



# CHECKENDON C.E. SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

12<sup>th</sup> November 2015

Diary for Term 2	
Tomorrow: Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> November	Children in Need world record language lesson, non-uniform and guess the weight of Pudsey bear
Sat/Sun 21/22 Nov	Checkendon Village Crafts Fair
Mon 23 <sup>rd</sup> – Fri 27 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Writing Week
Mon 23 <sup>rd</sup> November	All years: Jungle Book Make a Play Day workshops: 2.45pm: Parents are invited to watch production in the school hall

*Thank you to the School Association and all the parents who helped to make our Fireworks Night such a great success!*

## What have we been learning in school this week?

### Owlet Class

This week Owlet Class has decided to turn the role play area into a rocket! The children have thought of lots of ideas for props, such as control panels, aliens and signs. They have been making these things all week. We even have a nearly finished papier mache solar system! The children decided they would like to send a message into space to see if they could get an alien to make contact with them. Yesterday we wrote messages on labels and sent them up to space via a helium balloon. We are awaiting a response from an extra-terrestrial life form!

### Owl Class

Owl Class have had a couple of adventurous days since the start of term. Last Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November, we visited Goring Fire Station and got to squirt water out of the hoses. On Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November, we joined Owlet Class for a squelchy walk in the Equestrian Centre grounds, investigating the signs of autumn. The photos from both trips are on the website. Back in the classroom, we have been writing firework poetry; please pop in to have a look at our glittery display.

### Panda Class

Panda Class children went on an exciting visit to Chedworth Roman Villa last Friday to launch their Roman topic. Please see our class website for more information and pictures. Ask your children about the Roman invasions and the brave Celts who fought them. This week we have also been looking at character descriptions to improve our story writing skills and creating adventurous adjectives fit for a myth.

## Rhino Class

Last week Year 6 visited Townlands Hospital in Henley. They spent the morning learning essential first aid skills including using CPR techniques. Rhino Class are learning about the Anglo Saxons this term and have started their topic by learning about archaeology and how archaeologists find evidence that shows how and where people lived in the past.

## Remembrance November 2015

Remembrance is part of modern British life, culture and heritage. It becomes a particular feature of the public calendar each year when public, private, formal and informal Remembrance events take place throughout the UK. Remembrance Sunday, which fell on 8 November 2015, is a day for the nation to remember and honour those who have sacrificed themselves to secure and protect our freedom.

In school on Friday 6th November, children made poppies to create a whole school art installation and had the opportunity to write names or short messages of remembrance on them if they wanted to. These have now been 'planted' to make a display on the field. On Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November the whole school gathered around the installation and held a minute of silence in recognition of Remembrance Day.

## Children in Need Day 2015 - Tomorrow

We have organised two exciting fundraising activities for Children in Need Day tomorrow:

- At 2.30pm on Children in Need day, all pupils at Checkendon School will be participating in a world record attempt approved by the Guinness World Records! The attempt will be to teach **The World's Largest Language Lesson**. This is a literacy lesson with an emphasis on spoken language. The lesson will be taught in English. The Schools Advisory Service has pledged to donate £1 to Children in Need for every pupil participating in the lesson. 10,000 pupils are required to set this brand new world record who will participate in the lesson via a live 'webcast' lesson taught by teachers David Andrews and Chris Williams.
- Children will be able to come to school in non-uniform if they bring along a donation to support this worthwhile cause. As an additional fund raiser, School Council will be running a 'Guess the weight of Pudsey Bear' competition. Many thanks to the giant teddies who have volunteered their services!

## Fireworks Night

We would like to say a really big thank you to everyone who supported Fireworks Evening. Many thanks to all the volunteers for helping set up, run the stalls and tidy up afterwards on Friday evening and Saturday morning. Thank you also to everyone who came to the evening and visited the various stalls and games and, of course, the bar. With the very generous help of our sponsors, Warminghams and Butler and Proctor, we made over £1,800 which will go towards the new play area on the field. If we can raise a similar amount at the Circus in May we will be well on our way to meeting our target - THANK YOU!

*School Association*

## Thank you from Readifood

Reading's Food Bank, Readifood have asked us to thank you all for your kind food donations brought in for the Harvest Service on 14<sup>th</sup> October. We collected a total of 96.50kg of food which will be gratefully received by those in need.

## Student Update Forms

You will have received in book bags student update forms containing the contact details we currently have on file for your child. **It is important that all information is correct** so could you please ensure that you check all details are correct, amend if necessary (with relevant box ticked), and return the signed sheets to the school office by **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November**. Thank you.

## Home School Values - Compassion

This term we are focussing in school on the value 'compassion'. Attached is a sheet which contains ideas which we hope will help your family to explore the value and have fun together.

## News from the Governors

Our Governors are:

Governor	Governor type
Duncan Brown	Local Authority
Richard Castle	Foundation
Rvd Kevin Davies	Foundation
Jackie Griffin	Staff
Jon Hayes	Foundation and Chair
Louise Jessel	Parent
Vanessa Potter	Foundation
Peter Schmidt	Parent
Charlie Von Schmieder	Foundation
Clive Selby	Foundation
Gillian Seymour	Head Teacher
Rob Woodthorpe-Browne	Foundation

Clive Selby joined the school for our Community worship on Monday afternoon.

On Wednesday Louise Jessel met with Mrs Seymour to discuss pupil progress and to look at the agendas for the upcoming meetings of the Teaching and Learning Committee and the Full Governing Body. Governors have been looking at the impact their work has on whole school development and they will provide some more feedback following these meetings.

## **Christmas Card Project 2015 – Thanks to Louise Maze**

Thank you to Louise Maze for all her hard work in organising the Christmas Card Project again this year. All the children have produced fantastic designs! The funds raised through your support will be used on projects for the children.

## **Thank you to Rob Butler**

We now have some smart new chairs for use in the hall. Many thanks to Rob Butler for kindly disposing of the old and broken chairs, it is much appreciated.

## **School Photographs**

Individual portrait photographs of your child/ren from this year's photo shoot are now ready to view and purchase. Please go to:

[www.ordermyphotos.co.uk](http://www.ordermyphotos.co.uk)

Code: 1152 9710 3332 A

Then click 'set up my order'

If your child is not represented please email [charlotte@charlottesnowdenphotography.com](mailto:charlotte@charlottesnowdenphotography.com)

"Order My Photos" are a third party, so any enquiries should be sent to Charlotte on the above email address.

10% of the profits are given back to the school.

*Charlotte Snowden ARPS*

*Tel: 07933327437*

[www.charlottesnowdenphotography.com](http://www.charlottesnowdenphotography.com)

[www.charlottesnowdenweddingphotography.co.uk](http://www.charlottesnowdenweddingphotography.co.uk)

## **Book Fair – Buy Christmas Presents and Support the School!**

We will be holding a Travelling Book Fair, kindly helped by Julia Butler:

- **from 3.00pm on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November in the school hall**, when parents are welcome to come and view the books before the end of the school day
- **from 3.30pm Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November in Panda Classroom.**

There will be a wide range of books available suitable for all ages of children at the school and it will be an ideal time to buy your Christmas presents and help the school get more books for the classrooms and library. For every book you purchase the school will get a commission of 60% of its cost towards more books for the school. Each class will be invited to look at the books with their teacher before the Fairs and will bring home some suggestions for books that they would like to read.

## **Breakfast Club at Checkendon Pre-School**

Breakfast Club at Checkendon Pre-school is now up and running, taking children from Reception to Year 6. Breakfast starts at 7.30am and children are collected by a member of primary school staff in time for the start of the school day. This is a new initiative and we hope it will provide more flexibility for all parents. Please contact Nina on 01491 682589 or [preschoolcheckendon@gmail.com](mailto:preschoolcheckendon@gmail.com) for more information.

**Pottery Painting  
Art and Craft shop  
Situated in Goring on Thames**

Open 6 days a week  
Now taking bookings for birthday parties, Hen parties,  
corporate teambuilding etc.  
Call 01491 873160 or email [inspiredcrafts@outlook.com](mailto:inspiredcrafts@outlook.com)

**Dates for your Diary**

Tomorrow, Fri 13 <sup>th</sup> November	Children in Need world record language lesson, non-uniform and guess the weight of Pudsey bear
Sat/Sun 21/22 November	Checkendon Village Crafts Fair
Mon 23 <sup>rd</sup> – Fri 27 <sup>th</sup> November	Writing Week
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November	All years: Jungle Book Make a Play Day workshops: 2.45pm: Parents are invited to watch production in the school hall
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> November	Mobile library (last before Christmas)
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> November	3.00pm: Travelling Books book fair in school hall – parents welcome to view before end of school day
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> November	3.20pm: Travelling Books book fair in Panda Class
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	Wednesday Workshop for parents
Friday 11th December	School Disco organised by School Association - tbc
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	2.00pm in school hall: Owl and Owlet Class Christmas Nativity
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	6.30pm in school hall: Owl and Owlet Class Christmas Nativity
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Children's Christmas dinner
Thursday 17th December	Parents Christmas Drinks – organised by School Association venue tbc
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	6.30pm: Christmas Service in church
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day of Term 2 (finish at 2.00pm)