



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

Website: www.aston-and-cote.oxon.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Paula Phillips

Summer Term Issue 3

27th May 2016

Dear Parents and Carers, Governors and Friends

The end of another busy half-term approaches. This week the classes took part in a special Prayer Event. The children enjoyed lots of thought-provoking and reflective activities such as: thinking upwards about God, outwards towards the world around us and inwards towards the self. We had the opportunity to think of prayer in many different ways such as: a way of saying sorry; saying please and asking for things; thinking about our own self-image; being still in a busy day; and letting go of any worries that we might have. Thank you to all of our volunteers who came to help.

Work on the Storage Extension for the hall tables has begun and the remodeling of Kingsway garden will begin immediately after half term. We will invite you in to celebrate with us and see the garden when it is completed!

The KS2 SATs went very well. We received very positive feedback from Year 6 children and parents. They definitely felt they were well prepared for the tests, and that the after-school Booster Classes had raised their confidence and level of achievement.

An early morning exercise session and breakfast each day were also appreciated with the children telling us that they felt excited when it came to the tests as they were really prepared and wanted to 'show-off' what they could do. It was lovely to see the children so relaxed and happy at the exercise sessions and for the SATs breakfast - it was such a positive and supportive atmosphere.

One child said 'It was really good to be able to challenge ourselves and to prove how much we have learnt and to show how much we knew' The children couldn't have worked harder - we are all very proud of them. A very big thank you to Fiona Taylor, and also to Ann-Marie Pilling, Debbie Weston, Sian Jones and Diana Purdy for their hard work in helping the children get ready for these new tests. A further thank you to Mrs Hickman for organising the breakfasts and to Mrs Aguado who helped with the exercise sessions - including leading a very energetic Zumba session!

The Key Stage 2 papers have been sent off for external marking. We expect the results back during the second week of July and hope to include these (and the KS1 Teacher Assessments) in Annual Reports, which can be discussed at our annual Summer Gala Evening on Thursday 14 July. Other teachers will also be happy to share the results of year-end assessments on this Evening.

Our KS1 pupils have also completed their SAT's tests. One parent commented 'My daughter skipped into school each day eager to complete her 'Challenge Booklets'. Thank you to Mrs Gardner, Mrs Hollifield and Mrs Lord for creating such a positive and supportive environment for the children and for preparing them so well for these challenges.

Please remember that next week - Monday 30 May to Friday 3 June is the mid-term holiday. Monday 6 June is a staff-training day so children will return on Tuesday 7 June. I hope that we see the return of the sunshine and that you all enjoy a relaxing break.

Warmest regards, Paula Phillips

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Reading Awards



We are so delighted that so many children have been earning their Platinum reading awards recently for their reading at home. Our analysis shows that these children are making excellent progress as a result

of their regular commitment and hard work and we would like to recognize and celebrate this further. We will be holding a special celebration and reward assembly at the end of term for children with over 300 reading credits and parents will be invited. Further details to follow.

Super Swimmer

Elena came 1st in her Witney District Swimming club Breaststroke Championship finals earlier this month in a time of 30.55 beating 3 other girls! Well done Elena!!!



Sainsbury's Vouchers

Thank you to everyone who has collected Sainsbury's vouchers for us this year - we would be pleased to receive any further vouchers you might still have as these have enabled us to get new equipment for the children in the past.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

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

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

- 8th June Group 2 - Cycling Training 1st session
- 10th June Queens 90th Birthday Celebration - Picnic & Non-School Uniform Day - in return for pre-loved toy donation
- 10th June Yr 5/6 girls - Open Kwik Cricket
Yr 6 Boys Kwik Cricket - 9.30 - 2.30 - Shipton
- 10th June Oatlands Swimming
- 13th June Yr 5 Young Leaders - Ducklington 9.00-11.45
- 13th June Group 2 Cycling training 2nd session
- 14th June Yr 6 Aspirations Morning
- 14th June Burford Transition Day- for new year 7s.
- 17th June Year 4/5 Boys - Open Kwik Cricket
- 17th June Oatlands swim
- 22nd June New Parents Evening - Windmill 5.00pm
- 23rd June Year 3/4 Tri Golf - Witney Lakes 3.30 -5.30
- 24th June Year 2 Ultra Olympics at Henry Box
- 24th June Camo Day 10.00 - 11.00 at Gateway School
- 25th June Aston Village Fete
- 27th June Hygiene & puberty talk
- 29th June Sports Morning - Races - Parents welcome
- 4th July Hill End trip Kingsway
- 4/5th July Hill End Residential -Oatlands Class
- 5th July Group 2 - Cycling Training 3rd Session
- 6th July KS2 Play - Village Hall 1.30 and 6.00pm performances
- 7th July Burford Transition Day
- 7th July Group 2 Cycling training - 4th Session
- 11th July Year 7 Induction Day - Henry Box
- 13th July Windmill trip to Cotswold Wildlife Park
- 14th July Summer Gala & Open Evening - to celebrate Aston & Cote's 160th year - more information to follow
- 15th July Group 2 Cycling Test 1.30pm
- 18th July St James Feast Day
- 20th July Leavers Assembly 9.10am
- 20th July LAST DAY OF TERM
SUMMER HOLIDAYS
- 1st Sept INSET DAY
- 2nd Sept INSET DAY
- 5th Sept 1st Day of Autumn Term

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Clean for the Queen

To celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday, we took part in a nationwide campaign to tidy up Britain in time for her official birthday celebrations in June.

Armed with litter pickers, gloves, high visibility jackets and large black bags, each class collected the litter in different parts of the village. The most common item of litter we found were cigarette butts and the most unusual was probably a large red and white traffic cone which had been thrown in a hedge in Back Lane.

"We were surprised by how much litter there was especially near the new houses. We were also surprised how few bins there were to put rubbish in. However, people could put it in their pocket and wait until they do see a bin!" -Lily, Daisy, Tobi, Louis, Aerin & Hannah

"There was loads of rubbish that people dropped. It made me sad." -Samir

Sports Day

We have listened to parent feedback and will be changing the structure slightly this year as a result. Thank you. For our new families here is some basic information, which you will hopefully find helpful:

- * The children will need to wear their House T-shirts for Sports Day
- * They will take part in various races to earn points for their House Team
- * FACs will provide ice-lollies for the children and they will be serving refreshments for parents
- * Chairs will be set out along one side for parents but you are welcome to bring your own and/or rugs if you prefer
- * Families are all welcome to come and watch
- * You are welcome to take photos of your child for personal use

FACs NEWS

Fundraising Updates



Oxford Fun Run - A massive thank you to Emma Rivers and Matt Smith for taking part in the Oxford Fun Run for us, they completed the run in 31 minutes and also won a trophy for their fancy dress!

All the sponsorship they raised is received for the school so another huge thank you to all those who sponsored them and bought cakes. We do still have some final sponsorship money to come in so could you please arrange to take it to the school office and Mrs Brooks will pass it onto FACS.



From the Fun Run and the cake sales we have raised just under £300 which is fantastic news and a boost to funds to provide resources and opportunities for the children.

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FACs Cont....

Ice Cream Van for Year 6 pupils - following with tradition FACs have paid this month for the very popular ice cream van to come and visit the year 6 pupils at the end of their SATS. As we all appreciate it can be a very hard and stressful time for them especially this year with the new tests in place and this is a wonderful treat for them which is looked forward to after the work which has been put in.



FACS Parent Questionnaire

A questionnaire will be sent to all parents after the half term holiday as we are interested in parents views on the events we run and fundraising ideas.

All questionnaires returned by Friday 1st July will be entered into a prize draw to win a bottle of wine.

Future Events

9th June - Queens 90th Birthday and Celebration of Summer - Red, White and Blue Day

To join in with celebrating the Queens 90th birthday, Euro 2016 and the Rio 2016 Olympics we would like to invite you to celebrate the summer with us and for pupils to come to school dressed in red, white and blue.

In return for wearing non uniform we would ask that pupils bring into school a pre-loved toy which is in a condition another child can still have enjoyment from, these will then form a toy tombola at the Summer Gala.

10th June - Celebration of Summer Cake sale

Continuing with the theme we will be holding a cake sale after school

Please let Christina Slater know if you would be able to assist by making some cakes for the sale.

29th June - Sports Day

FACS will be providing refreshments for donations

If anyone could assist with making some flapjack/breakfast bars for the event please let Christina Slater know.

Also if there are any parents who could volunteer to help set up the gazebos in the morning please let Mrs Brooks in the office know.

1st July - Bags 2 School

We have a textile collection arranged for 1st July and all pupils will be coming home after half term with a bag for your unwanted clothes, shoes, hats, bags, belts, scarves etc. Please save up your unwanted items in the coming weeks and bring to school at drop off on 1st July. This is a great way for textiles to be recycled and avoid landfill whilst raising funds for our school at the same time.

14th July - Summer Gala

This is going to be a great event with a Victorian theme to celebrate 160 year of the school. It will including a BBQ, Bar, Bouncy Castle and various stalls for both the parents and children.

The children will also be taking part in maypole dancing and the school clubs will be showcasing their achievements so it's a date not to be missed.

There will be a Victorian fancy dress competition with prizes for the best adult and child costumes so get your thinking caps on!

To make the event a success we really need volunteers to help with setting up the gala, manning a stall for 1/2 hour, clearing down etc. We will have a volunteers list available from 10th June at the cake sale and we would appreciate any help at all you can give us as your support will really make the event a big success for the school.

30th September -Quiz Night

Always a popular event so please put the date in the diary and more details will follow.

Next FACS Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 16th June at 7.30pm in the Red Lion Aston.

We will be making all the arrangements for the Summer Gala and anyone who can assist or provide any support in anyway would be most welcome to join us.

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See the website news updates

- * Greek workshop
- * Y2 Concert
- * Tennis Tournament*

Ladies Night

Friday 10 June from 7.30pm

Fellowship Centre in Aston

Come along and pamper yourself, do a spot of shopping or simply come along with the girls for a glass or two of wine.

We will have lots of lovely stalls selling beauty products, make up, jewellery, handbags, candles, stationary and books. Julia Sparrowhawk will be doing mini manicures and Kelly from Beauty at 39 Corn Street will be doing eyebrow threading - both treatments only £5.00 each.

All funds raised are going to Aston and Cote Preschool Playgroup.

For tickets please email: office@astonandcoteplaygroup.org.uk

Tickets cost £5.00 which includes a glass of Prosecco or soft drink on arrival.

EXCEL TENNIS HOLIDAY CLUB

Tuesday 31st May - Friday 3rd June at the Witney Lawn Tennis Club.

There are lots of options for everyone: You can sign up for a whole week or just a day.

The courses are running:

9:00 - 12:00 (half day)

9:00 - 15:00 (full day)

The courses are for children aged 4 - 16 years old. Groups are split on age and ability so everyone is always with children the same age as them and a similar ability.

The courses are all run by our Excel Tennis Academy qualified coaches and assistants. Our coach to pupil ratio is around 6 - 1, this means we can guarantee that your children will play lots of tennis and improve during the week. If you are worried that the 9:00 - 15:00 may be too long for your children then fear not, We split the day up and the children get to learn a variety of different things throughout the session each day, thus keeping their enjoyment and attention. We also give regular breaks for the children to drink and eat/snack as well as a lunch break which is supervised by the coaches.

To book onto the courses simply fill out the online application form using this link: <http://www.exceltennisacademy.co.uk/#!holiday-courses/ccis>

Many Thanks Edward Large, Head Coach, EXCEL TENNIS ACADEMY, 07734 059769
www.exceltennisacademy.co.uk

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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