



CHECKENDON C.E. SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

14th January 2016

Diary for Term 3

Monday 18th January	3.00pm: Community Worship in school hall – parents invited
Wednesday 20th January	Viking visiting Rhino Class!
Thursday 21st January	School Council and School Values Ambassadors: Visit to Christchurch Cathedral, Oxford

What have we been learning in school this week?

Owlet Class

Children in Owlet Class have been enjoying the new story world role play area. They have been working in groups to retell and act out traditional tales. In addition the children have been listening to stories Jesus told and looking at the school value of integrity through the story of "The Boy who Cried Wolf". Children have learned the new sounds x and w and the tricky words we, me and be. We are aiming to use what they have learned in their writing. In number, children have been playing games to teach them about addition and have been exploring ordering by size through the story of "The Three Bears".

Owl Class

Children in Owl Class had a fantastic trip to the Science Museum on Friday. We saw lots of amazing space objects including a copy of the lunar lander, the real Apollo 10 command module and Buzz Aldrin's space suit. It was a great launch for our topic! This week, we have also been learning about algorithms: programming our Beebots to travel from a planet to a refuelling rocket, then on to a star, debugging our programs when they didn't work.

Panda Class

This week in Panda Class Mrs Peeling has been joining us for maths lessons. Year 3 has been looking at fractions with tenths and year 4 has been looking at hundredths and making the connection between fractions and decimal numbers. In literacy we have been learning about apostrophes and doing some reading comprehension with our focus text "How to train your Dragon."

Rhino Class

In Rhino Class this week the children have started to learn about different forces. They have measured forces using a forcemeter. In literacy, the children have been developing characters by describing their appearance, personality and history. They have been learning more about the Viking Invasion of Lindisfarne and reading about the adventures of Beowulf.

Please book a school lunch for Thursday 21st January!

The next census day is Thursday 21st January, and once again, we would like parents **of every child in Owlet Class and Owl Class** to book a free school lunch for them on that day. It would be great to have 100% take up this time!

On the subject of lunches, please check that your child is registered in the correct way on the online ordering system. In order to maintain the smooth running and efficiency of lunchtimes, it is very important that all pupil details are correct on Aspens' on-line ordering system. Please ensure that you have the following details entered *correctly* on the parent log-in page of their website:

- **Dietary requirements**

For health and safety reasons, if your child has any dietary requirements or allergies, please ensure that you have registered them.

- **The class your child belongs to**

Please enter your child's class *exactly* to read either: **Owlet, Owl, Panda, Rhino**.

Please do not enter your child's year group or end class name with an 's' otherwise pupils are assigned to different class groups.

It makes a real difference to the smooth running of lunch times if we can quickly locate pupil names on the list!

Free School meals and Discounts on School Visits and Activities

Did you know that by registering for Free School Meals your child not only has the opportunity to enjoy a free school meal but he/she could also be entitled to a substantial reduction in the cost of residential visits and music tuition?

The school also benefits from additional funding for all students who are registered for free school meals or who have been registered in the past 6 years. This funding is given to schools to raise the attainment of children and enables us to provide many additional support mechanisms such as one to one tuition and booster classes along with financial support for educational visits and activities.

More information can be found on our website under the 'Parents' tab – "Am I eligible for free school meals?".

Pro-Direct After School Football Club

Pro-Direct have asked us to remind parents that children attending their club need to bring in trainers as well as football boots. This is in case weather is wet when the sessions are run in the school hall where trainers will be worn.

Thank you.

Arrangements for Emergency Closure of the School

On rare occasions, for example during extreme weather conditions or when the school has no heating or water, the head teacher and chair of governors may have to take the decision to close the school. It is

school policy to keep the school open if at all possible, but there are occasions when it would not be possible to operate the school within the health and safety requirements.

In the very unlikely event of an emergency closure during the school day, the school will contact parents via the telephone contact details kept in school. All children will be kept safely until collected. Please ensure, therefore, that the school has your up-to-date daytime telephone contact details.

In the event of an emergency closure before the start of the school day the school will notify Oxfordshire County Council and the local radio stations and will send a group email to all parents who have sent emergency contact email details to the office. If parents need to find out whether or not the school is closed they should:

- Check their email if they have asked to be contacted by email;
- Look on the county public website: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/schoolclosures;
- Listen to the announcements of the local radio stations:
 - BBC Radio Oxford – VHF/FM 95.2
 - Heart FM (Oxfordshire) – VHF/FM 102.6
 - JACK FM – VHF/FM 106.8

Parents are advised not to call the radio stations otherwise switchboards can become jammed and prevent the radio stations receiving information from schools. Parents may attempt to call the school, but the school cannot guarantee that there will be someone in the office to man the phone.

Our hot school dinners are prepared in the kitchen at Langtree School and delivered to Checkendon in time for lunch. Langtree School may be closed on days when Checkendon School is open. We ask therefore that, if there is snow on the ground but Checkendon School is open, parents assume that hot dinners will not be delivered and send their child with a packed lunch.

**OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
CHILTERN EDGE SCHOOL**

Reades Lane, Sonning Common
Reading RG4 9LN

Tel: 0118 9721500, Fax: 0118 9721501

Email: Office@chilternedge.oxon.sch.uk

Cover Manager

(Grade 5, points 14 – 17, £16,231 - £17,372 pro rata)

We are looking for a well organised, efficient person to organise our Classroom Cover. You will need to be a 'morning person' who can think on their feet; full training will be given. This is a fantastic opportunity to join a well-established and supportive administration team in a term time only position.

Hours of work: Monday – Friday, 7.30 – 11.30 am, term time only.

Chiltern Edge was described by OfSTED in September 2012 as 'a good school' and 'happy and harmonious'. We pride ourselves on being a learning organisation with a commitment to developing the professional expertise of all our staff in a friendly, supportive working environment.

Further details and an application form are available at www.chilternedge.oxon.sch.uk (vacancies are listed under the staff tab) or contact the school on 01189 721500.

Closing date – 28th January 2016

Interview date – 4th February 2016

The Holiday Club at Chiltern Edge

Open Mon – Friday 8.30 am – 5.30 pm Tuesday 29th March – Friday 8th April inclusive

The Holiday Club @ Chiltern Edge continues to grow from strength to strength as evidenced by the following quote from our Ofsted inspection at Easter 2012:

“Children clearly enjoy their time at this friendly and welcoming club. All staff are enthusiastic, motivated and work effectively as a team to ensure each child is valued, included and respected. Children access a suitable range of resources, activities and outings which enable them to continue to learn and develop in a fun environment.”

And in 2013 Ofsted graded the Early Years provision as **‘Outstanding’**. The popular club offers a childcare solution for working parents, the chance to widen your child’s friendship group, or simply the opportunity for your child to enjoy some new and varied activities.

Costs: Daily rate – 8.30 am – 3.30 pm, £30

Chill out session – 3.30 pm – 5.30 pm, £8

Please email kmalcolm@chilternedge.oxon.sch.uk or contact the school on 0118 9721500 for an application form.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 18 th January	3.00pm: Community Worship in school hall – parents invited
Wednesday 20 th January	Viking visiting Rhino Class
Wednesday 20 th January	7.00pm New parents Welcome Evening in school hall
Thursday 21 st January	School Council and Ambassadors: Visit to Christchurch Cathedral, Oxford
Tuesday 9 th February	Safer Internet Day
Wednesday 10 th February	Mobile Library
Wednesday 10 th February	Parents consultation evening
Thursday 11 th February	2.30pm: Parents forum
Thursday 11 th February	Parents consultation evening
Friday 12 th February	Last day of Term 3
Monday 22 nd February	First day of Term 4
Monday 22 nd February	3.00pm: Community Worship – parents invited
Wednesday 24 th February	Wild Science visiting Owlet Class
Thursday 3 rd March	World Book Day
Wednesday 16 th March	Mobile Library
Friday 18 th March	Sports Relief/PE Day
Thursday 24 th March	2.00pm: Maundy Communion Service in church – parents invited
Thursday 24 th March	Last day of Term 4
Tuesday 12 th April	First Day of Term 5
Monday 18 th April	3.00pm: Community Worship – parents invited
Wednesday 27 th April	Mobile Library
Mon 9 th – Fri 13 th May	SATs Week
Friday 20 th May	2.00pm: Pentecost Service in church followed by dancing at school
Wednesday 25 th May	Mobile Library
Friday 27 th May	RE Day: Christians around the World
Friday 27 th May	Last Day of Term 5
Tuesday 7 th June	First Day of Term 6
Monday 13 th June	3.00pm: Community Worship – parents invited
Wednesday 29 th June	Mobile Library (last one – collection only)
Friday 15 th July	Sports Day
Monday 18 th July	Sports Day reserve
Wednesday 20 th July	Last day of Term 6