

Headteacher's thoughts

Word: Convivial

Definition: (of an atmosphere or event) friendly, lively, and enjoyable.

Amongst the usual menu of safeguarding, teacher training and printing at our INSET day, I asked the staff at the Prep to consider what the word convivial meant. My experience of school life is that each day is a profound joy. I look forward each weekend to the week ahead and interacting with pupils, parents and staff.

I hope that the word convivial might characterise how all of us in the school community feel about our home away from home. Children who have a friendly, lively and enjoyable experience of school are far better placed to take advantage of the range of academic and enrichment opportunities available to them.

As a school community we set out down the road toward creating a warm and convivial school last year. I hope this year we can all continue to walk this road so we can see our children flourish. My commitment to parents is that we will continue to make you feel as welcome here as you do at home. As I have said before, our children are only this young once (I know, having spent much of my career working with teenagers)! I take such joy seeing them smile, laugh and learn. I want you to have as many of those moments with them at school as we can conceivably deliver.

To our new families, I hope you have been made to feel welcome and please do let us know if you need anything. Starting a new school is daunting for both parents and pupils. The choice to join or change school can be agonising. If there are any bumps along the road, please let us support you.



To existing members of the Battle Abbey family, I hope that you feel the same warmth and openness that characterised last year. As we expand the opportunities available to the children, I am dedicated to preserving the soul of the school. It is a profound privilege to be tasked with defending the special Battle Abbey magic, so if you feel any sense the magic is waning, please let me know.

Talking of magic, some great learning has already taken place this week and I am delighted to offer you a peak behind the red door for the first time this academic year.

Behind the Red Door





KATE O'HEARN

This morning we had a visit from Kate O'Hearn, the author of the story 'The Caterpillar and the Blackbird'. She spoke to our youngest pupils all about her story, which has been adapted for stage.

KATE O'HEARN

Lower key stage two enjoyed a writing workshop. All of the children are very excited to be going to see her show at the De La Warr next Friday.





MISS FLANIGAN

What a great start to main school drama Year 3 have had! Working well in groups and creating exciting and engaging plays for us.

MISS FLANIGAN

Year 4 decided the best way to start our afternoon was to sit in the classroom with our feet in cool water! We were incredibly productive still with reading, geography, map skills and even a quiz about the globe!





FOREST SCHOOL

Year 3 had a great first session of forest school. Everyone had a go at creating a spark with before some managed to light their cotton wool on fire! This caused great excitement and was lovely to see.

FOREST SCHOOL

We then collected some fire wood and cooked some apples on our own fire!

