



# Headteacher's Blog

FRIDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2014

## Home Learning

This year we are changing the way our home learning is organised. We want to make sure that children are reinforcing basic skills at home. Home Learning will therefore consist of:

- RED challenge- The challenge is for children to read at home 5 times a week – there is a space for parents to record their child's reading in their planners. Once the children have read 10 times, they will receive a certificate, and any children who receive their 5 certificates before Christmas will receive a special prize from me in an assembly in the last week of the autumn term.
- Number Challenge - In KS1 children will be encouraged to learn basic number facts eg number bonds and other age appropriate challenges. In KS2 children will be set multiplication tables to learn as detailed in last week's letter.
- Spellings - Children will be given spellings or another appropriate challenge on a Monday and will have a word challenge on a Friday. These scores will be recorded in the home school link book.
- Topic - For each topic year groups will set a selection of challenges which children can complete over the 4 week period. These will cover a range of activities and will be optional unless specified by the teacher. A homework book will be given to your child so that they can use it if they wish for any of their activities.
- Reinforcement of skills - Extra online home learning will be able to be accessed by parents via [www.mymaths.co.uk](http://www.mymaths.co.uk) and [www.skoolbo.co.uk](http://www.skoolbo.co.uk) Children will be given log in details by their class teachers.

## Goodbye Miss Poizat



This week we said a fond farewell to Miss Poizat. After a period of absence, Dawn has decided that the time is right to start a new venture, and we all wish her well.

## Baby news....

I am delighted to announce that Miss Jarmaine had a beautiful baby girl, Eadie, on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October at 9:56am, weighing in at 8lb 1oz. Here's a photograph of Eadie with her big sister, Ada. Congratulations, Natalie - we look forward to meeting Eadie very soon!



## Year 6 Shakespeare Festival

The Year 6 Shakespeare group took part in a fantastic workshop at Stantonbury Theatre yesterday. They were given the opportunity to work with professional actors on their forthcoming performance of Macbeth.

The children will be performing at Stantonbury Theatre on Thursday 13th November as part of the Shakespeare Festival. Tickets are available by calling 01908 324466. They would love to see lots of friendly faces in the audience!

## Macmillan Coffee Morning



Thank you to all those who came along to our Macmillan Coffee morning this morning – we raised £65 which was a great effort. Thank you all for coming along to help make a difference.

## Name the Gritter competition

Children have brought home competition entry forms this week to 'Name the Gritter' for Ringway, the highway service company. Ringway have taken delivery of 10 new gritters, and there are 5 schools taking part in the competition, so they will be choosing one winner per key stage per school.

**Please return your child's competition entry to school by 9am on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> October.**

Don't forget to include your child's name, class and age on the form. We will then have the difficult task of shortlisting 10 entries per key stage to be submitted. Once Ringway have chosen the winning entries, signwriting for the gritters will take place, and there will be a winners' photoshoot for a press release (details to be arranged). We can't wait to see the children's colourful entries, and are looking forward to some fantastic gritter names! Good luck!

## Harvest Assemblies



Our Harvest Assemblies will be held on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October, split into 3 assemblies each lasting approximately 30 minutes. Timings will be as follows:

1:15pm-1:45pm	Foundation & Year 1
2:00pm-2:30pm	Year 2 & Year 3
2:45pm-3:15pm	Year 4, 5 & 6

Parents are very welcome to join us – the children will be sharing some work and singing harvest songs. Once again, we will be supporting The Food Bank this year. If you would like to donate any items, please bring something from the list below into school during w/c Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October, when a harvest display will be made in reception:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Long Life Juice</li> <li>* Spaghetti (Tinned)</li> <li>* Rice Pudding (Tinned)</li> <li>* Fruit (Tinned)</li> <li>* Vegetables (Tinned)</li> <li>* Long Life Milk</li> <li>* Tuna (Tinned)</li> <li>- Jam</li> <li>- Sugar</li> <li>- Meat (Tinned)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tomatoes (Tinned)</li> <li>- Baked Beans (Tinned)</li> <li>- Breakfast Cereal</li> <li>- Dried Pasta</li> <li>- Dried Rice</li> <li>- Pasta Sauce</li> <li>- Tea Bags</li> <li>- Biscuits</li> <li>- Cup a Soup</li> <li>- Soup (Tinned)</li> </ul>
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**\*Most urgently needed items**

## Celebrations

This week, I have shared celebrations with the following children:

- ★ Following in his big brother's footsteps Theo in Foundation passed his Level 1 training in Go Karting last weekend and is super proud and happy! Congratulations, Theo!



- ★ Zak and Harrison from Year 3 recently won the President's Trophy with their football team, Tattenhoe Youth FC Under 8s Jaguars – look at the magnificent trophy their team received! They competed against over 30 teams, a fabulous achievement.



## Coming up next week

<b>Tues 14<sup>th</sup> Oct</b>	9:30am-11:30am & 1:30pm-2:30pm	Community Open Day for prospective parents
<b>Fri 17<sup>th</sup> Oct</b>		Year 5 'Ancient Greek Day' in school

Finally, every year, from 9<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> October is Baby Loss Awareness Week. With love to all of the families within Team Oxley, both staff and parents, who have loved and lost...

**Cathy**