

RESPECT COURAGE INTEGRITY COMPASSION HOPE



CHECKENDON C.E. SCHOOL NEWSLETTER 9th February 2018

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

The difference between stumbling blocks and stepping stones is how you use them.

Diary for Term 4

Monday 19 th February	INSET day – no children in school
Tuesday 20 th February	8:50am First day of Term 4
Wednesday 21 st February	Chocolate tasting in Panda Class to launch their Learning Project Charlie and the Chocolate Factory <i>Please let Miss Carafa know if your child is not able to participate.</i>
Thursday 22 nd February	Prayer Spaces <i>We are delighted to welcome back the Prayer Spaces programme which enables children of all faiths and none, to explore life questions, spirituality and faith in a safe, creative and interactive way. Children in all classes will get the chance to explore four prayer spaces in the school hall.</i>
Thursday 22 nd February	1:45pm Mixed Year 3 & 4 Football Tournament
Monday 26 th February	3pm: Community Worship
Tuesday 27 th February	2.30pm Drop in session with Mrs Seymour <i>no need to book</i>
Wednesday 28 th February	Rhino Class Evacuation Day <i>in school</i>
Thursday 1 st March	World Book Day <i>We will be celebrating the day with lots of activities and children are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite book character. Look out for a half term reading challenge in book bags today.</i>
Monday 5 th March	Rhino Class visit to Junior Citizens Trust, Oxford
Monday 5 th March	1pm Measuring the height and weight of children in Reception and Year 6 <i>Letters will be sent out after half term.</i>
Tuesday 13 th March	Rhino Class SRE
Tuesday 13 th March	Panda Class visit to Tolhurst Organic Farm
Monday 19 th March	Rhino and Owlet Class visit to Beale Park
Tuesday 20 th March	Rhino Class SRE
Wednesday 21 st March	Panda Class visit to The Living Rainforest
Friday 23 rd March	Sport Relief
Monday 26 th to 29 th March	Writing Week
Wednesday 28 th March	2.30pm Easter Communion Service
Thursday 29 th March	Last day of Term 4, finish at 3.20pm

At school this week

School Treat

We all had a great time this morning outdoors on our woodland walk and it was a lovely way to celebrate the

good behaviour of so many children in school.



Learning highlights

Children in **Owlet Class** have been learning how Chinese New Year is celebrated all around the world. Children have explored some of the traditions, customs and stories associated with the celebrations. If you are at a loose end over half term why not go and celebrate the year of the dog (<https://www.visitlondon.com/things-to-do/event/4733685-chinese-new-year-in-london#O7zRStXmg7px2RQt.97>). Children in **Owl Class** have become puppeteers, designing their own Aliens in Underpants. Who knew how hard it was to make a glove puppet to fit your own hand? Children in **Panda Class** have continued their study of Rocks and Fossils. They have been able to find the answers to the many questions they had before starting the topic. Children in **Rhino Class** have been learning about Sir Isaac Newton and his important work on the laws of motion. Whole

Sports highlights

Last week an impressive 32 children took part in the final cross country race of the season at Bishopswood Sports Ground. There were some very determined runners and nail biting finishes. Alfie was our top finisher with an impressive 10th place overall and the medals for teamwork went to Perdy and Joseph P for outstanding encouragement of their fellow team-mates. Well done everyone!

Yesterday, 2 teams from Panda Class went to Langtree to play in a boys' football tournament. Both teams played exceptionally well. Our B team came second after joint winners, Goring and Whitchurch and our A team emerged the winners. The respect awards went to Johnny and George. What a great result!



Safer Internet Day

On Tuesday, children of all ages took part in Safer Internet Day. After a whole school assembly led by Mr Boyer, there were class based activities for all pupils. Children in Rhino Class thought about how they can use

the internet safely, how social media can influence people's lives and how to be a good friend on line. For more activities about the Global Safer Internet Day, see the webpage <http://www.saferinternet.org.uk>

Parent Consultation Evenings

Thank you to all parents and children who attended the parent consultation evenings. We hope you found them informative, if you were not able to attend and would like to discuss your child's progress, please talk to your child's class teacher or phone the school office to make an appointment.

School Staffing

PPA Cover

Under the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document (STPCD), teachers are entitled to 10% of their timetabled teaching time as guaranteed planning, preparation and assessment (PPA) time, to enable them to discharge their professional responsibilities of teaching and assessment. Currently, here at Checkendon, cover for class teachers' PPA is provided by sports specialists, class teachers, head teacher and TAs.

Absence cover

When a teacher is absent, cover for class teachers may be provided by supply teachers, head teacher or TAs. Very occasionally, to cover unexpected absence, classes may have to be split if it is not possible to provide whole class cover. Lessons covered by supply teachers or TAs are almost always planned by class teachers, although occasionally unplanned absence is covered by one-off lessons.

Professional Development for teachers

In addition to statutory PPA, class teachers are sometimes allocated time during the school day to carry out activities related to the SDP or to work together to develop their classroom practice. Cover for this is provided by sports specialists, class teachers, head teacher and TAs.

Sports Specialists

We are delighted to be able to offer high quality sports specialist sessions to all year groups across the school. Mr Meakin and Mr Clothier have been working with us for some time, teaching a range of sports including tag rugby, netball, football, tennis and gymnastics. This term, they will be joined by Mr Whittle an experienced primary school teacher and sports specialist.

Teaching and Learning in Panda Class: Afternoons Term 4

To provide opportunities for pupils to learn in smaller groups, we have arranged for the class to have PE lessons as single year groups on Mondays and Thursdays next term. On Mondays, Mrs Seymour will teach writing and Mr Meakin will teach PE to single year groups and on Thursdays, Miss Carafa will teach Learning Project (DT/science/geography) and Mr Whittle will teach PE to single year groups. In addition, on Tuesdays, Mr Boyer will join Miss Carafa to teach the afternoon Learning Project lessons together. The class will continue to have whole class PE lessons on Fridays with Mr Clothier and Miss Carafa teaching together.

Staff Update

Exciting times ahead for the Boyer family! Later on in the Summer Term, we will be saying a fond farewell to Mr Boyer who is moving to Sweden with his family as his wife has a job there. Mr Boyer will be out of class for the first two weeks of the summer term to assist with the move, and will then be returning to the UK, and to Owl Class, until late June. Although we are delighted that the family has this exciting opportunity to experience living in another country, Mr Boyer will be sorely missed; he has made a tremendous contribution to the life of the school in so many ways. More details about arrangements to cover his absence and permanent replacement will follow in due course.

Parent Contact Details

To ensure we have your correct contact details please return the contact sheets that were sent out last week with your child's spring snapshot. Please return them asap to the office with your changes or confirm that there are no changes. Thank you.

2018/19 School Dates

Please see below for the school dates and inset days for the next school year 2018/19.

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 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 receive the weekly newsletter. If parents need to find out whether or not the school is closed they should:

- Check their email and the school website
- 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.

Extra-Curricular Clubs

Please find below details of the clubs for next term. We are currently looking at being able to offer more clubs in terms 5 & 6.

*****School Association Quiz*****

A couple of parents have come forward to support running the quiz this year. We need a few more to make the event a success. If you are interested in volunteering in whatever capacity to help run the event, please let the office know so we can set up an organising group as soon as possible. Thank you.

Wanted....School Association Treasurer (Sept 2018)

Can you spare a few hours per month?

Do you have a basic knowledge of Excel?

Do you enjoy working with numbers and spreadsheets?

We are looking for someone to take over the role of Treasurer for the School Association.

The role consists of managing monies in and out of the School Association bank account, keeping an up to date Excel spreadsheet and preparing annual accounts. Agree and manage budgets for School Association events, liaise with event organisers, withdraw floats, reimburse expenses, pay in takings, produce profit/loss reports etc. Pay in school uniform monies. Receive bank statements and update accounts accordingly.

Complete charity registration and other subscriptions.

A full briefing and handover would be arranged, ideally during the summer term or earlier!

For more information speak to Tracey (Perdy Year 6).

Term 4 Extra-Curricular Activities

DAY	TIME	ACTIVITY	YEARS	ORGANISERS
Monday	Lunchtime	Piano	All	Emma Davies Tel: 01491 680252
	3.30-4.30	Tag Rugby (26/2/18 – 26/3/18)	Yrs 3-6	Paul Meakin paulmeakinsportscoach@gmail.com
Tuesday	(S.R.Pavillion) 8.00-8.30	Stoke Row Running Club (starting back on 9/1/17)	Yrs 3-6	Stoke Row Running Club Elise Way - eliseway@hotmail.co.uk
	Lunchtime	Piano	All	Emma Davies Tel: 01491 680252
	3.30-5.15	Equestrian Club (20/2/18 to 20/3/18)	All	Checkendon Equestrian Centre Tel: 01491 680225
Wednesday	Lunchtime	Piano	All	Emma Davies Tel: 01491 680252
	Lunchtime	Violin (restarting on 17/1/18)	All	Elestr Lee Tel: 0118 9478685 elestr.lee@btopenworld.com
	3.30-4.30	Gymnastics (21/2/18 to 28/3/18)	All	Paul Meakin paulmeakinsportscoach@gmail.com
Thursday	08.00-08.40	Music Club (11/1/18 – 29/3/18)	All	Emma Davies Tel: 01491 680252
	10:10	Woodwind	All	Lucy Robertson County Music Service
Friday	08.00-08.45 (Hall)	Relax Kids (restarting 12/1/18 with free taster session)	Yrs 1-6	Sophia Cleverly Tel: 07811 268990 relaxkidsouthoxfordshire@gmail.com
	Lunchtime	Piano	All	Emma Davies Tel: 01491 680252
	Lunchtime 12:30	Chess (19/1/18 – 23/3/18)	Y3-6	Mr Boyer Owl Class
	3.30-4.30	Football (12/1/18 – 23/3/18)	All	Pro-Direct Tel: 07921 726332
	3.30	Guitar (restarting on 19/1/17)	All	Russ Payne Tel: 07921 087816

Dates for your Diary

2017/18

Fri 30 th March – Fri 13 th April	Easter Holiday
Monday 16 th April	Inset day – no children in school
Tuesday 17 th April	First day of term 5
Monday 23 rd April	3pm Community Worship
Monday 14 th May	Year 6 SATs week
Friday 25 th May	Last day of term 5, finish at 3.20pm
Mon 28 th May – Fri 1 st Jun	Half Term
Monday 4 th June	Inset day – no children in school
Tuesday 5 th June	First day of term 6
Monday 11 th June	3pm Community Worship
Thursday 5 th July	Annual Reports issued
Wednesday 25 th July	Last day of term 6, finish at 2pm
Thurs 26 th July – Mon 3 rd Sept	Summer Holiday

2018/19

Tuesday 4 th September	Inset day – no children in school
Wednesday 5 th September	First day of term 1
Friday 19 th October	Last day of term 1, finish at 3.20pm
Mon 22 nd Oct – Fri 26 th Oct	Half Term
Monday 29 th October	Inset day – no children in school
Tuesday 30 th October	First day of term 2
Friday 21 st December	Last day of term 2, finish at 2pm
Mon 24 th Dec – Fri 4 th Jan	Christmas Holiday
Monday 7 th January	Inset day – no children in school
Tuesday 8 th January	First day of term 3
Friday 15 th February	Last day of term 3, finish at 3.20pm
Mon 18 th Feb – 22 nd Feb	Half Term
Monday 25 th February	Inset day – no children in school
Tuesday 26 th February	First day of term 4
Friday 5 th April	Last day of term 4, finish at 3.20pm
Mon 8 th Apr – Mon 22 nd Apr	Easter Holiday
Tuesday 23 rd April	First day of term 5
Friday 24 th May	Last day of term 5, finish at 3.20pm
Mon 27 th May – 31 st May	Half Term
Monday 3 rd June	Inset day – no children in school
Tuesday 4 th June	First day of term 6
Wednesday 24 th July	Last day of term 6, finish at 2pm

BROOKES SCIENCE BAZAAR

FREE fun for the family!

Saturday 24 February 2018, 10:30-16:00
Headington Campus, Oxford, OX3 0BP



NO BOOKING REQUIRED

Just drop-in at our
reception!

Join us for a range
of activities for
children aged 5-12
years.

Web: [www.brookes.ac.uk/
science-bazaar/](http://www.brookes.ac.uk/science-bazaar/)

Email: events@brookes.ac.uk

 @ScienceBazaar



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