



CHECKENDON C.E. SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

10th March 2016

Diary for Term 3

Wednesday 16th March	Mobile Library
Thursday 17th March	Owlet Class visit to Bucklebury Farm with Stoke Row School
Friday 18th March	Sport Relief
Wednesday 23rd March	7.00pm Parents' Workshop: 'What are the secrets of the world's happiest children?'

What have we been learning in school this week?

Owlet Class

This week in the Owlet Class we have been continuing to find out about animals that interest us. We discovered that a snake does have bones and that a rhino's horn is made of keratin. We are writing about what we have found out. In addition we are developing our characteristics of effective learning by planning our habitats and reviewing how well they are going. The children have all set their own learning goals and parents are involved in this process by supporting their children with their goals at home and providing comments on progress that we are sharing with the class. We are really enjoying the Class Dojo sessions that are reminding us of the characteristics of growth mindset and this week we have been embracing hard work as we know it makes our brains stronger.

Owl Class

This week children in Owl Class made another call to Australia, this time to Lucy's cousins. In science lessons, we have been classifying animals, especially Australian ones. In literacy, the Year 1 children have been working on performing 'There's an Ouch in my Pouch' and the Year 2 children have been adapting Michael Morpurgo's Wombat Goes Walkabout.

Panda Class

This week we have been reading more of "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory". We learnt about letter writing as we wrote letters of thanks to Waitrose for our visit last week. We have looked at packaging and made some choices about the kind of packaging we want to create for our chocolates. In maths we have been looking at multiplication. Children in Year 3 learnt how to find 4x or 8x an amount by doubling and those in Year 4 have been using grid method.

Rhino Class

This week, children in Rhino class have been learning about the history of the USA and comparing it to the history of Britain. They have also been learning about American music and how it has developed in different areas of the country. They have been adding their own original endings to stories and have written from different characters' points of view. They have continued to study the work of the artist Keith Haring and have compared his work to another American artist, Roy Lichtenstein.

Staffing - School Administrator

We are delighted to welcome Sarah Doherty who will be working in the School Office every day starting after Easter. Mrs Doherty had a career in project management for IBM before having her two boys Jack (age 8) and Tom (age 6). She worked part time at Sparklers Preschool in Upper Basildon and is now looking forward to resuming a full-time career. We hope she will be very happy here.

Congratulations

We were pleased to hear that Sarah Tarbox, who is working as a TA in Owl Class this year, has gained a Level 3 Diploma in Specialist support for Teaching and Learning in Schools. We are very grateful for all she is doing to support the school.

School Values

Thank you very much to all the parents and pupils who completed the survey about School Values. We were delighted with the overwhelmingly positive response (see attached for the results).

Comments about school values made by pupils included:

- the school values make me feel good
- everyone is very good at compassion in Owl Class
- the school values don't improve the behaviour of everyone; however, they have improved most people's behaviour
- Integrity is important because everyone should tell the truth all the time

Comments about school values made by parents included:

- I'm all for them – and I think my daughter is inspired by them too; for a 5 year old, she seems to have a reasonable grasp of them
- a lovely focus for learning
- I think the children have really taken the school values to heart and that the weekly awards given work really well with that.

School Vision Statement

As you know, we have been updating the school's vision statement. Thank you for your feedback on our suggested draft. We have drawn together your views and received 32 responses, all of which supported the new draft. Thank you very much to all of you who took the time to respond.

Good Behaviour Policy

Letters with copies of the Good Behaviour Policy went home in book bags this week and is also attached to this newsletter. Could you please return completed slips to the school office by Monday 14th March. Thank you.



Sport Relief 2016

Sport Relief takes place this year on Friday 18th March. School Council will be holding an event in the afternoon called "Soak the Staff"!

Children who would like to take part will join their house groups to compete in a relay race culminating in throwing a wet sponge at a member of staff. Points will be awarded for accurately hitting the target with additional points according to where each house finishes. The house winning the most points will be named in worship at the end of the day.

If you would like to take part please bring in a suggested donation of £1.00 on the day. Come and have some fun and see how much we can raise for this worthwhile cause!

Parents' Workshop

The next in our series of Parents' Wednesday Workshops will take place on Wednesday 23rd March. The theme will be **What are the secrets of the world's happiest children?** We'll have fun exploring the impact of different cultures on the way children are raised what we can do to make a difference to the pupils here. Please sign up on the list in the entrance lobby if you would like to attend by **Friday 18th March** as *the event will only take place if there is enough interest!*

Tutorbox After School Club – we need 4 more pupils for this to go ahead

After school French Club starts on Tuesdays after the Easter holiday and there are still places available. If your child would like to take part, please ask the school office for the booking form or email your interest to info@tutorbox.org.uk marked for the attention of Irene Casey. Please note that if there are insufficient numbers the club will not go ahead.

The Checkendon Preschool Fun Run Fundraising Event on Saturday 18th June

There will be a variety of distances to run for adults and children as below:

Distance	Eligibility on race day	Entry fee paid before 1st May	Entry fee paid after 1st May	Entry fee paid on the day
10km	15 years old & over	£15.00	£17.00	£20.00
5 km	13 years old & over	£12.00	£15.00	£15.00
1km	10 years old & over	£5.00	£5.00	£5.00
1km	6-10 years old with accompanying adult	£5.00	£5.00	£5.00
100m	5 years old and under with accompany adult	£5.00	£5.00	£5.00

All the details can be found on our website at

<http://www.checkendonpreschool.co.uk/checkendon-run-june-18th/>

SPRING QUIZ AT CHECKENDON SATURDAY 2nd APRIL at 7.00pm

The next memorable Checkendon Quiz Evening (in aid of Village Hall Funds) in the Village Hall, RG8 0SR on Saturday 2nd April. Arrive at 7.00pm for a prompt start soon thereafter.

Bar, raffle and fish and chip supper (below) which is included - all at the AMAZING price of £12.00. Exceptional value and hospitality yet again, in true Checkendon tradition.

Please book singly, pairs or groups as we can arrange teams on the night (we take a flexible view on numbers in a team) Doug Griggs will be Question-master, so expect a wide range of interesting quick fire questions, pictures and other tests of your skill and memory. No previous experience or skill at quizzes is at all necessary. Many come just for the excellent catering! Lots of April Fool and Spring related questions no doubt. Hint- could be any type of spring!

4 Lot Auction in the Interval - to include piano lesson, ride in vintage car and more. BIG, BIG prizes plus one of our unique and collectable trophies will be awarded.

Do join us to meet old friends and new at this seasonal event.

MENU: High Quality Fish and Chips delivered hot from Woodcote
Plenty of vegetarian/vegan options. Mushy peas/pickles etc.
Strawberry fool, ice creams, meringues
Fresh fruit salad and much, much more!

We look forward to seeing you.

We have to limit numbers so prior booking is essential as we may not be able to admit at the door. Pay on the night. Contact corbishleytim@yahoo.co.uk or on 01491 681723. Please inform us whether you require the vegetarian options or other special dietary requirements- we will provide!

Little Adventure Shop

Kids Outdoor Clothing Clearance Sale – Woodcote – Saturday 12th March

Little Adventure Shop are clearing out their winter stock this Saturday. 10% of sales to Checkendon parents will be donated to the School Association.

www.littleadventureshop.co.uk

Saturday 10th March, 9am – 2pm.

Little Adventure Shop, Unit 6, Church Farm, Reading Road, Woodcote, RG8 0QX
(opposite the Woodcote Village Hall)



Reading FC Community Trust Soccer Schools during Easter Holidays

We have various Soccer schools running during the Easter holidays at various venues. For full list please see www.readingfc.co.uk or apply to cmoss@reradingfc.co.uk for full list

A GREAT FAMILY DAY OUT!



17TH ABINGDON AIR & COUNTRY SHOW
SUNDAY 1st MAY 2016
Abingdon Airfield, Dalton Barracks, Oxfordshire, 10am-5.30pm

Flying Displays & Static Aircraft
Tank Rides
Falconry and Arena Displays
Vintage Vehicles
Live Music and Dancing
Trade Stalls and Crafts
Childrens' Amusements
Food and Drink & lots more!

www.abingdonairandcountry.co.uk
Find us on Facebook & Twitter for updates
Enquiries: 07769 689823

Tickets and information

Adults (16+) £12 advance, £17.50 on the gate
Senior Citizens £8 advance, £12 on the gate
Children (5-15) £4 advance, £6 on the gate
Children under 5 free, Car parking free
Disabled parking and facilities available
Tickets are available from the show website, Newbury Building Society branches in Abingdon and Didcot; Abingdon Visitor and Info Centre, Guild Hall; Vale & Downland Museum, Wantage; Witney Visitor Info Centre; Didcot Town Council Info Centre; Bob's Butchers, Harwell; Masterfloors, Wallingford.



Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 16th March
Thursday 17th March
Friday 18th March
Wednesday 23rd March

Thursday 24th March
Thursday 24th March
Thursday 24th March
Tuesday 12th April
Monday 18th April
Wednesday 27th April
Mon 9th – Fri 13th May
Wednesday 18th May
Friday 20th May

Mobile Library
Owlet Class visit to Bucklebury Farm with Stoke Row School
Sport Relief
7.00pm parents' workshop:
'What are the secrets of the world's happiest children?'
RE Day 'The Living Church'
2.00pm: Maundy Communion Service in church – parents invited
Last day of Term 4
First Day of Term 5
3.00pm: Community Worship – parents invited
Mobile Library
SATs Week
Evening: Circus – organised by School Association
2.00pm: Pentecost Service in church followed by dancing at school

Wednesday 25th May
Friday 27th May
Friday 27th May
Tuesday 7th June
Monday 13th June
Wednesday 29th June
Friday 15th July
Monday 18th July
Wednesday 20th July

Mobile Library
RE Day: Christians around the World
Last Day of Term 5
First Day of Term 6
3.00pm: Community Worship – parents invited
Mobile Library (last one – collection only)
Sports Day
Sports Day reserve
Last day of Term 6