



Aston and Cote Church of England Primary School

"Aspiring to be the peoples God created us to be"

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Newsletter 7 - Spring Term

28th February 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that everyone had an enjoyable half term break - it's been lovely to hear about the fantastic things the children got up to despite the inclement weather.

February has been a short but eventful month here at school. The children in Year 4 - 6 thoroughly enjoyed their visit to Winchester for the Big Bang Science Fair where they explored a plethora of exhibits which were designed to extend their knowledge and understanding of STEM subjects. The Year 5s were also lucky enough to attend a reading workshop at Cokethorpe School along with the other schools in the Corinthian Partnership. The theme for the day was *The Wind in the Willows* and included a very appropriate Toad in the Hole for lunch!

March will bring a host of exciting events for the children including World Book Day, STEM Week and a Drama Day at Cokethorpe for the Year 4s.

We have been delighted with the entries to our House Art Competition which was based on the school Bible story of the Parable of the Talents - thank you to everyone who took part. The house captains will have a very tricky job to decide on the winners!

Kind regards
Fiona Taylor

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

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

- 4th Mar Year 2 Music Workshop - Tower Hill School 1.00 - 2.30pm
- 4th Mar Girls Football vs Ducklington
- 4th Mar FACs AGM - School Hall 7.00pm
- 5th Mar World Book Day
- 9th Mar Weighing & Measuring Programme - Year 6 & Reception Class
- 10/13th Mar Scholastic Book Fair
- 11th Mar Girls Football 3.30pm @ Carterton
- 12th Mar Year 4 Drama Day at Cokethorpe
- 18th Mar Year 2 Music Concert @ WGS 6.00pm
- 24th Mar Parents Evening 3.30-5.30pm
- 26th Mar Parents evening 5.00-7.00pm
- 2nd Apr Year 1/2 trip to Brize Norton Airbase
- 3rd Apr Easter Service 9.00am all welcome

3rd April - End of Term
school closes at 3.10pm

School Value

Our value in March will be "Justice". We will be considering whether Justice is always about treating everyone exactly the same or if it's a bit more complicated than that.

"What does the Lord require of you? To act justly, and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."

Micah6:8



Do your best!

The following children were nominated for a Headteacher's Award in February:



Windmill:	Ivy & Matilda
Kingsway:	Molly & Evie
Oatlands:	Oliver H & Max
Holywell:	Isla & Olivia
Reedy:	Charlie A & Edward
Westerleigh:	Emily & Harrison

Certificates were awarded for consistently demonstrating one of our ASTONishing Learner characteristics.

New school website

We hope that all of you have spotted our new school website which was launched just before half term. On behalf of the children, staff & governors, I would like to thank Kate Clark for designing the website and Elaine Tuffery for taking all the photographs. I am sure you will agree, all their hard work has been well worth the effort.

Copper Coin Collection

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to last term's collection for the World Wildlife Fund. This half term Reedy Class has chosen Cancer Research as our new charity so please keep sending your copper coins in.

Say hello, wave goodbye

We are delighted to welcome two new members of staff and a new pupil to our school. Sue Woodley has joined Gemma in the kitchen after Jackie retired while Sue McMillan is the new member of the Windmill team. Kingsway Class is very pleased to welcome Ivy into Year 1.

We are very sad to be saying goodbye to Jack & Charlotte (Bugs) Green who will be relocating to Cornwall next week. We have loved having them as members of our school family and wish them all the very best in their new school.



Go Outdoors!

Thank you to everyone who took part in our outdoor challenge last month. The birds in Aston were certainly well fed this month!

Next month we would love you to have a go at making a weather- vane and then testing it out. For ideas about how to make one, please see:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NnU-RUQLjp0>.



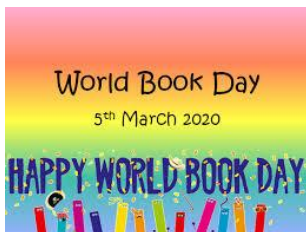
FACS News

The end of term discos were a great success and raised a fantastic £346. Thank you to everyone who came along to help. We are also delighted to let you know that we have received £167 from Witney Round Table which Father Christmas and his helpers collected for us on their sleigh ride round Aston in December.

The FACS AGM will take place on Wednesday 4th March at 7.00 in the school hall. Please come along and support this vital part of our school community which works so hard to raise much needed funds for the school - without new members, there is a real possibility that FACS will not be able to continue which would be a huge loss to the school both in terms of the money it raises for the benefit of the children and the social events it organises for children and adults alike.

The next event for the children will be our very popular Easter Bingo which will take place in the school hall on Thursday 2nd April at 3.15 so please put this date in your diary.

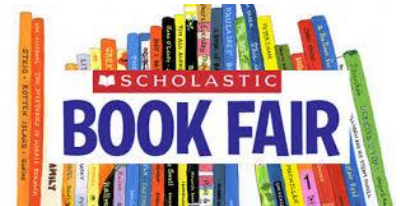
World Book Day



This year we will be celebrating World Book Day in school with a whole range of activities which we hope everyone will enjoy. We would also like to invite the children to take part in our extreme reading challenge - choose an unusual place to do some reading, take a photograph and bring it into school so that we can create a display in each classroom. The weirder the place, the better!

Scholastic Book Fair

Our next book fair will take place from 11th - 16th March in the school hall from 3.15 - 3.40. Please come along and browse the new selection of books. You will be able to spend your World Book Day Book Token at the book fair. The school earns commission for every book purchased and this money is used to buy new books for the classes so please come along and support this event.



Year 5 Cokethorpe Reading Day 13th February 2020

We were split into groups and did 4 different activities across the day. I really enjoyed the drama activity. We performed a poem about water, using actions to bring it to life.

Bea

I enjoyed working in groups with children from other schools. It was fun to get to know other children.

Willow

We were given a set of instructions to read and follow. Each group had to cross a piranha-filled pool using lily pads. It was much trickier than we first thought and we had to read the instructions over and over again to make sure we were doing it correctly.

Dan

I really enjoyed the whole day. It was fun to do the activities as we didn't really realise we were reading at all! The lunch and cupcake was really yummy too!

Ben

We looked at the importance of narrative. We were given a story that had been cut up and we had to order it so that it made sense.

Ethan

In the library, we read a description from 'Wind in the Willows'. Then we used a thesaurus and dictionary to find words to describe a river. I discovered unusual words I hadn't heard before and I improved my writing.

Grace

The Big Bang Fair!



On Wednesday 5th February, Years 4-6 visited 'The Big Bang Fair' at the Science Centre in Winchester.



I loved the Space Area. We had to keep astronauts alive by keeping them warm and hydrated!

When we dug up dinosaur bones in the sand, it felt like we'd found things no-one else had ever seen!



As well as exploring the amazing exhibits at the Science Centre, there was a showcase of local science, technology, engineering and maths, where we were able to take part in interactive table-top activities delivered by local companies and STEM enrichment organisations.

We were also fortunate to have a planetarium show where we travelled around our solar system visiting different planets and spotting and naming constellations. We had an amazing and inspiring day!



Sports News



We started off February with the Witney schools sports hall athletics competition. This involved a lot of jumping, throwing, and running. The children all had several events to compete in to earn points for our team. It was a very long and busy afternoon against 11 other schools. Our best performance was our boys 4 x 1 lap relay, who were the fastest team out of all the schools. At the end we waited patiently for our result, School after school got read out and our excitement grew and grew, in the end our performances were good enough for a fantastic 3rd place!

Our girls started their football league for this year against Witney CP on a cold and rainy afternoon. Unfortunately the opposition were too strong for us and we lost the match. The girls confidence grew as the match progressed and the match ended on a positive note as Jess was able to score for us.



Community News

Aston Community Shop

A new hub for the community: Aston Community Shop is coming...

There will be an update in the next edition of *Voices*, but we would specifically like to appeal to parents and families in the Aston & Cote School community to help support this new venture. We hope to open the shop in early April.

Village residents have already offered their support - and thank you if you are one of them! We would love to hear from any other parents, carers or grandparents who have a few hours to donate each week, fortnight or monthly to serve in the shop. The more volunteers we have will enable the opening hours to be as early and as late as possible.

In addition, if you feel you could support the shop by becoming a shareholder, we would be pleased to hear from you. We will keep you up to date with the new shop's progress in future publications.

Meanwhile, for more information, please visit our temporary website at www.link-onweb.co.uk - follow us on the Facebook pages of: 'What's on in Aston and Cote' or 'Aston Community Shop' - get in touch by email at acs@astoncommunityshop.co.uk - or call 0333 050 9051.

Whether shopping or stopping by for a coffee (& cake), we will do our best to supply groceries and goods that you have requested and will remain responsive to your special requests, ideas and suggestions.

Thank you in advance for your support! The ACS Steering Group

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

Kind regards,
Fiona Taylor, Headteacher