



Aston and Cote Church of England Primary School

"Learning together through courage, love and respect"

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Summer Term Issue 2

29th April 2016

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to the final summer term. The children have begun their work in earnest and it has been so lovely for them to be making use of all of the school grounds now that the weather has (hopefully) turned! We have lots of exciting learning opportunities planned: please do see the Learning Webs for each class on the school website for further details.

A very warm welcome to Miss Amelia Reese-Williams, a final year student at Oxford Brookes, who has started an 8 week placement working alongside Mrs Taylor in Westerleigh Class. We wish Amelia every success at Aston and Cote.

Our Enrichment Clubs began this week and it is wonderful to see so many pupils taking advantage of the opportunities that these clubs offer. We still have a few spaces in some of the clubs so do contact the office if you are interested.

The week commencing 9 May will see the start of the Key Stage Two SATs and children in Year 6 will be coming home Tuesday with a timetable giving details of the day and time of each test. We are in the process of organising breakfast and a running and fitness session for the mornings of SAT's week (Monday to Thursday) and would appreciate any offers of help from parents. If you are able to help preparing and serving breakfast to the children please speak to Lesley in the school office.

You may have seen in the media last week that the KS1 spelling test for this year was available on the DfE website in error. The government have officially apologised for this and schools have been told a full investigation into the cause of the error is underway. We are assured that no other test papers for KS1 or KS2 have been affected. The Minister of State for Schools, Nick Gibb, has announced that schools will not be required to administer the KS1 English Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling tests for this year only. All other KS1 and KS2 tests will continue as planned.

Thank you to the FACs team who provided delicious chocolate eggs for our school Easter Egg hunt and for organizing the Easter Jolly Pots which were a huge hit again.

Do remember that next Monday, 2 May is a Bank Holiday so the school will be closed.

Warmest regards
Paula Phillips

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Our value this month has been **Kindness**.

We looked at a real boomerang and compared how it is similar to kindness: if given away, we often get some in return. The bible tells us to be kind by serving others and we discussed ways that we can do this in and out of school.

Next month our value will be **Resilience**.

Miss Cashin's Big News!

Finally, for those of you who did not already know, Miss Cashin gets married at the weekend. When she comes back to school, she will be the new Mrs Gardner! We wish her every happiness!



Library News

We are delighted to have lots of new books in the school library for the children to choose from and we are just awaiting the arrival of special covers to protect them before they go on loan. We have been able to purchase these books because of the Book fair which raised enough money for us to have a significant discounted rate - thank you so much to all of our families for your support!



DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

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

- 2nd May Bank Holiday
- 3rd May Year 6 Bike check
- 4th May Group 1 Cycle training
- 5th May KS2 Greek workshop

9th - 16th May KS1 SATS week

9th - 16th May Year 6 SATS

- 11th May Yr 2 concert - Wood Green School - 6.00
- 12th May Yr 3/4 Tennis tbc
- 12th May Group 1 cycle training
- 16th May Yr 5/6 swimming Gala - Windrush tbc
- 17th May Quad Athletics yr 5/6 3.30-5.30 tbc
- 18th May Group 1 cycle training
- 24th May Group 1 cycle training
- 24th May Yr 5/6 tennis @Cokethorpe tbc
- 24th May Quad Athletics at WGS 3.30-5.50 tbc
- 25th May Group 1 - Cycling Proficiency Test
- 27th May Last day of term
- 30th May - 3rd June HALF TERM

6th June - INSET DAY

7th - 17th June Year 6 Science sampling test period

13th -17th June Year 1 Phonics screening

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FACS Committee Update

As you may be aware in recent months there have been various changes to the FACS Committee. Emma Hodgetts who has most recently been Treasurer and Chair prior to this has now stepped down. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Emma for all that she has done for FACS over a number of years as without her support and dedication there wouldn't be a committee at all.

To confirm the current FACS team is as follows:

Emma Rivers - Chair

Rebecca Green - Treasurer

Christina Slater - Secretary

Matt Smith, Jo Kerrison, Angela Blake, Emma Hodgetts, Katie Wolton, Matt Goss, Jo Johnson

We are only a very small team which means that planning and organising events is difficult and to be able to continue with the fundraising we do we are in real need of more help and supporters. If you can be of any assistance to all and would like to help please let one of the team know as we really do need you.

Fundraising Update

Thank you to those who supported the Easter Jolly Pots with not only filling the pots but then bringing your children along to buy them at the end of term. We raised £150 from the sale of these.

More details will follow on fundraising and what we raise as events take place.

Future Events

Oxford Fun Run

Emma Rivers and Matt Smith are going to be running the Oxford Fun Run for us. This is organised by Oxford Rotary Club and all sponsorship we raise goes directly to the school.

It's taking place on Saturday 7th May @11am at University Parks, Oxford.

They are hoping to run wearing Victorian themed costumes in support of the schools 160th anniversary this year. If anyone can help with costumes please let us know?

We will also be collecting sponsorship for them at school next week and would really appreciate it if you can give them your support.

Sports Day - 29th June

As in previous years FACS will be selling refreshments at the event and providing ice lollies for all the children involved.

Summer Gala Evening - 14th July

We hope to be able to run a BBQ, Bar and various stalls and games for the children and to build on the success of previous years.

We can't do this alone however and need volunteers to help with this event to make it a big success for parents and children alike. Please do let the FACS team know if you would be able to help us with setting up, running a stall on the day or tidying up at the end.

FACS Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 19th May @7.30pm in the Red Lion, Aston.

Please do come along and join us while we discuss future events and new ideas for fundraising.

All welcome and it would be great to boost the support for FACS to enable us to raise more funds and provide more opportunities for the children.

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See the website news updates for:

See the website and our twitter feed for more news updates such as Jonathan's Jungle Roadshow and the exciting arrival of tadpoles!

Scooter Fun:

We are trialling the use of scooters on the top playground at lunchtime play. Children must have a helmet to take part and are supervised by a member of staff. Ks2 pupils are invited on Tuesdays and all younger pupils can take part on Wednesdays (any KS2 pupils involved in book group on Tuesdays are welcome to join Wednesday instead).

Tennis

At the Excel Tennis Academy we like to keep the local schools and your pupils updated on all opportunities for them.

We have some new coaching sessions starting on Monday 16th May designed for beginners and aimed at children from 4 - 16 years old.

The details of these new sessions are:

Year Born Day Time Venue Cost for 8 weeks

2011 - 2008 Tuesdays 4:00 - 5:00pm Lower Windrush Tennis Club (Standlake) £56

Saturdays 9:30 - 10:30am Lower Windrush Tennis Club (Standlake) £56

2007 - 2005 Tuesdays 5:00 - 6:00pm Lower Windrush Tennis Club (Standlake) £56

Tuesdays 6:00 - 7:00pm Lower Windrush Tennis Club (Standlake) £56

Saturdays 10:30 - 11:30am Lower Windrush Tennis Club (Standlake) £56

2004 - 2000 Tuesdays 7:00 - 8:00pm Lower Windrush Tennis Club (Standlake) £56

We also have a huge number of sessions currently running that pupils are welcome to join at Witney Tennis Club and Lower Windrush Tennis Club (Standlake). We have sessions for children and adults of all ages and abilities.

Your first session with the Excel Tennis Academy is always FREE so please come along and try out a session. For more information on the Academy and to see the coaching sessions that we run please visit our website: www.exceltennisacademy.co.uk

EVEN MORE EXCITING

Sunday 15th May at Witney Lawn Tennis Club we are running a Great British Tennis Weekend. This event is FREE and for the whole family and is aimed at juniors and adults. Come along and meet the coaches and get involved with FREE coaching, cardio tennis and games. With some mega deals to be had on the day including discounts on coaching and club membership, it's the perfect way to kick start your summer of tennis. For more information, to see all the exciting opportunities running on the day and to sign up please use this link:

<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/OpenDays/WitneyLawnTennisClub/7fdb6e66-01d8-4039-beb6-f626558c21a9>

For more information on any of the above please contact the Academy's Head Coach - Edward Large: edward.large@exceltennis.co.uk 07734 059769

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Music Lessons

We currently have vacancies for piano, recorder and ocarina lesson. If anyone is interested please contact Miss Eley on: 07789 892760 or by email : lindenatthejoanna18@talktalk.net

Oxford Welsh Male Voice Choir with Hannah Fraser-Mackenzie Soprano soloist
present a varied programme of music
on Saturday 21st May 2016 at 7.30 pm
St. Mary's Church, Bampton in aid of the St. Mary's pipe organ appeal
Tickets (unreserved) price £10 are available from Bampton Coffee Shop and also online
via www.bamptonchurch.org.uk
For ticket enquiries phone 07901 658737

Like Gardening? Looking for work within School Hours? Flexible/Casual Hours?

I have a small team of gardeners that work within large gardens in the Buckland and Bampton area. I am looking for more gardeners to do temporary work over the spring and summer months.
The minimum you need is a keen interest and basic knowledge of gardening, and to be hardworking, reliable, quick to learn and have good common sense. Training is given if necessary.

If you are interested call me on 07554 606569 or email rivermeadgardening@outlook.com. Just call for a chat if you not sure whether it will suit you, I am very flexible.

Salima McKnight
Rivermead Gardening

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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