



Aston and Cote Church of England Primary School

"Learning together through courage, love and respect"

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Autumn Term Issue 3

1st December 2016

Dear Parents, Carers, Governors and friends



November has been another busy month in school. As well as continuing to work incredibly hard each day in lessons, the children have had lots of additional opportunities to extend their learning. We enjoyed hearing about responsible dog ownership during a visit from The Dog Trust and our Remembrance Day commemorations helped us to reflect on the great sacrifices members of the Armed Forces have made for our country. Our Poppy Appeal raised £226.37 for this worthwhile cause. Superhero Day in Windmill Class was a great hit with children and staff joining in the fun. Our Anti-bullying Day encouraged us to think about the difference between being rude, being unkind and bullying. KS2 really enjoyed the music concert last week which Mrs Young organised to showcase the talents of all of the children in school who are learning to play an instrument - it was a real pleasure to see how much progress each of them is making. Some of our older children took part in the National Primary Mathematics Challenge which is a great opportunity to develop problem solving skills. The prestigious Oxfordshire Book Award ceremony was enjoyed by ten children from Year 5 and 6 - they got to meet award winning authors and illustrators which was very exciting indeed.

We have had two non-uniform days this month - one to support Children in Need, which raised £159.70 and one for FACS - we are all looking forward to taking part in the Chocolate Tombola at tomorrow's Christmas Fair!

Unfortunately, the end of the month has seen a variety of viruses affect both children and staff; we wish everyone a speedy recovery as we prepare for all our forthcoming Christmas events and performances.

Best wishes
Fiona Taylor

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

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

- 2nd Dec FACs Christmas Fair 3.15pm
- 5th Dec Choir performance to Kingsgate Residents
- 6th Dec KS1 Christmas Play - 6.00pm village Hall
- 6th Dec Flu vaccination for years 1,2 & 3
- 9th Dec Kingsway Cake Sale - 3.10pm
- 12th Dec Pantomime - Cinderella - whole school
- 13th Dec Reception Nativity - 5.30pm Village hall
- 14th Dec School Christmas lunch & Christmas Hat Competition
- 15th Dec Reception & KS1 - Christmas Science Show
- 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**
- 11th Jan Windmill trip to Story Museum Oxford.
- 16th Jan Year 6 IMPS visit to Witney Hospital
- 19th Jan Science Workshop Yr 5/6
- 24/25th Jan KS2 Anglo Saxon Village Life Workshop
- 24th Jan FACs AGM (tbc)

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Our value this month has been **THANKFULNESS**. We will be thinking about all the wonderful things we have to be thankful for and remember people who are not as fortunate as us at this time of year.



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Music Concert

On Friday 25th November, the children and staff in KS2 were treated to a musical extravaganza when the school choir and children who receive music lessons in school performed for us. We were also delighted to welcome parents to the show.

The choir kicked off proceedings with their rendition of "You've got a friend in me" from Toy Story. This was followed by Charlie, Oscar and Lachlan who formed a brass ensemble and delighted us with a German tune and a lullaby. Mrs McKendrick's piano players were next to perform; the audience was so impressed as many of them have only been learning for a short time. After that, we enjoyed listening to a whole host of recorder players, some of whom are beginners and some who have been learning for some time - all of them were amazing! Our concert was rounded off with another song from the choir and then finally Charlie played the piano as we left the hall.

Our thanks go to Mrs Young for organising the event and to all of our very talented music teachers who make learning to play an instrument so much fun.



I loved listening to the piano players because they really tried hard and **sounded beautiful**, even the beginners. When I heard some of the children play, it made me want to play an instrument.
Bea

I really enjoyed the concert. My favourite part was when Charlie, Lachlan and I performed. It was really exciting being up at the front performing to everyone. I loved it!
Oscar



I enjoyed watching everyone play because it was interesting to see how talented everyone is, but when you are actually performing, it is really scary as everyone is

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Oxfordshire Book Award 2016

On Wednesday 9th November, 9 children from Years 5 & 6 attended the award ceremony for this year's Oxfordshire Book Award which took place at Oxford High School. As well as meeting the award winning authors Tom McLaughlin, Steve Antony and Lisa Williamson, we were also treated to a demonstration by the illustrator Steve Lenton who was responsible for the amazing illustrations in Broccoli Boy, the winner in the Best Primary Book category.

All of the authors talked to us about what inspires them when they are writing and encouraged us to keep reading and even to have a go at writing our own stories

At the end of the ceremony we were treated to a drink and some delicious cake and then had the opportunity to buy one of the brilliant books we had just heard about.



I really enjoyed going to the Oxfordshire Book Awards because we got to see five different authors. Some children from different schools went up to the front to give a review about the authors' books.

Sienna

My favourite part of the Oxfordshire Book Awards was meeting the illustrator of The Amazing Broccoli Boy. I got the book although sadly I didn't get it signed. It was the best thing ever! Even better, we got cake!

Amelia



My favourite bit of the Oxfordshire Book Awards was when the two illustrators showed us how to draw a panda holding donuts and Broccoli Boy with a tiny penguin. I also enjoyed asking the authors and illustrators questions and hearing what they had to say.

Jessie

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FACs News and Update

Christmas Fair

Don't forget to come along and join us for the Christmas Fair on Friday after school. It will be a great event. We have the Chocolate Tombola, Jolly Pot sale, selling of children's handmade decorations, refreshments including mulled wine and hot chocolate plus much more.

The fair will close with the draw of the Grand Christmas Raffle.

It's also still not too late to contribute to various stalls:

Christmas Raffle

If you still have any raffle tickets lurking around, get these back to the office if you want to be included in the fabulous draw. If you don't want to purchase the tickets, we would also ask that you kindly return these to us as we have people who wish to buy more so we can sell them if you bring them back.

Jolly Pots

If you haven't donated one and wish to do so, please bring these into the office on Friday morning.

If you wish your child to purchase one, please make sure you have already donated one as we don't want the children to be disappointed if there aren't enough of them available.

Cakes/Mince Pies

If anyone can make a batch of cakes or mince pies for the refreshments stall at the fair, please bring these into school on Friday morning.

Children's Handmade Decorations

The children have worked hard in art lessons to produce these beautiful decorations and they will be a lovely reminder for years to come of their time at the school. If you are not able to visit the fair and wish to buy the wonderful handmade decoration your child has made, please send the £2 into school and we will arrange for the decoration to be sent home.

Fundraising Update

Extra Mini Cake Sale

Thank you for your support with the extra mini cake sale we had due to the generosity at the Holywell Cake sale and the amount of cakes supplied. It allowed us to add an extra £36 to the fundraising pot.

Bags to School

What a wonderful collection we managed to muster up between us all. We have just heard that we raised another £60 from all the bags.

Easy Fundraising

As many people being to think about shopping for the festive season, please do this via the easy fundraising. 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

FACS Committee

The FACS AGM will take place on Tuesday 24th January when a new committee will be elected to include Chair, Treasurer, Secretary and 3 other named members.

Unfortunately, without committee members, the FACS team will be unable to continue and all the fabulous fundraising which the children particularly enjoy won't be able to take place.

If anyone would like to express an interest in joining the committee, please email facstaston@gmail.com

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FACs Cont.....

Dates for the Diary:

Christmas Fair - Friday 2nd December

Come and join us for a great afternoon of festive treats and delights.

KS1 Nativity - Tuesday 6th December

The FACS team will have refreshments available to purchase so please do come and join us to get your festive glass of mulled wine ahead of the Nativity. We will also be running a small raffle to help with fundraising

Kingsway Homemade Cake Sale - Friday 9th December

Kingsway will be hosting their cake sale on 9th December. (Cake donations only required from Kingsway parents) Please come and join us at the end of school for a festive cake treat.

Visiting Pantomime - Monday 12th December

We hope that all the children will enjoy this great annual treat which the FACS team have paid for all the children to see.

Windmill Nativity - Tuesday 12th December

The FACS team will have refreshments available to purchase so please do come and join us to get your festive glass of mulled wine ahead of the Nativity. We will also be running a small raffle to help with fundraising

FACS AGM - 24th January 2017

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

Special Mention

Huge congratulations to Anna, who gained a High Distinction in her Grade 2 LCM Musical Theatre Exam. Well done.

Community News



St James, Aston - December Services

04/12/2016	Sunday	10.30am	St James, Aston	Sung Eucharist
11/12/2016	Sunday	9.30am	St James, Aston	Family Service 1
16/12/2016	Friday	7.00pm	St James, Aston	Christmas Concert
18/12/2016	Sunday	9.15am	St James, Aston	Holy Communion
22/12/2016	Thursday	6.00pm	Aston Village Square	Carol Singing
24/12/2016	Saturday	6.00pm	St James, Aston	Carol Service
25/12/2016	Sunday	9.00am	St James, Aston	Sung Eucharist
		10.30am	St James, Aston	Joint Family Christmas
			Celebration	
01/01/2017	Sunday	10.30am	St James, Aston	Sung Eucharist

St Mary's Shifford

04/12/2016	Sunday	9.15am	St Mary's, Shifford	Holy Communion
18/12/2016	Sunday	6.00pm	St Mary's, Shifford	Carols by Candlelight
01/01/2017	Sunday	9.15am	St Mary's, Shifford	Holy Communion

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ACTS production in January:

WIFE AFTER DEATH, a comedy

Comedian and national treasure Dave Thursby, - 'every mother wanted him for a son - every wife for a husband - every child for a father', has died. His friends gather to mourn his passing: Harvey who wrote Dave's material; Vi, Harvey's wife; Kevin, Dave's agent; his wife Jane, who worked for Dave; Laura Thursby, his young grief stricken widow and the mysterious Kay from Cromer whose surname also happens to be Thursby. But there is much to reveal about Dave even the comedian even after death.

A witty and sparkling comedy by Eric Chappell first staged in 2010. If you missed it then at the Oxford Playhouse, don't fail to miss it staged in Aston Village Hall on Thursday 19, Friday 20 and Saturday 21 January. Tickets a modest £8 (£7 on Thursday) on sale at Aston Stores from 15 December

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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