



# CHECKENDON C.E. SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## 14<sup>th</sup> December 2017

### Diary for Term 2

<b>Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December</b>	6pm Christmas Service in the Church
<b>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December</b>	'Wizard William' whole school theatre production
<b>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Last day of Term 2, <i>finish at 2pm</i>
<b>Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December</b>	9:30am – 11am Final Christingle Choir rehearsal in Checkendon Church <i>Children may be dropped off. Refreshments will be served. Please let Emma know of any allergies in advance <a href="mailto:daviesems-piano@mybtinternet.com">daviesems-piano@mybtinternet.com</a></i>
<b>Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>First day of Term 3</b>
<b>Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January</b>	3pm Community Worship
<b>Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Owl Class visit: The Science Museum, London <i>Letters will be in book bags tomorrow</i>
<b>Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Rhino Class: Viking Workshop in school <i>Letters will be in book bags tomorrow</i>
<b>Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Owlet Class visit: The Story Museum, Oxford

### Autumn Term Highlights

It has been another busy term at Checkendon School with lots of exciting learning activities, sports events, visits and visitors since September. We are lucky to have such a dedicated and talented team of teachers and teaching assistants constantly striving for the best outcomes for our pupils and making our successful school one that we are all proud of.

#### Learning

Children in all classes have enjoyed taking part in a wide range of learning projects in school and out and about. We welcomed new children in Reception; they have all settled in very well, fully participating in all aspects of our school community. Pupils in Owl Class have had a great time discovering space and recreated their own model solar system. They have also enjoyed making pumpkin jam and marmalade from the pumpkins they harvested. Children in Owl Class enjoyed a fantastic visit to Bournemouth at the beginning of the autumn term, had fun painting squashes at Tolhurst Organic Farm, visited Goring fire station and have been out on several local walks to explore the signs of Autumn. Children in Panda Class had a really interesting visit to Foxes Piece School in Marlow to deliver their *Guide to Checkendon* and enjoyed their art lessons with Mrs Lovegrove. They have just finished their amazing Roman day at Ufton Court which included re-enacting Boudicca's revolt! Pupils in Rhino Class took part in memorable residential experiences: those in Year 6 enjoyed caving, canoeing, and rock climbing in Wales; those in Year 5 had a fantastic overnight stay at Path Hill Outdoors, sleeping in tepee tents on a two day survival themed adventure. More recently, the class has enjoyed Unearthing Anglo-Saxons at The Ashmolean Museum and designed and built an Anglo-Saxon village. Children in Rhino Class would like to say a big thank you to Miss Lloyd and Miss Mundy as they leave this week. The children have really appreciated their teaching and enjoyed their lessons. We wish them good luck for the future and hope they will come back to visit us soon.

#### School Council

Our new School Council representatives have had lots of lively discussions including deciding how to organise themselves to 'Meet and Greet' visitors to their classrooms and organising fundraising for Children In Need.

### **School Values Ambassadors**

Our 8 Year 6 ambassadors have been exemplary role models demonstrating the values the school holds and advising younger children how to demonstrate such values, especially in challenging times. They have also been assisting with whole school worship and leading prayers.

### **Digital Leaders**

We are very grateful to our 3 digital leaders who have provided an excellent technical trouble shooting and photography service throughout the school as well as organising lighting for Silent Night or Noisy Night?

### **PE and School Sports**

Children and teachers in all classes have benefitted from the specialist sports coaching skills of Paul Meakin and Sam Clothier. Pupils of all ages have participated in a wide range of sports clubs and competitions including cross country, football, climbing, equestrian, netball, dodgeball. Cross country was particularly popular with more than 32 children taking part in the November event!

### **Parents**

We were very pleased to welcome parents and neighbours to our community worship, Harvest Service and to the hugely successful Fireworks Night organised by the School Association. We are very grateful to the School Association for everything they do to support the school; thank you to everyone who attended Fireworks Night or the book fair; or purchased tea towels or Christmas cards; or volunteered time to make these things happen. Thanks also to all those parents who have helped us in other ways; in classes, assisting at lunchtimes, accompanying visits and sports events. We wouldn't be the wonderful school community we are without your support!

### **Christmas Festivities**

Despite the snow our Christmas festivities started this week with two amazing productions of 'Silent Night or Noisy Night?'. They were performed with great enthusiasm by pupils in Owllet Class and Owl Class. Thank you to the staff and well done to everyone involved! Please look out for the Nativity Photo in this week or next week's edition of the Henley Standard. The nativity was followed by a delicious Christmas lunch this week served by the staff and our 'festive wear' day raised £150 for ShelterBox. The total money raised now is £449 with a target of £590. Thank you so much for your continued support.

We still have our lovely Christmas Service in the church to look forward too on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm and on the last day of term, the children will get to see a performance of 'Wizard William' by the West Midlands Children's Theatre. An action packed comedy full of magic and intrigue!!

### **Engage eSafety Workshop**

It was great to see so many parents and children at the recent Year 4 to 6 eSafety Workshop. It was really informative and we will share the useful links with you in due course.

### **Graphic Designer needed**

We have two documents that we would like to make into A3 posters for each classroom. Is there anyone that could volunteer their time to help enlarge the current artwork? If you can, please contact the school office.

### **Snow Day**

Thank you for your patience during the recent weather conditions. Thank you especially to Reverend Kevin Davies and Colin Turner for clearing the school drive and making it safe for all visitors.

### **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 Headteacher 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 email 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 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 receive the weekly newsletter. If parents need to find out whether or not the school is closed they should:

- Check their email and the school website
- Look on the county public website: [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/schoolclosures](http://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 meals 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, cancel their lunch online and send their child with a packed lunch.

### **Cleaner Vacancy**

We have a vacancy for a cleaner to join our cleaning team. If you are interested please see the school website.

### **Extra-Curricular Clubs**

#### **Running Club**

The last Running Club at the rec in Stoke Row will be on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December at the usual time of 8am for fun running games.

#### **Next term's clubs**

Please see further below for all next term's clubs. We are still waiting to hear back about pottery and booking forms for tag rugby, circuit training and gymnastics will be sent out shortly. We do hope you will give these clubs your full support in order that they will continue to run.

#### **Violin Club**

Elestr Lee has a couple of spaces if your child is interested in learning the violin. Please contact her on 0118 9478685 or [elestr.lee@btopenworld.com](mailto:elestr.lee@btopenworld.com).

#### **Relax Kids**

We are pleased to announce the return of RELAX KIDS CHILL CLUB at our school next term. Sophia Cleverly runs Relax Kids South Oxfordshire. She will be running a FREE TASTER CLASS FOR children in years 1-6 on Friday 12th January 8-845 in the Hall. Relax Kids is the leader in children's relaxation and mindfulness classes in the UK. The theme for next term is BRILLIANT ME! See attached poster and leaflet for details.

The classes are fun-based and include games, stretching and practical relaxation techniques (diaphragmatic breathing, self and peer kind touch, affirmations and visualisation) to instil and reinforce positivity, focus, concentration, kindness and empathy. The classes are inclusive and are taught to all children with the same seven step method but themed and tailored to the age group and can be adapted to suit particular children's needs. They are brilliant for all children who seem to enjoy the classes hugely, as well as learn from them and can also help children with special educational needs.

Further to the free taster, cost is £6 per session per child.

Please contact Sophia to reserve a place for the taster.

Her contact details are:

### Term 3 Extra-Curricular Activities

DAY	TIME	ACTIVITY	YEARS	ORGANISERS
Monday	Lunchtime	Piano	All	Emma Davies Tel: 01491 680252
	3.30-4.30	Drama Factory (8/1/18 – 26/3/18)	Yrs 2-6	Berzerk Tel: 07976 652742
	3.30-4.30	Tag Rugby tbc	tbc	Paul Meakin paulmeakinsportscoach@gmail.com
Tuesday	(S.R.Pavillion) 8.00-8.30	Stoke Row Running Club (starting back on 9/1/17)	Yrs 3-6	Stoke Row Running Club Elise Way - eliseway@hotmail.co.uk
	Lunchtime	Piano	All	Emma Davies Tel: 01491 680252
	3.30-5.15	Equestrian Club (9/1/18 – 6/2/18)	All	Checkendon Equestrian Centre Tel: 01491 680225
Wednesday	08.00-08.45 (Hall)	Circuit Training tbc	tbc	Paul Meakin paulmeakinsportscoach@gmail.com
	Lunchtime	Piano	All	Emma Davies Tel: 01491 680252
	Lunchtime	Violin (restarting on 10/1/18)	All	Elestr Lee Tel: 0118 9478685 elestr.lee@btopenworld.com
	3.30-4.30	Gymnastics tbc	All	Paul Meakin paulmeakinsportscoach@gmail.com
Thursday	08.00-08.40	Music Club (11/1/18 – 29/3/18)	All	Emma Davies Tel: 01491 680252
	10:10	Woodwind	All	Lucy Robertson County Music Service
Friday	08.00-08.45 (Hall)	Relax Kids (restarting 12/1/18 with free taster session)	Yrs 1-6	Sophia Cleverly Tel: 07811 268990 relaxkidssouthoxfordshire@gmail.com
	Lunchtime	Piano	All	Emma Davies Tel: 01491 680252
	3.30-4.30	Football (12/1/18 – 23/3/18)	All	Pro-Direct Tel: 07921 726332
	3.30	Guitar (restarting on 19/1/17)	All	Russ Payne Tel: 07921 087816

## Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> February 2017	from 3:30pm: Parents' Evening
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2017	from 3:30pm: Parents' Evening
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	Last day of term 3, finish at 3.20pm
Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 16 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Spring Holiday
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February	Inset day – no children in school
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	First day of term 4
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> February	3pm Community Worship
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	Last day of term 4, finish at 3.20pm
Fri 30 <sup>th</sup> March – Fri 13 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Holiday
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> April	Inset day – no children in school
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> April	First day of term 5
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	3pm Community Worship
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6 SATs week
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	Last day of term 5, finish at 3.20pm
Mon 28 <sup>th</sup> May – Fri 1 <sup>st</sup> Jun	Summer Holiday
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	Inset day – no children in school
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	First day of term 6
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	3pm Community Worship
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	Annual Reports issued
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> July	Last day of term 6, finish at 2pm

### **OXFORD & CAMBRIDGE SINGING SCHOOL CHRISTMAS COURSE**

DATES: Wednesday 20th and Thursday 21st December 2017

WHERE: Magdalen College, OXFORD. ([magd.ox.ac.uk](http://magd.ox.ac.uk))

BOOKING: Via Our Website [www.oxbridgesingingschool.co.uk](http://www.oxbridgesingingschool.co.uk)

*Checkendon C of E Primary School accepts no responsibility for the organisation of external events.*