



CHECKENDON C.E. SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

15th December 2016

Diary for Term 2	
Thursday 15 th December	6.00 – 7.30pm: Christmas Disco
Friday 16 th December	Last day of Term 2 – finish at 2.00pm
Tuesday 3 rd January	INSET Day – No children in school
Wednesday 4 th January	First Day of Term 3
Monday 9 th January	3.00pm: Community Worship in the school hall, all welcome
Thursday 12 th January	Panda Class visit: Ufton Court
Thursday 12 th January	Owlet Class visit: The Story Museum
Friday 13 th January	Rhino Class visit: Reading Gurdwara

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 14 new children in Reception; they have all settled in very well, fully participating in all aspects of our school community. Pupils in Owlet Class had a great time discovering space junk and finding out about Mockit. Children in Owl Class enjoyed a fantastic visit to Windsor castle at the beginning of the autumn term, acted out the Queen's coronation and then turned the classroom into a toy museum. Panda Class kicked off the term with an adventurous trip to Adventure Dolphin in Pangbourne, carrying out many of the activities described in the book *Cliffhanger* by Jacqueline Wilson which they studied as their focus text. They have since enjoyed learning about Ancient Egypt, including exploring Egyptian artefacts with a workshop led by Reading Museum. 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 an Ancient Greek workshop day; dressing up as Ancient Greeks, trying Greek food, making jewellery and Ancient Greek columns.

School Council

Our new School Council representatives have had lots of lively discussions, organised a fundraising event for Children In Need, gathered feedback from pupils about playtime activities and met with Mrs Seymour to order new equipment for the school.

School Values Ambassadors

Our 10 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. As well as assisting with whole school worship (this term's themes have been humility and friendship) and leading prayers, the ambassadors worked with Mrs Seymour to produce the School Values Ambassadors' Big Book of Stories; they are planning a book tour to share this with pupils in all classes in the Spring Term.

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 Born In A Barn.

PE and School Sports

Children and teachers in Owl, Panda and Rhino classes have benefitted from the specialist sports coaching skills of Paul Meakin. Pupils of all ages have participated in a wide range of sports clubs and competitions including cross country, football, orienteering, archery, equestrian, netball, dodgeball. Cross country was particularly popular with more than 25 children taking part in the final competition of the series!

Parents

We were very pleased to welcome parents and neighbours to our community worship, Harvest Service and Christmas Service, as well as to the hugely successful Fireworks Night organised by the School Association. We shared our School Development Plan at our termly Parents Forum and we were delighted that so many parents attended the recent workshops on 21st Century Children: New ideas for New Challenges. We are very grateful for 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 and helping us out with building and grounds maintenance. We wouldn't be the wonderful school community we are without your support!

Christmas

Our Christmas festivities started with an exciting production of *The Legend of the Golden Dragon*, a delicious Christmas lunch this week, a lovely Christmas Service in the church and much excitement surrounds the forthcoming children's Christmas disco. However, the highlight was Born In A Barn, performed with great enthusiasm by pupils in Owlet Class and Owl Class. Thank you to the staff and well done to everyone involved!

Learning Projects for Term 3

In Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2, we are trialling a slightly different approach to curriculum planning next term, with a focus on a series of learning projects rather than timetabled weekly lessons across the whole term. This means that, for example, a science unit that may have been taught once a week across the term will be taught as a separate learning project on consecutive afternoons (literacy and maths lessons will continue timetabled daily every morning). There is evidence that this improves the development of subject specific skills and allows for more opportunities for children to make links to the 'Why?' as well as the 'What?' they are learning. We welcome feedback from parents and children about this in due course.

Owlet Class	Once Upon a Time		
Owl Class	Geography: Frozen	Science: Ice Investigations	Art: A Tiny Flake of Snow
Panda Class	Computing: Wiki makers	History: The Six Wives of Henry VIII	Science: Zoo Keepers
Rhino Class	Literacy: <i>There's a boy in the girls bathroom</i> by Louis Sachar	History: Fireworks Night	Art: Portraits

Farewell to Mrs LeCorgne

On Friday we say thank you and farewell to Alison LeCorgne. We are very grateful for all her hard work in

Rhino Class this term and all she has done to ensure that there is a smooth handover to Katy Brereton. We wish her all the best for the future.

Spring Term Clubs

Please see below for a copy of next term's timetable, if you have any queries or are unsure how to book any of the clubs please speak to the School Office. We do hope you will give these clubs your full support in order that they will continue to run.

Nativity Photo

Please look out for the Nativity Photo in this week or next week's edition of the Henley Standard.

Checkendon School in the 1960's

We received a very interesting letter recently from Mr Philips whose wife worked as a teacher at Checkendon School, under the headship of Mrs Grey back in the early 1960's. The family have many happy memories of their time here, including the Maypole dancing. Please see the photo below, do get in touch if you recognise a former pupil!



Graham Patrick David Jonathan Richard Richard Dennis Walter Lawrence Martin
Bucket McDermott Strachan Wyatt Groves Howes Pearson Capek Tegg Tomsett
Shawn MariJane Shirley Christine Mrs. Sonia Susan Susan Viriane Susan
Jones Easton Dickerly Strachen Grey Capek Prestidge Spokes Horne Wyatt
Nigel Carl Bamy Debby Gillian Marian ? Miranda ? Martin Andrew
Prestidge Eckett Tegg Wilcox Dickery Tomsett Hatusinska Jones Dickerly

Thank you to Christmas Tree World

We would like to thank Christmas Tree World at Rodgers Fencing, Goring Heath for kindly donating the school tree again this year, please go along and support them when you choose your own tree.

Fund raising for our School Association without doing anything!

Why not collect free funds for our school whilst Christmas shopping online? Simply register at www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/checkendonprimaryschoolassociation

Then every time you shop at some of your favourite stores like Amazon, John Lewis, Argos, M&S you will earn vital funds for the play tower and other school projects. Thank you for your support.

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 telephone or 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 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 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.

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 (16.1.17-27.3.17)	Yrs 2-6	Berzerk 07976 652742 Josh Buckland
	3.30-4.30	Pottery (9.1.17-20.3.17)	Yrs 2-6	Sarah Rushbrook 07771 768491
Tuesday	(S.R.Pavillion) 8.00-8.30	Stoke Row Running Club	Yrs 3-6	Stoke Row Running Club Elise Way - eliseway@hotmail.co.uk
	08.00-08.40	Judo (24.1.17-	Yr1-6	linkai Tel: 0118 9885822
	Lunchtime	Piano	All	Emma Davies Tel: 01491 680252
	3.30-5.15	Equestrian Club (10.1.17-7.2.17)	All	Check. Equestrian Centre Tel: 01491 680225
	3.30-4.30	French Club (10.1.17-4.4.17)	Y2-6	Tutorbox Irene Casey Tel: 0118 9841684
	3.30-4.30	Archery Club		Ignite Tel: 01869 220890
Wednesday	Lunchtime	Piano	All	Emma Davies Tel: 01491 680252
	Lunchtime	Violin (11.1.17-	All	Elestr Lee Tel: 0118 9478685
	3.30 – 4.30	Netball	All	Ignite Tel: 01869 220890
Thursday	08.00-08.40	Music Club (5.1.17-6.4.17)	All	Emma Davies Tel: 01491 680252
	11.10-11.30	Woodwind	All	Lucy Robertson County Music Service
	Lunchtime	Chill Skills Club (5.1.17-9.2.17)	Yr5&6	Sophia Cleverly, Relax Kids 07811268990
	3.30-4.30	Magical Maths Club (12.1.17-23.2.17)	All	Tom Ward 01162029944
Friday	08.00 – 08.40	Dodgeball (13.1.17-10.2.17)	All	Paul Meakin 07976 651635
	Lunchtime	Piano	All	Emma Davies Tel: 01491 680252
	Lunchtime	Chess Club (20.1.17-31.3.17)	Y3-6	Mr Boyer Owl Class
	3.30-4.30	Football (20.1.17-31.3.17)	All	Pro-Direct Tel: 07921 726332
	3.30	Guitar	All	Russ Payne Tel: 07921 087816

Dates for your Diary

Thursday 15 th December	6.00 – 7.30pm Christmas Disco
Friday 16 th December	Last Day of Term 2, finish at 2pm
Tuesday 3 rd January	Inset Day – no children in school
Wednesday 4 th January 2017	First Day of Term 3
Monday 9 th January 2017	3.00pm: Community Worship, all welcome
Tuesday 12 th January	Panda Class visit to Ufton Court
Tuesday 12 th January	Owlet Class visit to The Story Museum
Friday 13 th January	Rhino Class visit to Reading Gurdwara
Thursday 2 nd February 2017	Parents Forum, all welcome
Tuesday 7 th February 2017	Safer Internet Day
Wednesday 8 th February 2017	from 3:30pm: Parents' Evening
Thursday 9 th February 2017	from 3:30pm: Parents' Evening
Monday 27 th February 2017	2.30pm: Community Worship, all welcome
Wednesday 1 st March 2017	2.15pm: Ash Wednesday Service, all welcome
Thursday 27 th April 2017	Bluebell Walk
Mon 8 th – Thurs 11 th May 2017	KS2 SATS
Monday 8 th May 2017	2.30pm: Community Worship, all welcome
Thursday 25 th May 2017	Parents Forum, all welcome
Friday 9 th June 2017	2.00pm: Pentecost Service & May Pole Dancing, all welcome
Mon 12 th – Fri 16 th June 2017	Phonics Assessments
Monday 12 th June 2017	2.30pm: Community Worship, all welcome
Thursday 6 th July 2017	Reports Issued
Friday 14 th July 2017	Sports day
Monday 17 th July 2017	Reserve Sports Day
Friday 21 st July 2017	Leavers Service

Church Services & Community Worship		
Community Worship	Monday 9 th January 2017	3.00pm
Community Worship	Monday 27 th February 2017	3.00pm
Ash Wednesday Service	Wednesday 1 st March 2017	2.15pm
Community Worship	Monday 8 th May 2017	3.00pm
Pentecost Service & Maypole Dancing	Friday 9 th June 2017	2.00pm
Community Worship	Monday 12 th June 2017	3.00pm

INSET Day
Tuesday 3 rd January 2017
Friday 7 th April 2017

Parents Forum	
Thursday 2 nd February 2017	2.30pm
Thursday 25 th May 2017	2.30pm

Parent Consultation Evenings and Reports		
Parents' Evening	Wednesday 8 th February 2017	3:30 - 5:50

Parents' Evening	Thursday 9 th February 2017	3:30 –5:50
Reports issued	Thursday 6 th July 2017	

JAZZ

**Oxford University
Jazz Orchestra**

Checkendon Village Hall

Friday Jan 27th

7.30pm

Book now on 07974 918707
honorvs@gmail.com

Tickets £20 in aid of Checkendon Church. Includes supper.



Dan Housego – Christmas Cricket Camp at The Oratory School

Spaces still available!!

To book:

1. Click on this link: <https://www.smoothbook.co/ap/index.php/smart/home/19679#/>
2. Choose Resource - Christmas Camp at The Oratory School
3. Choose Service - Either pick the Full Day, Half Day or Full Week option
4. You can pay via Paypal or bring cash/cheque on the day.

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