



As hard as it seems we've reached the end of the year, and what a year it's been!

There have been so many exciting moments in every class, it would be impossible to choose the highlights, but we've had a lot of firsts this year: from sporting successes and events such as cycling, and triathlon; music evening and carnival day (which raised £950 thank you so much!); the brass band at the Royal Albert Hall, to Vikings and Romans in the school hall. It's been amazing. The children have embraced every opportunity and I can't thank you enough for all your support. We started our year setting out our values (CRAFT) compassion, respect, aspiration, friendship and thankfulness, and I certainly feel that everyone has worked hard, developed and lived up to every one of them.

Foundation Stage

Our real achievement this half term in Foundation Class has been the improvement in our independent writing: from letters to labels, captions to descriptions, and instructions to stories! A real outdoor highlight has been our forest fun adventure, when we built dens, used bows and arrows, made woodland crowns, threaded leaf garlands and much much more. We have, also, had a great time pretending to be Year Ones ready for September, showing how keen we are to try new challenges and celebrate what we are good at.



Year 1

We have enjoyed our Castles topic. We visited Oxford Castle and identified some interesting features of castles including arrow slits, a spiral stair case and prison. One of the 'old inmates', Giles Covington, showed us around



the castle in the morning and we undertook some activities in the afternoon which included identifying different smells within a castle. We've also learnt about William the Conqueror and the Bayeux Tapestry. Steven from Dobbies also visited us to help plant some flowers and he gave each Year 1 child a flower to take home. We've thought about the properties of different materials including chain mail. In Art, we've learnt about the artist Paul Klee and coloured our own versions



of his painting, Castle and Sun. As an end to our topic and Year 1, we held a parents open afternoon last week which included announcing the winners of our 3D castles competition. There was a bonus prize for the best musical instrument too. Well done to all the children who took part and especially to those parents who helped make some amazing castles with their child/children at home. The children all did amazing well in the Phonics Check, well done everyone! Our Hoopla game was a success at the carnival last Friday and we're looking forward to the Talent Show at the end of term. Thank you for working hard in Year 1. Hope you all have a safe and happy summer, refreshed and ready to start again in September.

Year 2

What a year!

All the children of Class 2 should feel very proud of themselves. They have achieved so much and hopefully created lasting memories.

A particular highlight from this half term would have to be our Great Fire of London topic. The children fully immersed themselves into exploring what London was like in 1666 through role play, writing newspaper reports and diary entries as Samuel Pepys. In Design Technology they planned and built some authentic looking houses which the children had the opportunity to set on fire (fire expert Mrs Bushell didn't let us down)! I was so delighted to see all the awe struck faces and hear such fantastic discussions about what the children were observing. I'm sure Mrs Thorp will feel very fortunate to have such an enthusiastic and creative class next year. I hope you all have a relaxing and fun filled summer.

Class 3



What a fantastic end of term we've had in Class 3!

I'm sure you'll agree the children did brilliantly in their recent class assembly, and then they followed this by showing every class in the school around our 'Museum'! Watching the children speaking confidently about what they've learned, to all those children, made me very proud! They've come a long way this year.



Our walk around the village last week went well too. The children behaved brilliantly (of course!) and many of them looked at Newton Longville through new eyes! They have since created some super illustrated maps of the village – maybe we have some future Town Planners in the making?

Can I take this opportunity to say a big 'Thank You' to all the parents of Class 3? Your support this year has been invaluable, and I have enjoyed our many chats throughout the year. Your children have done you proud, and I hope that they, and you, have a fantastic summer break!

Year 4

As we come to the end of our year the children have been reflecting upon some of their happiest memories of Year 4. As we have talked, it made us realize how many things we have achieved over the year. Many children loved our Rainforest topic, but equally popular with others were Romans and Ancient Greeks. Of course Caldecotte was our big event and the whole class enjoyed every moment of our residential. Not forgetting our Splash production where the whole class made us very proud. I am very pleased that children have loved Guided Reading this year, something about which I am very passionate! Also a favourite has been science sessions, particularly the practical elements of our investigations.



The children report that they have also really liked P.E. and learning to play rounders 'properly'! Another big favourite was the Ancient Greek Day too, with so many activities to enjoy. Every child in the class has experienced the Virtual Reality Simulator and I am glad we could finish with such a successful talent show.



I am very proud of the achievements in year 4 this year and finally would like to say huge thank you for all the lovely cards, gifts and messages I have received. Enjoy a well-deserved summer break.

Year 5

Another busy term in Year 5! We undertook training on our bikes with Simon. We learnt about the highway code, how to signal whilst riding a bike and how to deal with different situations. Also during this week we took part in the whole school week on 'The Flower' book. We enjoyed doing a DT based project and taking part in the whole school doodle on the playground.

We have also met our new foundation buddies and supported them on one of their visits to school, showing them the Newton Longville way. We are excited about being the oldest in the school and some new responsibilities next year. Finally we have been busy this term putting together our production of 'Star Wars' – we hope you enjoyed it!

Year 6

Firstly, I want to say a massive thank you to all the children, parents, friends and families who donated to the Newton Longville Mountain Bike fundraising campaign. Your amazing generosity truly kept me motivated through each triathlon and thanks to you all, we have managed to buy the mountain bikes ready for next year! Although myself and the current Year 6s won't sadly have a chance to use the mountain bikes, we can all leave happily knowing we've left something positive for all the other children to enjoy for years to come.

There have been many lasts this term, as well as many firsts. All the children have now had their transition days before secondary school, and all are now (hopefully!) ready for their next exciting steps in their education and schooling lives after the summer holidays.

We've done some amazing things this last term. Entering copious sports competitions; acting, performing and singing their hearts out in our musical 'Not Star Wars'; supporting and helping to run Sports Day, as well as many other amazing and wonderful things that I hope will stay with them in the coming years.

This year's Year 6 class have been amazing. From their humour, to the support they give each other, the children have all been fantastic. It is wonderful to see how much they have matured in this year (and grown since year 4!), starting to become the adults they will one day be. Each and every one of them should be proud of what they have accomplished and I can honestly say they will be very much missed by myself and the school as a whole.

So Year 6, as you take your last look at the now very small school, and say goodbye to the building and teachers that have been in your lives for so many years, remember: leaving school is like leaving the nest, and soaring into the sky. It's time to leave the past behind and spread your wings and fly.

Good luck Year 6. You will be missed.

Mr Williams

A last word.....

We have said our fond farewells to Mr Williams in school, but I couldn't let him go without some last words. From the minute he walked into our doors three years ago he was like a breath of fresh air. He has in his short time at Newton Longville inspired and motivated not only children but staff as well. He has lifted the ceiling and raised the bar, challenging us all to think deeper, aim higher and explore further. We shall miss him at school, but he has left his mark and made a difference that will stay with us...and you never know, when he's bored of the wider world the lure of Newton Longville may draw him back!

I'm sure you join with me to wish him all the very best in the exciting adventures that lie ahead. It will be a trip of a life-time, the like of which I hope all our children can aspire to!

Magaya School - Newton Longville School

As our school year ends, we can reflect on our new links with Magaya School in Zimbabwe. Many of our children have new pen pals, and they also have a new-found understanding of how different (and similar) their lives are to those children in a contrasting part of our world.

As this is written, we are planning our next event for Magaya School – collecting donations of school shoes to send to Zimbabwe. Hopefully we will collect many pairs and whilst we celebrate the end of our school year, we can do so knowing that we are helping others at the same time!

Thank you for your continued support! I know the children at Magaya School really appreciate it!



Looking Ahead...

As we move into the summer holidays we've already started planning for next year.

The children this week have all met their new teachers and visited their classrooms to ensure a smooth transition in September.

For parents there will be induction evenings on Thursday 7th September for KS2 and Monday 11th September for KS1 so that you can hear first-hand all about the class, the routines and expectations.

Uniform:

Please can I remind you all of the uniform policy ready for September, in particular the compulsory items of jumper or cardigan **with school logo** and PE tops also **with the logo**. I appreciate there has been some difficulties with the suppliers for those of you ordering early, however I am assured that these are being sorted. We are also looking to extend suppliers to include School Trends who will supply a cotton jumper for the Year 6 option (please keep an eye on the website for this launch). Please remember year 6 ties will also be available from the office as well as on the School Trends link on the website.

I have also met with the school nursing service this week and they have re-enforced that earrings must not be worn in school unless for medical reasons they cannot be removed. If children are still within the 6 week period post piercing they must come to school with tape applied to the front and back (it is the back which is most dangerous).

Water bottles:

Many thanks to the School Council who have purchased water bottles for every child from Year 1 to Year 6 and water bottle carriers for classrooms. These will be distributed at the beginning of term. Please name them before sending them into school the next day ☺

Year 2 Request for clean empty plastic milk bottles



Please would you collect your empty plastic milk bottles (preferably 4 pints) over the Summer holidays and bring them into school from Wednesday 6th September 2017.

Our aim is to try and collect about 450 clean plastic bottles so that we can build our own igloo! Thank you for your help!



So all that is left for me to say is.....

happy holidays!

and see you on
Wednesday 6th September!

*PS: good luck Year 6 and Mr Williams,
we'll miss you!*