



# Aston and Cote Church of England Primary School

*"Learning together through courage, love and respect"*

Tel: 01993 850435 Fax: 01993 851915

Email: [office.3120@aston-and-cote.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.3120@aston-and-cote.oxon.sch.uk)

Website: [www.aston-and-cote.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.aston-and-cote.oxon.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs Paula Phillips

**Term 2 Issue 1**

**29<sup>th</sup> January 2016**

*'I want the world to be better because I was here' -Will Smith*

Dear Parents and carers,

Welcome back to the spring term! We hope that you had a wonderful Christmas break and we would like to say a huge thank you for your generosity during this festive period; we were very moved to receive so many lovely cards and gifts - thank you.

A very warm welcome to Mrs Louise Flaherty who joins us full time in Holywell class and to Amy, Violet and Victoria and their family who join us in Holywell and Westerleigh Class. Finally, welcome to our student teachers Miss Tasmin Lamb, Miss Charlotte Lander, Miss Clare Sandley and Miss Jenny Lynes who will be working alongside the teachers in Oatlands and Reedy class for the next 7 weeks.

We want children to be proud of being part of Aston and Cote Primary School and feel a genuine sense of belonging. We would appreciate your continuing commitment to ensuring children take pride in their appearance and come to school in full uniform please. Sweatshirts and polo shirts with our school logo and other items of uniform are available from our suppliers and uniform is sold on a non-profit basis to encourage the wearing of the school's personalised clothing.

As a school we work hard to foster a climate where regular attendance and punctuality are valued by the whole school community - teachers, parents and pupils. It is important that as adults we help children understand the importance of being on time, and help them arrive at school for a prompt start to the day. The school doors are opened at 8.50 am each morning to allow me for children to get ready for an 8.55 am start to their learning. We would ask for your continued support please in ensuring children arrive at school on time.

We are very excited to share two wonderful pieces of news with you! Firstly, after becoming a Badge school, we are now officially a Read, Write Inc model school as well. This means that we are a lead school in Oxfordshire for our teaching of phonics and reading. Lots of other schools have been in and will continue to come in to see how we teach. We are delighted! Thank you to the whole staff team who work so hard to ensure that the lessons are fun and that all children make progress.



Secondly, we have been successful in obtaining a grant from the MOD to develop our Year 1 outdoor area - we will keep you updated on further developments.

Warmest regards  
Paula Phillips

**COURAGE**

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**RESPECT**

**HONESTY**

**FORGIVENESS**

Our value this month is **TOLERANCE**. In our Collective worship we have listened to stories, shared reflections and prayers, making links to the bible and what it tells us. Your children are so caring and thoughtful: we have been really touched by some of their contributions.



In February our Value will be **CONSIDERATION**. We will examine what it means to be considerate to others and why this makes a difference.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Please be aware that occasionally dates have to be changed, so check newsletters regularly for any amendments.

4 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Kingsway Polar Expedition Morning
8 <sup>th</sup> Feb	RE Day
12 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Author visit & workshops
23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	Netball Match
25 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Windmill trip to Natural History Museum - Oxford
1 <sup>st</sup> Mar	Brass & Ukulele concert
1 <sup>st</sup> Mar	Yenworthy Information Eve - Year 5 - 3.15pm
7 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Book Week
8 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Book Fair
9 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Tag Rugby Match
21 <sup>st</sup> Mar	RE Day
21 <sup>st</sup> Mar	Parents Evening
22 <sup>nd</sup> Mar	Big Bang Science Event
24 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Easter Service for families

### IMPORTANT DATES

May	KS1 Testing Period
9 <sup>th</sup> - 16 <sup>th</sup> May	KS1 SATS week
9 <sup>th</sup> - 16 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6 SATS Week
6 <sup>th</sup> - 17 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6 Science sampling

### Staff Changes:

Mrs Thomason will be moving on to pastures new after half term. She has been at the school for many years and we shall miss her but we wish her all the best in her new role. Her role will be covered internally.

### Library Plea:

We need more books for the school library! If you have spare good quality children's books to donate, we'd love to give them a good home. Donations can be left with the school office. Thank you!

### Water

We are noticing lots of the children are bringing in juice to drink during the day instead of water. The news has recently highlighted the negative effects of drinking juice as a regular drink in between meals. This sweetness (even if it is sugar free) causes insulin spikes in the body; it is not as thirst quenching as water and it is habit forming.

As a healthy school, it is our policy to drink water throughout the day. We have talked with the children about why and we will now be checking the children bottles and asking them to empty them and fill them with water if they have juice in. Thank you for your support with this.

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## Illness

It's that time of year and we have had a lot of illness - cold and flu type symptoms throughout the school the past few weeks! We have talked with all the children about the importance of washing hands, hands over mouths when coughing, using and throwing away tissues etc but perhaps you might like to have a chat with them about this at home as well. Thank you :)

## See the website news update for:

- Ks2 Trip to Oxford
- Windmill Trip to the Story Museum
- Clubs update
- Active Playtimes

## FACs News

Welcome to the New Year from the FACS team. There will be various events and fundraising activities planned as the year progresses and we hope that you will support these and help us raise valuable funds which go towards resources and activities for our children.

We will be commencing with a Children's Valentines Disco



Valentine Disco Thursday 11th February  
Tickets will be available to purchase shortly from the school office



Foundation and KS1 - 5 to 5.45pm

KS2 - 6 to 6.45pm (please note the finish time)

£2.50 per ticket which includes entry to the disco, a packet of crisps and unlimited drink.

Also available to purchase on the night will be:

Haribo sweets and love hearts 20p each

Glow sticks 20p each or 6 for £1

## Easy Fundraising

Don't forget that this can be used for your everyone online grocery shopping for example and also if your thinking of getting that summer holiday booked please go via the Easy Fundraising site to raise some money for our school at no additional cost to you.

It really is easy and you just need to register:

[easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/astonandcotepprimary](http://easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/astonandcotepprimary)

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## **Vicky's After School Club**

We have had a very busy start to the new term at club. Julie Souch has joined the team and we have been busy buying lots of wonderful new toys and equipment for the children. The children have had lots of fun doing arts and crafts, playing games and we have even managed to get outside on Monkey Mayhem!

We were delighted to have a visit recently from the food hygiene department at West Oxfordshire District Council who have awarded us a 5 Star rating!

We do currently have some spaces at the club and we are now able to offer hourly sessions in between the hours of 3.10-6.10pm - you are welcome to come and see us in action!

We are also running a flexible holiday club at half term - it will be open from 9-5pm Monday-Thursday-full and half days are available and we will be doing a variety of exciting games and activities.

For further information please contact Vicky on 0788 7711454; see the flier on the website or catch me at school.

As always I am happy to meet with parents by appointment and we always welcome feedback either verbally, through emails or through our "Feedback and Suggestions" box in the front entrance.

Thank you.

**Paula Phillips,  
Headteacher**

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