



CHECKENDON C.E. SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

24th September 2015

Diary for Term 1

Tomorrow	Owl Class trip to Bournemouth
Tomorrow	Owlet Class photograph in Henley Standard
Wednesday 7 th October	2.45pm: Harvest Thanksgiving Service in church – all welcome
Wednesday 21 st October	Charlotte Snowden taking individual pupil photos
Wednesday 21 st October	7.00pm: Wednesday Workshop for parents – ‘healthy lifestyle’

School Guide Certificate of Excellence

We are pleased to have earned a 4 star School Guide Certificate of Excellence! The School Guide star ratings are based on a combination of official performance data published by the Department for Education and Ofsted. The certificate will be displayed in the entrance hall.



Science Afternoon for Year 5 Pupils

On Tuesday pupils in Year 5 took part in a Science Afternoon for Primary Schools at the Oratory School. After refreshments in the front hall, they made strong bridges from newspaper that would hold a child's weight. They worked in teams and each had to build one part of the bridge. They learnt that you can make newspaper into a strong material by rolling it and gluing it together. Next they went to the biology classroom and made necklaces from their own DNA. They rubbed a stick on their cheeks and then put it in a blue liquid which broke the cells up and then into white liquid which separated the cells into different sections. The DNA was in one part. Their last activity was chemistry and they heated red cabbage to make blue water and then changed the colour of the water with household liquids. Thank you very much to everyone at the Oratory School; it was an excellent afternoon!

Thanks for Ivy and Rhian for their help with this report

Read 2 Dogs

We were delighted this week to welcome Jill Tomlinson to school from the Read 2 Dogs Programme. The programme is designed to give pupils an opportunity to increase their confidence and enjoyment in reading. She brought along her 7 year old Labrador 'Choco' whom the children enjoyed meeting and reading to. We are currently trying this out in Owl Class with a small selection of pupils and hope to give more children the opportunity to be involved during the year.

Keeping children safe at the beginning and end of the school day

There have been a small number of minor accidents and incidents recently which have been the result of children not being supervised by an adult after the end of the school day. One of the ways we ensure that pupils leave school safely is to ensure that they are collected by an adult. If they are in Y5 or Y6 and parents would like them to walk home unaccompanied, we ask for this to be put in writing so that we are clear about our responsibility. In order to reduce risk to the safety of our pupils, the following procedure is in place

The beginning of the school day: 8.40am

- On arrival in the morning all children come directly into the classroom, where there will be a member of staff to supervise them.
- Children are not allowed to play outside at the start of the day.

The end of the school day: 3.20pm

- Pupils in Reception are handed over directly to named adult at the classroom door at the end of the day.
- Pupils in KS1 are handed over directly to a named adult at the gated section of the playground near Owllet Class at the end of the day.
- Pupils in Panda Class are met at the gated section of the playground near Owllet Class at the end of the day. Pupils in Rhino Class are met at the external door of their classroom at the end of the day. Children in Key Stage 2 are instructed to return to the classroom immediately if their parent or carer is not there (unless written permission has been given for Year 5 or 6 pupils to walk home unaccompanied).
- Parents are to inform the school if an unknown adult is to collect their child.
- Children are not allowed to play in the playground or on the equipment at the end of the day unless they are supervised by their parent or carer.
- Scooters and bicycles are not to be used on the pathway in the direction of the road.
- Lollipop person helps children and adults cross the road.

Thank you for your support

Photograph of new Owlet Class in the Henley Standard

The Henley Standard photographer visited us during the first week of term and took a photograph of our new starters in Owlet Class. The photograph will appear in tomorrow's 'First Class', a supplement in the Henley Standard, so do look out for it!

School Council News

The new School Council met for the first time this week. Our photos are now up on the School Council Notice board. During the meeting we set up a rota for Mrs McEvoy's bench so that every day we are keeping an eye on any children sitting on the bench who may need help finding a friend to play with. Next week in Class Councils we will remind all children of the purpose of the bench. We will also introduce the 'Firework Poster competition' being run by Oxfordshire County Council.

Harvest Thanksgiving Service – 2.45pm Wednesday 7th October

We hope you will be able to join us for our Harvest Thanksgiving Service which will be on **Wednesday 7th October at 2.45 pm** in the church. The service this year will focus on the value of thankfulness which has been our theme this term. There will be a collection of tins, packets and jars for ReadiFood, Reading's Food Bank for those in need.

We would like to invite children to bring in a tin, packet or jar on the day to donate to this worthwhile cause. These will be presented as gifts during the service.

We look forward to seeing you then.

ReadiFood
Reading's Food Bank
Food Parcels for those in Need

Imagineering Club – Volunteers Please!

We have had the kind offer from a parent to run the Imagineering Club for Y5/6 pupils. We now need volunteer helpers in order the club to go ahead. The plan would be to offer this as an after school club for an agreed number of weeks.

The club is great fun and children make a variety of working models from kits, which they take home when complete, using simple tools and learning basic skills.

If you can help us provide this opportunity for our children, please talk to the school office. Thank you

Air Ambulance Art Competition for Pupils in Years R, 1 & 2

Mrs Seymour is launching an exciting competition for pupils in Year R, Year 1 and Year 2 to draw a picture of an air ambulance to raise money for the charity. We are asking for a donation of £1.00 per entry which will be donated to the Thames Valley Air Ambulance. The winner in each year group will win a matchbox toy air ambulance. All entries should be given to the school office by Monday 5th October.

School Photographs – Wednesday 21st October

Charlotte Snowden will be in school to take photographs of individual children next week - in the morning of 21st October. If you would like any younger siblings included in the photograph of your child, please bring them along at 8.40am.

Drama After School Club

Berzerk Productions have started Drama Factory Club on Mondays from 3.20pm – 4.20pm for Year 2 children and above. The classes involve exercise in voice, improvisation, trust, self-esteem, confidence and mime and projects include short films, shadow puppets and small performances. If your child is interested, please ask the school office for more information.

Piano Recital at St Mary's Church Wallingford at 7.30pm on Saturday 26th September in aid of Myeloma UK

Join local pianists Mary Daniels and Clare Mayo for a delightful evening in beautiful surroundings. Hear pieces from a variety of composers, including Chopin and Debussy

TICKETS £8.00 INCLUDING REFRESHMENTS

Available on the door or ring Mary on 01491 682169 or Clare on 01491 681346 to buy in advance

THE OXFORD & CAMBRIDGE SINGING SCHOOL CHRISTMAS COURSE

21st and 22nd December,

WORCESTER COLLEGE, OXFORD

The Oxford and Cambridge Singing School is for children aged 7-13, who love to sing. Based at Worcester College, in central Oxford, we create a fun and welcoming environment in which to learn some beautiful music, and at the same time provide a background in vocal technique, music theory and history. This Christmas, we will be singing a wide variety of carols, old and new, including: Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day, Personet Hodie and In Dulci Jubilo.

Courses include whole-group singing, musical games and exercises to improve sight reading and small group vocal coaching. Families are most welcome to come and listen to a mini-concert at the end of each day.

For more information, please email wickhamsamantha@yahoo.com or call 07867 778326.

AIRMAGEDDON



Airmageddon, a brand new CBBC entertainment show, where YOU get to customise & fly one of our incredible drones, is looking for fearless 9-14 year olds, and their friends, to take part!

- Do you like flying radio controlled drones?
- Do you want to customise and fly your own drone?
- If you think you have what it takes to compete in a brand new drone based battle of skills then apply now!

Please email apply@airmageddon.co.uk for an application form.

Closing date is **16th October 2015**

Henley College Holiday Club Half Term : 26th - 30th October Join us for a fun packed week!!!!

The club provides a well balanced variety of indoor and outdoor activities, suitable for children aged 5-12 years and aimed at all abilities. Activities are held in a safe and secure environment either in our new sports hall, dance studio or the main hall at our Rotherfield site.

Fun off-site Trips:

Tuesday - Reading Museum or Dinton Pastures
Wednesday - Cinema (there is an additional fee for this trip)

Other activities will include indoor and outdoor sports, games, arts and crafts, parachute games, cooking, assault courses, HCHC's got talent, and Halloween Party

£22.50 per child per day (£6 per day discount for their siblings) 8.30am – 5.30pm
£ 12.00 per half day 8.30 - 13.00 or 13.00 - 17.30

Dates for your Diary

Friday 25 th September	Owl Class trip to Bournemouth
Wednesday 7 th October	2.45pm: Harvest Thanksgiving service in church – all welcome
Friday 9 th October	All years: drumming workshop – letters in book bags next week
Wednesday 21 st October	Charlotte Snowden taking individual pupil photos
Wednesday 21 st October	Mobile Library
Wednesday 21 st October	7.00pm: Wednesday Workshop for parents – ‘healthy lifestyle’
Thursday 22 nd October	Owl Class: Oxfordshire Heritage visiting Checkendon for hands on session
Thursday 22 nd October	No KS2 swimming lessons today
Friday 23 rd October	Last day of Term 1
Monday 26 th – Friday 30 th Oct	Autumn holiday
Monday 2 nd November	Inset Day – no children in school
Tuesday 3 rd November	First day of Term 2
Wednesday 4 th November	Y6: IMPS visit to Townlands Hospital
Friday 6 th November	Panda Class visit to Chedworth Roman Villa
Friday 6 th November	Fireworks Night – organised by School Association-
Monday 9 th November	3.00pm: Community Worship – parents invited
Monday 23 rd November	All years: Splats visiting – Jungle Book Make a Play Day workshops: 2.45pm: Parents are invited to watch their production in the school hall
Thursday 26 th November	Wednesday 25 th November Mobile library (last before Christmas) 3.00pm: Travelling Books book fair in school hall – parents welcome to view before end of school day
Friday 27 th November	3.20pm: Travelling Books book fair in Panda Class
Wednesday 9 th December	Wednesday Workshop for parents
Monday 14 th December	2.00pm in school hall: Owl and Owlet Class Christmas Nativity
Tuesday 15 th December	6.30pm in school hall: Owl and Owlet Class Christmas Nativity
Wednesday 16 th December	Children’s Christmas dinner
Thursday 17 th December	6.30pm: Christmas Service in church
Friday 18 th December	Last day of Term 2 (finish at 2.00pm)