



## CHECKENDON C.E. SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

23<sup>rd</sup> March 2017

Diary for Term 4	
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	Red Nose Day: fund raising event organised by the School Council please see further details below
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> March	15.20: Easter Egg Hunt – please see below for further details <i>Note: Term 4 Parents' Forum cancelled as it clashes with this event – next Parents' Forum 25<sup>th</sup> May</i>
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	15.30: Information Meeting Kilvrough Residential: parents of pupils in Year 5
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	15.30: Information Meeting Path Hill Residential: parents of pupils in Year 4
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>Last Day of Term 4</b>
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> April	INSET Day
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> April	First Day of Term 5
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> April	13.15: Bluebell Walk

### Red Nose Day Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March

To celebrate Red Nose Day 2017 the School Council is holding a joke competition! On Friday, the four class winners will take part in the Grand Finale and will present their joke to the whole school. School Council representatives will decide on the overall winner based on the audience response to each of the jokes. There will be Red Nose Collecting Boxes in each classroom: our target is to raise £100, so all donations welcome!

### At Checkendon Primary School this week...

#### School Values Ambassadors

Joseph has been helping with worship this week, setting up the hall and leading prayers.

#### PE and School Sport

We have been lucky enough to receive 10 new footballs for use during P.E sessions as well as break and lunchtime. Our previous footballs were ruined by being left outside for prolonged periods of time therefore please discourage your child from using school equipment before and after school and alert a member of staff if any equipment has been left out by mistake.

Last week our sports leaders planned and led break time sessions for KS1 children. They did a mixture of multi-skills and hockey based activities which looked great fun! Several members of staff commented on what a good job they were doing. Well done sports leaders!

#### Worship in school this week

Term 4 Value: Truthfulness

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March: International Happiness Day

Music for reflection: Cavatina by John Williams

## Class Highlights

### Owlet Class

Children in Owlet Class have enjoyed going into the woods with whiteboards to write. We have written down words that describe what we can see in the woods then have come back to class to use these words in our writing. We have been practising using our new digraphs and have been acting out stories to remind us of the sounds they make.

### Owl Class

Spring must be here: children in Owl Class have planted their tomato and sunflower seeds and are waiting for their potato plants to pop up out of the ground. We were excited because we met our new classmate, Lacey, but are also a bit sad because we have to say goodbye to Miss Duckworth on Friday.

### Panda Class

This week, children in Panda Class have started their computing topic that looks at opinion polls. They have been creating surveys to ask each other about the Victorian times, representing the results in charts and presenting their findings to the class.

### Rhino Class

Year 5 children in Rhino Class have continued their scientific adventures this week when they attended the Science Workshops at The Oratory School. They took part in fascinating experiments and investigated different materials in the chemistry labs. They also built working models of lungs in biology investigations. The afternoon was informative and great fun.

## Happiness Day

We started the week by celebrating *International Happiness Day* on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March. In whole school worship, we explored the GREAT of the acronym **GREAT DREAM 10 keys to happier living**. We talked about Giving (do things for others), Relating (connect with people), Exercising (take care of your body), Awareness (live life mindfully) and Trying Out (keep learning new things). In the afternoon, Sophia Cleverly of Relax Kids joined class teachers and children of all ages in a range of activities. In Owlet Class, a star smiley cushion was passed around for the children to hug and pass on with a smile. In Owl Class, children talked about emotions being like the weather on Mr Boyer's calendar and discussed watching their thoughts and emotions, choosing which one to jump on board to "catch" (like a bus). Children in Panda Class and Rhino Class created big waves through the linking of hands and discussed how we are each part of the school community, linked together.

Children in each class created paper chain links filled with pupils' happy thoughts and at the end of the day, we came together to learn about the DREAM of the **GREAT DREAM**. We talked about Direction (have goals to look forward to), Resilience (find ways to bounce back), Emotions (focus on what's good), Acceptance (be comfortable with who you are) and Meaning (be part of something bigger). We added together the sections of the chain (11.84m!) and this is now hanging in the entrance hall, do take a look. The day was a great success: not only did the children have fun making the chains, they learnt about some of the things that have a positive impact on people's overall happiness and well-being.

## Goodbye to Miss Duckworth

This week we are saying thank you and goodbye to Miss Duckworth who has been here on her second placement from Oxford Brookes. During her placement she has worked with both year groups in Owl Class and the children have particularly enjoyed her science investigations into what plants need to grow healthily and art work based on Arcimboldo. Miss Duckworth also joined the recent trip to Oxfordshire Bus Museum as part of the Owl Class transport topic. She has been a huge asset to the class and we wish her all the best for her teaching career.

### **School Administrator**

We had a high level of interest following the advertisement and a strong field of applicants. Interviews took place today; further details about the new appointment will follow in due course.

### **Governor Visits**

We are grateful for the continued support of our school governors who volunteer their time to help the school in all sorts of ways. Most governors were in school on Monday evening this week for one of their termly FGB meetings; Clive Selby, our Health and Safety governor did lots of work behind the scenes to help us prepare for the recent audit, Richard Castle has been in to discuss RE with pupils and Duncan Brown, the safeguarding governor, visited to monitor record keeping. We are on the look-out for a new governor from May, do get in touch if you may be interested in getting involved!

### **'Play Fighting'**

'Play fighting' is not allowed at school. Several parents have raised concerns about over-boisterous play in the playground *after school* and a number of recent incidents have resulted in minor injuries. Please ensure that children are adequately supervised if they remain on school premises after school. Thank you for your support.

### **Parent Protect flyers**

Oxfordshire County Council has asked schools to circulate to parents a leaflet designed to give guidance and information to help with understanding the sexual development of children aged 5-11. Please find this attached.



### **School Association – Easter Egg Hunt**

The School Association are arranging a fun packed Easter Egg Hunt on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March, from 3.20pm to 5.30pm. The event will involve lots of fun games, activities, face painting, a hot dog and drink and of course a search for chocolate eggs! We hope the children will all join in and support the School Association as they continue to raise funds towards the second phase of the play tower. Tickets are available in advance from the school office until the morning of Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March. Please ensure you purchase yours before Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March. Younger siblings are very welcome but will require parental supervision. If you wish to give your child a small amount of pocket money for the games or face painting (suggested maximum of £2) please put this in a named, sealed envelope and hand it into the office for safekeeping.

### **New Parent Governor Vacancy**

From May 2017 there will be a Parent Governor vacancy as Pete Schmidt steps down after completing his term. Pete is on the Resources Committee, with specific responsibility for monitoring the maintenance and upkeep of the school premises. If you may be interested being a school governor please speak to Pete Schmidt, Jackie Griffin, Gillian Seymour or Sarah Doherty.

### **School Association Contact Details**

The School Association Chairs, Wendy and Pete have set up an email address, please contact them at the following address for anything related to the School Association [checkendonsa@gmail.com](mailto:checkendonsa@gmail.com).

### **Fund raising for our School Association without doing anything!**

Why not collect free funds for our school whilst shopping online? Simply register at [www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/checkendonprimaryschoolassociation](http://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.

### **Sainsbury's Active Kids**

The Sainsbury's Active Kids voucher scheme is returning and Checkendon School are taking part to earn new cooking and sports equipment. We would like to ask parents to collect the vouchers and post them in the collection box outside the School Office.

## Term 4 - Extra-Curricular Activities

DAY	TIME	ACTIVITY	YEARS	ORGANISERS
<b>Monday</b>	Lunchtime	<b>Piano</b>	All	Emma Davies Tel: 01491 680252
	3.30-4.30	<b>Drama Factory (16.1.17-27.3.17)</b>	Yrs 2-6	Berzerk 07976 652742 Josh Buckland
	3.30-4.30	<b>Pottery (9.1.17-20.3.17)</b>	Yrs 2-6	Sarah Rushbrook 07771 768491
<b>Tuesday</b>	(S.R.Pavillion) 8.00-8.30	<b>Stoke Row Running Club</b>	Yrs 3-6	Stoke Row Running Club Elise Way - eliseway@hotmail.co.uk
	Lunchtime	<b>Piano</b>	All	Emma Davies Tel: 01491 680252
	3.30-5.15	<b>Equestrian Club (28.2.17-28.3.17)</b>	All	Check. Equestrian Centre Tel: 01491 680225
	3.30-4.30	<b>Archery Club</b>		Ignite Tel: 01869 220890
<b>Wednesday</b>	Lunchtime	<b>Piano</b>	All	Emma Davies Tel: 01491 680252
	Lunchtime	<b>Violin (11.1.17-</b>	All	Elestr Lee Tel: 0118 9478685
<b>Thursday</b>	08.00-08.40	<b>Music Club (5.1.17-6.4.17)</b>	All	Emma Davies Tel: 01491 680252
	11.10-11.30	<b>Woodwind</b>	All	Lucy Robertson County Music Service
	Lunchtime	<b>Chill Skills Club (23.2.17-6.4.17)</b>	Yr5&6	Sophia Cleverly, Relax Kids 07811268990
	3.30-4.30	<b>Magical Maths Club (12.1.17-2.3.17)</b>	All	Tom Ward 01162029944
<b>Friday</b>	08.00 – 08.40	<b>Dodgeball (3.3.17-31.3.17)</b>	All	Paul Meakin 07976 651635
	Lunchtime	<b>Piano</b>	All	Emma Davies Tel: 01491 680252
	Lunchtime	<b>Chess Club (20.1.17-31.3.17)</b>	Y3-6	Mr Boyer Owl Class
	3.30-4.30	<b>Football (20.1.17-31.3.17)</b>	All	Pro-Direct Tel: 07921 726332
	3.30	<b>Guitar</b>	All	Russ Payne Tel: 07921 087816

## Dates for your Diary

Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	Red Nose Day
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> March	15.20: Easter Egg Hunt – Further details coming soon
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	15.30: Information Meeting Kilvrough Residential: parents of pupils in Year 5
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	15.30: Information Meeting Path Hill Residential: parents of pupils in Year 4
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> April	Last Day of Term 4
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> April	INSET Day
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> April	First Day of Term 5
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> April	13.15: Bluebell Walk
Mon 8 <sup>th</sup> – Thurs 11 <sup>th</sup> May	KS2 SATS
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	3.00pm: Community Worship, all welcome
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	School Census – Please order a school meal
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	2.30pm: Parents Forum, all welcome
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	Last Day of Term 5
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	First Day of Term 6
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	2.00pm: Pentecost Service & May Pole Dancing, all welcome
Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 16 <sup>th</sup> June	Phonics Assessments
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	3.00pm: Community Worship, all welcome
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Reports Issued
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Sports Day
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Reserve Sports Day
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	1.15pm: Leavers Service
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	Last Day of Term 6, finish at 2pm

<b>Church Services &amp; Community Worship</b>		
Community Worship	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> May 2017	3.00pm
Pentecost Service & Maypole Dancing	Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> June 2017	2.00pm
Community Worship	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> June 2017	3.00pm

<b>INSET Day</b>
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> April 2017

<b>Parents Forum</b>	
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> May 2017	2.30pm

<b>Parent Consultation Evenings and Reports</b>	
Reports issued	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> July 2017

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