but as they grow into adults they will be in the right environment. However, we are looking forward to going to visit them after Easter.

Pirates and endangered animals:

Eagle eyed parents might have spotted an influx of pirates and endangered animals in school on Wednesday and yesterday. This is because both Y3 and Y4 had dress up days that celebrated the end of their two spring term CLJ units. In addition, Year 4 went on a trip to London Zoo on Wednesday and had an amazing time seeing all the animals and having a workshop about endangered animals.

As we come to the end of another busy term at Friars I feel it is important to reflect on how we are doing as a school. It is very important to recognise and be grateful for the incredible hard work that all the staff put in on behalf of the children. They are learning as well as they ever have and in many classes even better than before. We very carefully plan whole class lessons, small group sessions and 1-1 support so that all children regardless of their ability or background can do as well as possible. Governors are also playing an increasingly more effective role in holding us all to account over the progress that the children are making. But of course, although vitally important school is not and should not just be about developing reading, writing and maths skills. Looking back on the content of this newsletter, I hope that you can see that we are making sure that Friars is a vibrant, varied and fun place to learn.

We wish you all a very happy and peaceful Easter break.