



# Headteacher's Blog

FRIDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2014

Welcome back! We hope you all had a restful half term, and are now ready for the busy, exciting few weeks ahead on the run up to Christmas!

## FOOPA Fireworks Display

We were treated to another spectacular fireworks display yesterday evening – thank you to everyone who came along to help make it such a success. Huge



thanks, as ever, to our FOOPA team for all their hard work in organising this event, not just for 'Team Oxley' but for the wider local community.



FOOPA were selling hot dogs and candy floss (made with their new machine!) and the School Council came up with the idea of selling cakes. As a group, the children had a strong desire for all proceeds to go to a children's charity. Each of the 20 members played a part, whether it was baking cakes, selling – or both! We are all extremely proud of all their efforts and their thirst for helping others. The School Council raised an amazing £81 – well done to each and every one of you!



## Jack – Year 3

It's always great to see children inspired by their learning in class and develop their learning at home. Jack in Year 3 has been learning all about the Stone Age so decided to see for himself what life would have been like in the Stone Age, and created his own Stone Age weapon together with useful step by step instructions. Fantastic work, Jack!



## Skoolbo Success Stories

We were delighted to receive an email from Skoolbo this week, to congratulate us on our Skoolbo success. Here's an extract from the email below:

***“My email is to congratulate you all on your school, class and individual performances on the Skoolbo leaderboard!”***

***We have seen fantastic engagement from pupils both at home and at school which is great to see.***

***Soyon and Jieon (siblings I believe) are 4th and 5th in the pupil leaderboard, Kingfishers' class are fifth on the class leaderboard and the school are second on the school leaderboard. A brilliant performance.”***

Children's Skoolbo log in details were recently sent home, although we are aware that not all parents have registered for Skoolbo as yet – please take the time to register your child, it only takes a few minutes and your child will have access to a wide range of fun learning activities.

Between 12<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> November they are even running a 'Premier League' challenge – by answering as many maths and literacy questions as possible, children can help their favourite team win the challenge, something which we're sure many children will enjoy - good luck!

## Harvest Donation – MK Food Bank



We received an email from the MK Food Bank this week, thanking us for our Harvest Festival donations, which we would like to share with you all below. Once again, thank you all for your generous support.

*Dear Head Teacher, Staff and Pupils, thank you so much for your generous donation towards the work of the Food Bank. Your support means a lot to us and enables us to continue to help those in desperate need in our area.*

*We are currently facing a 26% increase in demand compared with this time last year. Your support enables us to meet the growing need and ensure many families and individuals who are referred to us by professional care agencies like CAB, the local council and family centres can move from crisis to sustainability.*

*Our service helps people like 'Amy' - a single mother of three who sustained an accident at work and was unable to support herself and her children on statutory sick pay alone. With help from Food Bank she was able to feed her family, eventually returning to work once she had recovered.*

## Cakes for Kids – Guinness World Record attempt



Don't forget that we will be helping to try and break the Guinness World Record for the longest line of cupcakes next week, to help raise money for children's charities. The event is being held on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November at Middleton Hall, centre:mk, from 4:00pm-5:30pm. If you would like to take part, the cupcakes must be baked by following the official recipe (details can be found under 'Latest News' on our website). Please bring your cupcakes into school on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November, when Waitrose will be collecting the cakes from us. For more information, please log on to [www.cakesforkids.net](http://www.cakesforkids.net).

## Children in Need Mufti Day – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November



Also, a reminder that we will be supporting BBC Children in Need again this year with a fundraising mufti day on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November, following this year's theme of 'Be a Hero' – children may come into school dressed as a superhero, or as a hero of theirs. A small monetary donation would be very gratefully received.

## Visit from Rifleman Harbottle – Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November



We are lucky enough to have another visit from Rifleman Harbottle on Remembrance Day next Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> November. The aim of his visit is for the children to understand the meaning behind the poppy and the significance as to why we have a minute's silence on 11<sup>th</sup> November. He will be spending the day visiting children in their classes and answering questions from the children – last time he came to visit, the children loved meeting and talking to a real soldier and we look forward to welcoming him back to Oxley Park.



## MK Dons' Big Schools Day – Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> November

Children have brought home letters this week with details of discounted ticket prices available for the MK Dons' forthcoming match against Port Vale on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> November – **Adults £10 and Under 18s £1.**

This fixture is also a Christmas-themed family fun day and will see over 50 stalls and attractions open between 12 noon and 3pm outside *stadiummk* and inside the Arena, including a special Santa's Grotto, live music, bouncy castles, football skills competitions, fairground rides and half-time entertainment. Tickets are available either directly through the MK Dons Box Office on 01908 622900, by visiting them at the stadium, or from the kiosk on Silbury Boulevard. Please quote the password **SD22** and provide our school name to ensure that you receive the discounted ticket prices and our school receives points for any tickets sold. See you there!

## Curriculum Enrichment – Wednesday afternoons

Just a reminder to parents that collection time on a Wednesday afternoon after curriculum enrichment is at **3:10pm**. If your child does not stay for a paid activity, they must be collected promptly **at 2:00pm** please when school officially closes for the day.

## Celebrations

We have shared celebrations with the following children in school this week:

- ★ Remey in Year 3 brought in this rather magnificent trophy to show us this week – his football team, Tattenhoe Youth FC Panthers, recently won the Under 8s President's Trophy. Congratulations!



- ★ Year 1 have had another excellent week this week, with Wareesha, Samuel, Cianna and Florence all reaching their 100 Hot Words, and Callum completing Stage 2 in swimming – well done to you all!



- ★ Bella in Year 2 received a 'Star of the Week' certificate in her drama group this week, and Sammy from Year 2 recently won 3 trophies in a dance competition – congratulations to you both.



## **Congratulations, Miss Scripps!**



Our congratulations also go to Miss Scripps this week, who got engaged during half term. She and her fiancé, Ben, are hoping to get married next summer, and we are looking forward to hearing all about their wedding plans over the coming months...

## Coming up next week

<b>Tues 11<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>	Individual school photos Remembrance Day	
<b>Weds 12<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>	Parents Evening	2:30pm-8:00pm
<b>Fri 14<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>	Mufti Day (Children in Need)  Celebration Assemblies: Year 1/2/3 Year 4/5/6  Community Open Day  FOOPA AGM – All welcome	  9:00am 10:00am  1:30pm-2:30pm  2:00pm

*Have a great weekend!*