



Aston and Cote Church of England Primary School

"Learning together through courage, love and respect"

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Autumn Term Issue 2

21st October 2016

Dear Parents, Carers, Governors and Friends

It has been a wonderful start to the new academic year. The children have settled in so well and it has been lovely to see them enjoying the school grounds in this unseasonably warm weather! They have worked hard, learned lots and produced some work to be proud of! All in all, it has been an excellent start! Thank you to all the children and staff for their hard work and the parents for all your support.

Thank you so much to everyone who supported our Harvest Festival last month; and for the generous donations of produce. These have been passed on to BESOM - a local charity that provides food parcels to families who unexpectedly find themselves in hardship and in need of food.

So far this term, we have all enjoyed our Roald Dahl projects, dress-up day and books. Thank you for all your support with costumes and for helping us to raise £77 for the Roald Dahl Charity, which supports seriously ill children and their families. Year 6 pupils had a marvellous time during their residential trip to Yenworthy and learned lots about being safe from their additional trip to Junior Citizen. Key Stage 1 pupils were excited to visit Oxford Castle this week and Key Stage 2 pupils created their own fabulous South American musical extravaganza from the workshops on Tuesday. We have had our first House Competition and our first inter-school sports events of the year- football and cross country (see full reports below). All of these opportunities are so valuable and worthwhile, both in terms of the deepening of learning and for the enrichment experience itself!

It was lovely to see so many current and prospective families join us on our recent Open Morning and we have received some kind emails from our visitors since, which comment on the wonderful family atmosphere in school. The staff team enjoyed an excellent INSET day recently looking at ways that we can continue to develop Maths in the school.

Coming soon we have: our annual visiting pantomime; a musical concert; the Windmill Nativity Play; the Key Stage 1 Christmas play; Christmas lunch and hats competition; the National Primary Maths Challenge and Maths Masterclasses for some children in Key Stage 2, the Christmas Fair and ending with our Christmas service for families on the last day of term, when we hope you will be able to join us.

Best wishes

Paula Phillips - Headteacher

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RESPECT

HONESTY

FORGIVENESS

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Our value this month has been DILIGENCE. We have discussed how fortunate we are to have been given wonderful gifts and talents and how we should try really hard in all that

we do so that we use these.

Next month, our value will be CO-OPERATION and we will look at how much more we can do when we come together and work together.



SPORTS NEWS

Cross Country

On October 5th 2016, a surprisingly sunny day for October, the school held its House Cross Country run.

This year the children ran a much tougher course involving the playgrounds as well as the field. Despite this every child was able to finish their respective races, some with a smile on their face some with a look of sheer determination. However, everyone could feel proud of finishing.

Highlights include Charlotte H completing the 2 lap version of the course quickest for Key Stage 1; Olly was the quickest over 3 laps for Lower Key Stage 2; and over a grueling 4 laps of the course Charlie D paced himself well to be the quickest in Upper Key Stage 2. Mr Hook was very proud of the children for their efforts over the runs; the only thing he would like for next year is a bit more mud on the course!

Year 3/4 Football

Last week, the school took a year 3 & 4 mixed boys and girls 5-a-side football team to a tournament in Carterton. The team started with two losses against Bletchington and Hailey. However they found their shooting boots for the third game in a thrilling 3-2 win over St Peter's with 2 goals from Oliver and 1 from Lucas. The next game was a close fought 2-1 loss against Combe with Max scoring for Aston. The team ended on a high with a 3-0 over Stonesfield, with goals coming from Olly and Max.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

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

21st Oct Last day of term

24-28th Oct HALF TERM HOLIDAY

1st Nov Year 5/6 mixed hockey at WGS 3.30-5.30pm

9th Nov Oxfordshire Book Awards Ceremony, Oxford (yr 5/6)

11th Nov Remembrance Day

11th Nov Musical concert for parents 9.10

25th Nov Non-school uniform Day - chocolate donations for School Fair tombola

25th Nov Bags 2 School Day

2nd Dec FACs Christmas Fair 3.30pm

6th Dec KS1 Christmas Play - 6.00pm village Hall

6th Dec Flu vaccination for years 1,2 & 3

12th Dec Pantomime - Cinderella - whole school

13th Dec Reception Nativity - 5.30pm Village hall

14th Dec School Christmas lunch & Christmas Hat Competition

16th Dec Family Christmas Service in church - 9.10am

16th Dec Last day term - early closure - 1.30pm

19th Dec - 2nd Jan - Christmas Holiday

3rd Jan INSET Day

4th Jan Beginning of Spring Term

24th Jan FACs AGM (tbc)

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POPPIES

We were fortunate to have a guest speaker, Mr Mark Garwood, from the British Legion recently. He came to talk with the children about the upcoming poppy appeal.

This year, as well as the usual poppies, we have a large selection of poppy related goods, which our Year 6 pupils will be selling after half term at breaktimes. Please see the suggested price list for these items.



SPECIAL MENTIONS

Well done Allie, Oliver & Bea who took part in the Heart Foundation Fun Run recently, and congratulations to Lucas who has been selected to play for Oxford United Football Club.

Evie applied for her Eco Blue Peter badge over the school holidays. She talked about her time with her Grandparents on their allotment and also her time at the after school gardening club with Mrs Gardner. She sent in some pictures of what they had grown at the school and explained how much she had loved it. She was thrilled to receive her badge this week.



SCHOOL UNIFORM

Recently we have noticed that some of our girls who have long hair have been leaving this loose for school. Please could we ask that long hair is tied up.

Now that the weather is beginning to turn autumnal, please can I ask everyone to make sure that children come to school dressed for the chillier weather so that when they go outside for play times they are not complaining of being cold.

YEAR 6 PRIMARY TO SECONDARY TRANSFER – SEPTEMBER 2017

As you are no doubt aware, the closing date for submission of on-time applications for Secondary School Year 7 2017 is **31st October 2016**. This date is crucial as parents are more likely to receive a school offer of their choice if the application is submitted before the deadline. Apply on-line at www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions following the links to secondary transfer, or see the school office for a form.

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THE YENWORTHY EXPERIENCE 2016

On Monday 10th October, 9 children from Year 6 set off for an action packed week at Yenworthy Lodge Outdoor Education Centre in Devon.

Every day we took part in a range of adventurous activities such as rock climbing, coasteering, surfing and scrambling up a stream. These were designed to help us develop our team work and problem solving skills.

Our evenings were also filled with fun activities including a night time moor walk, orienteering, the infamous Yenworthy Quiz and singing round a campfire.

Other skills that we learned were sandwich making, vacuuming, serving meals and setting the tables for breakfast and dinner. One of the most difficult tasks was keeping our bedrooms tidy for a whole week! We enjoyed making new friends from Stonesfield School who we shared the centre and some of our activities with.

I learnt that you can't do everything on your own. In fact, teamwork is the most important thing. Working with a team for most of the week really helped me with most of my activities.
Amy



My favourite activity was probably the surfing because there were some really big waves and I was able to stand up on the board four times and so was my partner Noah.
Timmy

My favourite activity was definitely the expedition because I have never been walking up a stream and the views were beautiful. While we were walking up the stream, all I could think about was the scenery around me.
Daisy

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FACs NEWS

Fundraising Update -Quiz Night

We would like to say a very big thank you to those who supported the quiz night, including those who came along to the fun evening and to those who helped on the night with running the bar and raffle. As with all events, we can't run these without the support we receive. Also, we owe a huge amount of appreciation to Rob & Fiona Taylor and Keith & Sian Jones as without all their hard work and effort in running the quiz, the evening couldn't have taken place.

In total, we raised a fantastic £740 from the event, which will certainly go towards some great resources for the children.

Holywell Cake Sale

Thank you to all those parents who contributed cakes and to all the children for coming along to buy them.

A great start to the first cake sale of the year with £80 being raised.

Christmas Fair

Our plans are underway for the Christmas Fair. We want to make this a fun and enjoyable event for all the children and parents but we really do need your support to make this a success and hope that you will be able to help us in a couple of ways:

Chocolate Tombola

We will be holding a non-uniform day in November in exchange for children bringing in a chocolate item for the tombola. This stall was a huge success with the children and parents last year so please do help us make this another great stall this year.

Jolly Pots

The children really do look forward to the Jolly Pots and therefore we will be looking to have these at the fair. Again we really do need your help to make this possible and hope that parents will be able to support us by making up a jolly pot which can then be sold at the fair. We will be sending further details home after half term.

Christmas Raffle

We are looking to source prizes for our Christmas raffle; if anyone runs a business or works for an organisation who would be prepared to make a donation towards our raffle please do let Emma Rivers, Christina Slater or the school office know.

We will happily promote all donators to the raffle.

Easy Fundraising

As many people begin to think about shopping for the festive season, please do this via the easy fundraising website. All you need to do is register for our cause and then when making online purchases go via the easy fundraising website or app.

Every penny we raise really does make a difference to the resources we can provide for the children.

Just register at easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/astonandcotepriamary

Dates for the Diary:

Additional end of term Cake Sale - Friday 21st October

Due to all the generous donations of cakes last week we had a number of boxes of pre-packed cakes which were just too many to sell last week. We will therefore be holding an additional end of term cake sale tomorrow after school.

Please come and join us at the end of school to round off the term with one final cake treat. Cont....

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FACs News Cont.....

Bags 2 School - Friday 25th November

If you are having a clear out over half term please save all your unwanted clothes, shoes, hats, belts, scarfs etc. for our textile collection.

Bags will be coming home with children after half term for you to fill if you can help us.

Non Uniform Day - Friday 25th November

We will be repeating the very successful chocolate tombola at this year's Christmas Fair and will therefore be holding a non-uniform day where children can come to school in their own clothes in return for bringing a chocolate item for the tombola.

Christmas Fair - Friday 2nd December

We are looking for volunteers who can help man a stall at the fair. Please let Christina know if you would be able to spare 30 mins of your time to help on the day.

FACS AGM - 24th January 2017 (TBC)

The FACS AGM will take place in January 2017 when we will be electing a new committee.

More details will follow but if you are interested in joining the committee, please speak to one of the current FACS team.

HALF TERM IDEAS

EXCEL TENNIS

Due to popular demand and the weather being so nice at the moment Excel Tennis are going to run a half term holiday course during the October half term.

The details are:

Dates: 24th - 28th October

Venue: Witney Lawn Tennis Club

Times: 9:00 - 12:00 (half day) 9:00 - 15:00 (Full day)

Ages: 4 - 16 years old (sessions will be split each day so that children are training with children the same age as them)

Price: £90 for half day, £150 for Full day for the full week. (We are very flexible, if you cannot attend the whole week you can attend as many days as possible. The day rate is £21 for half a day and £35 full day)

To book, parents simply fill out the online application form using this link: <http://www.exceltennisacademy.co.uk/october-half-term-booking>

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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