



Newsletter

3rd February 2017

Coming up next week:

Tuesday—Year 3 & 4 Swimming

Thursday—Whole School Healthy Eating Day

Thursday pm—Year 1 & 2 Parents are invited to their child's class at 2.45pm to see the 'toy museum' they have created.

Friday—Whole school Rugby Day

Dates for your diary:

Monday 20th February is an INSET day.

Tuesday 28th February LKS2 & UKS2 Parent/Teacher Meetings.

Wednesday 1st March LKS1 & Reception Parent Teacher Meetings.



Sainsburys Vouchers

This year we are collecting Sainsbury's vouchers again so please feel free to drop them in to the box outside of the school office. Every year we are able to obtain valuable play and sport equipment with the vouchers you collect.

Thank you

PARENT/TEACHER MEETINGS

Tuesday 28th February - Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 from 1pm-7.30pm

Wednesday 1st March - Reception, Years 1 & 2 from 1pm-7.30pm

Please could we politely remind parents that parent/teacher meetings are 10 minute appointments. In order that they run to time it would be helpful if you could raise any issues you may have at the start of the appointment as this will allow your child's class teacher to address your query and then give you the information that they want to impart all within your 10 minute appointment.

We will also be sounding a bell one minute before the end and at the end of the appointment to try to keep things running to schedule and minimise the waiting times for all parents.

Your co-operation and support with this matter is greatly appreciated.

The booking window will open at 3.30pm on Friday 10th February.



We would like to politely remind parents that the school doors will open at 8.40am and children must be in school in time for registration at 8.50am. Thank you.

Sunday 5th February 10:00 - All Together In Church (ATIC), All Saints' Wraxall Church

This will be Frances' last ATIC service before she leaves us to become the vicar of a church in Oxshott Surrey. Please come and join us to say THANK YOU for all that she has done. Lets give her a great send off and pray for her continuing journey in ministry.

Dear Parents/Carers,

If you subjected yourselves to the newsletter last week, you may recall that the children undertook the Mannequin Challenge. Well, the films have now been uploaded to the class webpages on the school website so please do look them up if you have a spare couple of minutes. For Comic Relief, we plan to have another go, this time involving the whole school in an extended version and shall be inviting you to view the final product in the hall, after school. More on that nearer the time.

A big focus for Reception has been understanding what is meant by the terms, 'adding' and 'equals'. To help with this, a 'bus', where passengers joined at various stops, was set up in the classroom. As more commuters were added, the children had to calculate what the new total equalled. While Mrs Harris was helping the children understand the link between what they were seeing and the maths that was taking place, Mr Bishop was writing up the number sentences so they could see how this was written down arithmetically. As adults, it is funny how often we can take these first steps for granted but until someone explains what an '+' sign is, how would anyone ever know? Now, Reception, could you just give Beth a quick tutorial? If she could learn to add up before we set our next budget it would be most useful.

If 'fact' was the theme last week in Year 1/2, then 'fiction' waltzed into the spotlight this time through the medium of Little Red Riding Hood. As the children have found out, depending on which particular version of the story you read, the wolf fares considerably better or worse than one might expect. For example, in one version, the wood cutter takes the wolf to task, while the Jess Stockham flap book has the wolf fainting at the first sight of the woodcutter's axe (a far more Wraxall ending, I think you will agree... if a little underwhelming from the Big Bad Wolf). Reading multiple versions of the text, more than once in some instances, allows the children to become immersed in the story, which in turn gives their own version greater structure and detail. Before they write their own next week, they have been warming up with some character descriptions – a couple can be found below. Enjoy.

'The wolf has bright eyes. He is selfish and mean.' Sam Year 1

'He [the wolf] has pale pink fangs. She [Red Riding Hood] is kind and generous. She is caring because she brings some food to her Grandmother.' Molly Year 1

'He [the wolf] has razor sharp claws and bone crunching teeth. He has sharp eyesight... The big bad wolf is cunning because he tricks Little Red Riding Hood.' Otis Year 1

I am not sure what I have done to Miss Madge; it must be something in a previous life, but whatever it was, it has to have been something almighty. On Monday afternoon, as I was settling down for a quiet afternoon of tea and biscuits, I became aware that was I being serenaded by 28 pupils taking their first tentative steps towards mastering an instrument. Year 3/4 are learning to play the recorder! No doubt, by the end of the year their playing will be exquisite, maybe even assembly worthy. Yet, I fear the path may be long and full of pot holes. To be fair, for a first go, there were signs for optimism as several notes were recognisable! As an extra bonus, they are also learning to sing and play Abba's Mama Mia. My cup runneth over. To be fair, if they manage to convert *me* into a recorder lover, we shall know that nothing less than an expert job has taken place. Oh, and a big 'thank you' to Helena's dad for seeing my plight and buying me my own Recorder. Much obliged.

Year 5/6 are starting to investigate the Mayans as part of their topic. So what is it that has captured their imagination so far? Was it the fact that theirs was the first Mesoamerican civilisation to use any form of writing? Perhaps it was their amazing astrological calendars which were exceptionally accurate, even tracking the movement of Venus? Perchance the ceremonial pyramids that they constructed without help from modern day technology? No. It was the sacrificing of prisoners. What a surprise. Mind you, if Benny does not shape up soon I am seriously thinking of offering him up to the gods myself! In other news, Scarlett wrote this today and it just has to go in the newsletter. Nice one.

'Gently, the crimson leaves fluttered down like snowflakes on a winter's day, covering the world in a soft carpet of gleaming white wonders.'

This time our Stars of the Week are Isla in Reception, Molly & Tilly in Year 1/2, Jess & Mathew in Year 3/4 and Will & Nelly in Year 5/6. A great effort guys. The house with the most conduct marks was Dragons, while Griffins had the highest number of work marks. Bronze badges were awarded to Samuel M, Jack, Holly N, Arabella, Bella, Reuben & Helena. Silver badges were awarded to Amelie, Oliver K, Harvey and Marlowe. Jake Chapman received his Gold badge and Scarlet her Platinum. Well done to you all!

Next Friday, we have our rugby day where all the children can come to school in their rugby/sports kit and receive professional coaching. This should be a great experience and will hopefully enthuse a few more of them to try out at their local clubs. For all those braving the cold to watch Bristol tackle Harlequins (around 85 of us going in total) there is some good news and some bad news. On the downside, please could we have payment as