



CHECKENDON C.E. SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

8th October 2015

Diary for Term 1

Friday 9 th October	All classes: Drumming Workshop. Thanks to everyone who has sent in voluntary contributions to fund this event. We would be grateful for any remaining payments tomorrow.
Thursday 15 th October	Y1 parents invited to observe phonics in Owl Class: 9.00am – 9.50am <i>or</i> 3.30pm – 4.00pm
Wednesday 21 st October	Charlotte Snowden taking individual pupil photos
Wednesday 21 st October	7.00pm: Wednesday Workshop for parents – ‘healthy lifestyle’

What have we been learning in school this week?

Owlet Class

In Owlet Class, the children have been preparing for Harvest Festival with lots of stories, songs, art and some discussion on "Where does our food come from?". Pupils are continuing to blend sounds to make words and learn new sounds. Owlets are also focusing on numerals recognition and formation and counting with one to one correspondence.

Owl Class

Children in Owl Class have been creating a text map of instructions on how to make a sandcastle. Year 1 pupils have been learning this off by heart to help with their extended writing; Year 2 pupils have been improving these instructions by adding adverbs to describe how to do steps and clauses to explain why each step is needed. In RE, they have been finding out more about Moses and what made him a good leader, role-playing the events after the escape from Egypt.

Panda Class

Children in Panda Class have been finishing their guidebook to Checkendon and learning how to use Microsoft Word to present their work. They have carefully planned, written and edited their work. We will be delivering the guidebook to children at Highwood Primary School in Reading next Tuesday.

Rhino Class

In Rhino Class we have been learning about narrative poetry and have listened to The Highwayman poem by Alfred Noyes. We have been learning about the history of some real life highwaymen. We have been looking at maps of the world and of Europe, identifying different countries and the continents they belong

too. We have looked at local maps and have started to draw maps of the school and Checkendon.

School Values Ambassadors

Mrs Seymour, Hector, Lily, Alexandra, Millie, Mary and Gigi had a very successful first meeting this week and discussed plans for prayer boards in each classroom and suggestions for the action plan for this term. Ideas included organising a Values Day with children in house groups producing artworks to reflect each value and finding more ways for children and adults to nominate pupils for School Values Awards.

School Council News

At our meeting this week we decided to reintroduce the system trialled at the end of last year for lining up at lunchtime. When the bell rings for the second sitting to come in for lunch, each class will line up behind their School Council representatives to walk in, wash their hands and then line up again before walking into the hall. Hopefully this will mean that children enter the hall calmly and sensibly.

We also discussed the question as to whether, in the future, children should be elected to School Council for one term rather than a full year. Ideas put forward in favour of being elected for a year were as follows: a term is not long enough to have an effect; it would not be fair as some terms are longer than others; an idea or project might be started in one term which ran over to the next term which would mean that children would not be able to see it through. Ideas put forward in favour of being elected for a term were as follows: there is more chance of being elected even if for a shorter length of time.

We then held a vote:

- In favour of being elected for a year: 8
- In favour of being elected for a term: 1
- Undecided: 1

Sports News

On Tuesday Langtree hosted a very soggy series of Y3/4 football matches and Y5/6 netball matches. These were a chance to practice as a team in a friendly environment to prepare for tournaments coming up later in the year. The Y5/6 netball team had no previous experience but very quickly improved and even won their last match! Our Y3/4 footballers were on fantastic form from the start and won all their matches! In both cases, Checkendon's teamwork and attitude were praised. Well done to all the children and thank you to the parents who helped and supported.

Wet Playtimes

We would like to encourage children to play outside at break and lunchtimes as often as possible. Please support us by ensuring that your child has a waterproof coat with a hood in school each day so that they can enjoy the fresh air even if it is damp outside.

Air Ambulance Art Competition

Well done to Alfie Nicholls and Zac Viney, winners of this competition. Thank you to everyone who took part.

Samaritan's Purse Shoe Boxes

Once again, we are pleased to support Operation Christmas Child, a much needed and worthwhile project run by Samaritan's Purse. Leaflets went home in book bags this week which include guidance and

information on how to fill the boxes. If you are able to help, please bring your shoe box gift to school by **Tuesday 3rd November**. The boxes will be collected by the Samaritan's Purse local co-ordinator and transported overseas where local churches distribute them to children for Christmas, on the basis of need alone.

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.

Fireworks Menu on 5th November

On Thursday 5th November Aspens will be offering a special themed menu. Please go to www.aspens-services.co.uk to order online or telephone 01866 821511 for advice.

Remembering the Romans
Sun 22nd Nov-11-4
Ashmolean Museum, Oxford
FREE, no booking needed

Take part in a big day of Roman inspired activities as we explore how Romans remembered and celebrated their loved ones. Listen to Roman stories, carve an inscription, test your code-cracking skills on real Latin inscriptions, enjoy eye-opening talks and tours and explore the newly installed interactives and Roman displays in the Museum. For the full programme go to www.ashmolean.org/rememberingtheromans

Dates for your Diary

Friday 9th October
Thursday 15th October

Wednesday 21st October
Wednesday 21st October
Wednesday 21st October
Thursday 22nd October
Thursday 22nd October
Friday 23rd October
Monday 26th – Friday 30th Oct
Monday 2nd November
Tuesday 3rd November
Wednesday 4th November
Friday 6th November
Friday 6th November
Monday 9th November
Sat/Sun 21/22 November

All years: drumming workshop
Y1 parents invited to observe phonics in Owl Class:
9.00am – 9.50am or 3.30pm – 4.00pm
Charlotte Snowden taking individual pupil photos
Mobile Library
7.00pm: Wednesday Workshop for parents – 'healthy lifestyle'
Owl Class: Oxfordshire Heritage visiting Checkendon for hands on session
No KS2 swimming lessons today
Last day of Term 1
Autumn holiday
Inset Day – no children in school
First day of Term 2
Y6: IMPS visit to Townlands Hospital
Panda Class visit to Chedworth Roman Villa
Fireworks Night – organised by School Association-
3.00pm: Community Worship – parents invited
Checkendon Village Crafts Fair

Monday 23 rd November	All years: Jungle Book Make a Play Day workshops: 2.45pm: Parents are invited to watch their production in the school hall
Wednesday 25 th November	Mobile library (last before Christmas)
Thursday 26 th November	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
Friday 11th December	School Disco organised by School Association - tbc
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 17th December	Parents Christmas Drinks – organised by School Association – venue tbc
Thursday 17 th December	6.30pm: Christmas Service in church
Friday 18 th December	Last day of Term 2 (finish at 2.00pm)