



CHECKENDON C.E. SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

24th November 2016

Diary for Term 1	
Friday 25 th November	9.00am: School Association Book Fair
Monday 5 th December	Panda Class Egyptian Workshop
Monday 5 th December	9am, 2.30pm and 7pm 21st Century Children: New Ideas for New Challenges Parents Workshop
Tuesday 6 th December	NSPCC Assembly
Thursday 8 th December	Legend of the Golden Dragon – see book bags for further details
Friday 9 th December	2.45pm: Scenes from Matilda by Panda Class, All Welcome
Friday 9 th December	Football after school club – double session
Monday 12 th December	2.00pm: Reception & KS1 Nativity, All Welcome
Tuesday 13 th December	5.30pm: Reception & KS1 Nativity, All Welcome
Wednesday 14 th December	Christmas Lunch – please order online with Aspens
Wednesday 14 th December	6.30pm: Christmas Service in the Church All welcome
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

At Checkendon Primary School this week...

School Values Ambassadors

Olivia has been helping out with whole school worship this week and led prayers on Monday. The School Values Ambassadors' Big Book of Stories is nearly complete and ambassadors have also been writing replies to a letter we received from the husband of Mary Phillips, who was a teacher here in the 1960s, when the head teacher was Mrs Grey.

PE and School Sport

The children in Panda and Rhino Class have been enjoying swimming lessons and have shown determination to improve their stamina and speed. Hopefully this will stand them in good stead in our swimming gala next term! We are eagerly awaiting feedback from the School Council about their investigation into playtime activities. Once we know which kinds of equipment pupils prefer, we plan to make some purchases to refresh what is available. We are committed to fostering active playtimes for all pupils and would welcome comments and ideas from parents.

Outdoor Learning

Many of you will have noticed the wonderful Sukkah created by pupils in Owl Class in the outdoor learning space outside their classroom. A sukkah is a temporary hut constructed for use during the week-

long Jewish festival of Sukkot. It is topped with branches and often well decorated with autumnal, harvest or Judaic themes.

Worship in school this week

Term 2 theme: Friendship

Friends Again Children learnt from the experience of the disciple Simon Peter. They reflected upon the feelings associated with being betrayed by a friend and experiences of letting a friend down when they needed help.

Text: First person account from the viewpoint of Simon Peter on the night of Jesus's arrest

Music for reflection: The Best Gift

Updated policies

There are a number of updated policies and subject statements on the website.

What have we been learning in school this week?

Owlet Class

Owlet class have been exploring more and less with amounts of objects and number lines. We are now looking at 1 more than any number to 20. Some children are working on much higher numbers than 20 and we are all practising recognising numerals. Children have been learning new sounds f and b and tricky word to.

Owl Class

This week, Owl Class have created their interpretation of a Jewish sukkah in our outside area. Inside, we have been interviewing local people to find out how the weather affects their jobs, and we have written and filmed our weather forecasts. Parents, if you are available first thing on Friday morning to see your child present the weather, please stay at drop off time to see their videos.

Panda Class

The children in Panda Class are becoming researchers of ancient Egyptian artefacts and are enjoying writing itineraries for the films they will be producing on the different aspects of Ancient Egypt. In science they have experimented with magnetic strength, whilst in English they have been researching non chronological reports and in maths they have been looking at factors and multiples and classifying them.

Rhino Class

Rhino class enjoyed a fantastic Greek workshop this week. Most popular were cooking and jewellery making with ancient Greek column making running a close third. The children dressed as Greeks, ate and made Greek food and had an exciting 'hands on' day whilst listening to Tavernia favourites!

Checkendon School Association Book Fair

If you have not already visited the book fair, please join us at 9am tomorrow morning for our Christmas Book Fair. The children viewed the books earlier in the week with much excitement and enjoyment; maybe they brought home a wish list slip ready for Christmas presents? We look forward to seeing you there and thank you in advance for helping to raise funds for the school.

Parent Workshop Questionnaire

Thank you to those of you who completed the questionnaire last week about the best times for parent workshops: all those who responded were keen to attend and the results for the preferred times are published below.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:00	11	6	9	9	8
2:30	10	11	9	11	8
7:00	11	8	6	7	8

Saturday 9:30	4
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As a result of these findings, we will be holding our next parents' workshop **21st Century Children: New Ideas for New Challenges** at three alternative times on Monday 5th December. There will be letters in book bags today; please choose the time most convenient for you and return the slip to the school office by Friday 2nd December.

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.

Bottle flipping not permitted on school premises

Please be advised that bottle flipping is NOT permitted on school premises. In order to maintain the safety of all pupils, we would be grateful for your support to ensure this does not happen on school premises.

Thank you for supporting Children in Need

Thank you for all your support in raising **£123.02** for Children in Need last week, the children certainly enjoyed soaking the teachers! Thanks also to the members of staff who entered into the spirit of the day so enthusiastically!

Congratulations to Mrs Peeling

On Sunday 6th November Gill Peeling competed in the Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing Grand Finals at the Winter Gardens in Blackpool. She competed in the Senior Pre-Bronze category against 36 other dancers from dance schools across the country and we are proud to announce that she won the Latin event dancing the Cha Cha Cha and came 2nd in the ballroom event dancing the Quick Step. It was a very exciting day as ex-Strictly professional Ian Waite was also there with a BBC film crew filming a piece for "It Takes Two"!

Update on Extra-Curricular Clubs

Thank you to everyone who has responded with feedback on the extra-curricular clubs offered by the school. We appreciate your thoughts and opinions and are working on drawing up a timetable for next year based on your feedback. If you haven't already done so please return your feedback by Wednesday 30th November. In the meantime please find attached to this email, details of the French and Drama Club taking place next year. We are also pleased to advise that the popular Football Club will continue next year and further information about a Holiday Football Club that is being run over Christmas is attached to this email. The last few spaces are available for the Pottery Club starting on Mondays after Christmas, please sign up in the Office by Friday 2nd December to secure a place.

School Photographs

In case you missed the email, the school photographs can be viewed and ordered at the following link.

www.ordermyphotos.co.uk

Please use image code 1212 9710 3329A to access the photos.

School Christmas Disco

For tickets to the School Christmas Disco, please contact Louise Maze or Wendy Butler.



School Tea towels

Don't forget to order your school tea towel on the next few days to guarantee we have a sufficient number available.

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.

Christmas Lunch – Wednesday 14th December

Please don't forget to order Christmas lunch for your child for Wednesday 14th December, any existing orders for roast pork will need to be changed as the system does not update automatically to the new menu choice.

Primary Schools Health Nurse Team

Please find attached the Term 2 newsletter from the Primary School Health Nurse team.

Term 2 - Extra-Curricular Activities

DAY	TIME	ACTIVITY	YEARS	ORGANISERS
Monday	Lunchtime	Piano	All	Emma Davies Tel: 01491 680252
	3.30-4.30	Drama Factory (19.9.16-05.12.16)	Yrs 2-6	Berzerk 07976 652742 Josh Buckland
Tuesday	(S.R.Pavillion) 8.00-8.30	Running Club Run by Stoke Row School but offered to Checkendon Pupils	Yrs 3-6	Stoke Row Running Club Elise Way - eliseway@hotmail.co.uk
	09.45-10.05 Sep – Dec 2016	Woodwind	All	Lucy Robertson County Music Service Tel: 07958 537157
	Lunchtime	Piano	All	Emma Davies Tel: 01491 680252
Wednesday	Lunchtime	Piano	All	Emma Davies Tel: 01491 680252
	Lunchtime	Violin	All	Elestr Lee Tel: 0118 9478685
	3.30 – 4.30	Netball (14.9.16-14.12.16)	All	Ignite Tel: 01869 220890
Thursday	11.10 – 11.30 From January 2017	Woodwind	All	Lucy Robertson County Music Service Tel: 07958 537157
Friday	08.00 – 08.40	Dodgeball (18.11.16 – 9.12.16)	All	Paul Meakin 07976 651635
	Lunchtime	Piano	All	Emma Davies Tel: 01491 680252
	(Outside/Hall) 3.30-4.30	Football (16.9.16-9.12.16)	All	Pro-Direct Tel: 07921 726332

	Library	Guitar	All	Russ Payne Tel: 07921 087816
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Dates for your Diary

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Thursday 15 th December	6.00 – 7.30pm Christmas Disco
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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	2.30pm: Community Worship, all welcome
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		
Christmas Service	Wednesday 14 th December 2016	6.30pm
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
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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	

Checkendon Church warmly invites you to a

**Christmas Coffee
&
Mince Pie Morning**

in Checkendon Village Hall,
Saturday 5th December, 10.30am - 12.30pm
No Charge!

Raffle

Produce Stall

A free Book Exchange

A free Children's Craft Table

A display of pre- and post-war Hornby and Basset-Lowke Trains

A chance to catch up with old friends, meet your neighbours, and get into the seasonal spirit!

tel 01491 683737

Whitchurch Christmas Market - Sunday 4th December, 11am to 3pm

The Whitchurch-on-Thames Christmas Market will again be held at Whitchurch Primary School from 11am - 3pm on Sunday 4th December. This year we are so excited to be adding an outdoor ice skating rink for children and adults to enjoy (please email whitchurchiceskating@gmail.com to book your slot, tickets from £6). We will have Santa returning in his grotto (tickets £3 including gift and opportunity to write, decorate and post your own letter to Santa), some wonderful local craft and gift stalls and many children's activities. There will be hot food and drink stalls outside around the ice rink including mulled wine, Camper Café selling teas and coffees, Home-made organic food provided by Farm to Table Produce, The Bowler meatballs and vegballs and curry from Lina Tandoori. We will have an indoor café seating area and be selling home-made mince pies and cakes. We will also be holding a raffle with some amazing prizes

including dinner for two at the Crooked Billet, two premier enclosure badges for Newbury Races, a Sunday roast for four at The Elephant Hotel and lots, lots more (please email carolinejacollins@gmail.com to buy your raffle tickets). It's a great community event that is suitable for all ages, with something for everyone to enjoy. All proceeds are in aid of Whitchurch Primary School. We would like to thank all our sponsors: The Co-op Pangbourne, The Elephant Hotel, The Ferryboat, The Sun, Warmingham and Whitchurch Bridge Company for their kind support. Put the date in your diary and come along for lots of fun-filled festivities!

Love Local
Think Local, Shop Local, Love Local

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING EVENING
WEDNESDAY 30TH NOVEMBER
6PM - 10PM

HENLEY RUGBY CLUB

Meet friends, enjoy a glass of fizz and support our fantastic local stall holders who will take care of all your Christmas shopping needs!

£2 admission, licenced bar and festive snacks
For more info call Lynne 07850 409034

Kindly Sponsored By

B PHILIP BOOTH ESQ.

ELEMENTS
SALON & SPA

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