



16th July

School news update

Our church school creates a firm foundation where together, with God's help and with the help of others, we learn for life, achieve our best and grow in faith

Sports Week Special!

The weather is always an issue for school Sports Day and the forecast for our Sports Week looked very ominous indeed, last Sunday. However, I am delighted to say that from the moment the first bunting went up, we have been able to complete each of the daily class events, with only a short rain break for Kandinsky class on Tuesday afternoon.

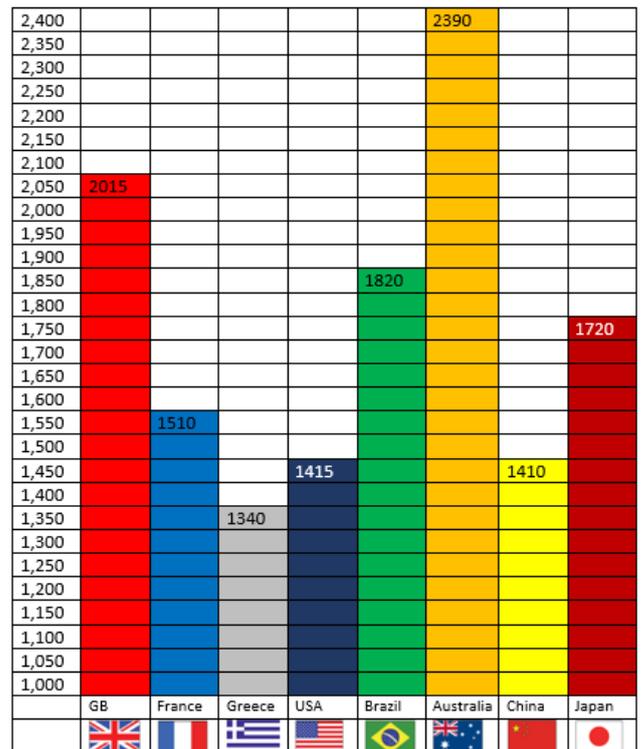
The children have looked magnificent with colourful kits, self-designed t-shirts, cloaks and flags to represent their country. The countries have been based around the Get Set for Tokyo world trail, plotting a winding journey from Great Britain to the Japanese host destination.

In school, we have followed the points table with interest. On Monday, Great Britain took a resounding lead. Tuesday saw Brazil overtake Australia for second place. Wednesday saw Australia fight back within touching distance of Great Britain and every country had broken the 1,000 points barrier. This meant that all was to play for when our youngest pupils in Van Gogh held their events on Thursday.

Our first time Sports Day stars from Van Gogh did brilliantly, and we added the final results to the table seen on the right. The results have been announced to the children this afternoon along with certificates.

A HUGE well done to the following countries:

- Gold** **Australia**
- Silver** **Great Britain**
- Bronze** **Japan**



As you know we have been learning about the Olympic Values in our Collective Worship and making links with these values found in bible stories and in the way we live our lives. We have awarded some very special 'Olympic Values' certificates to the children who really embodied one of these through their participation in sports day.



I would like to take the opportunity to thank Mr Clarke and his helpers from St Ives FC for their help in organising the KS2 events and Mrs Gibbons for being such an exceptional videographer and completing the 10,000m dash in the process of capturing so much of the action! Thanks also to our fantastic parents for the amazing outfits representing each country. Finally, thanks to the children for showing, with such conviction, the spirit, enthusiasm and good sportsmanship that go hand in hand with the Olympic and Paralympic values.

The Sports Day videos have been uploaded to our YouTube channel and links to these have been emailed to parents separately – this is to ensure that the links cannot be found through this newsletter when it is uploaded to the school website. A reminder that this link should not be shared with others outside of your family due to the permission restrictions. We do hope that you enjoy watching them as they are a true flavour of your child's experience!



End of Year reports

Your child's end of year report has been emailed to you today; we do hope you enjoy celebrating your child's achievements with them. If after reading the report, you feel there are elements which you wish to discuss, then please contact the school office via email on office@abbotsripton.cambs.sch.uk and we will arrange a time with the class teacher for this next week.

COVID 19 update

Just a reminder, as in last week's newsletter, we are not changing any routines in school for next week. Please do support us in ensuring that we all stay safe for our last few days of term.

In September, we will continue with the same routine in the morning (children entering school as soon as they arrive between 8:40am and 8:50am) as prior to the pandemic we had already introduced this routine. However, please feel free to use either gate; the closest from where you park is the safest. If you walk or bike from the village, please continue to use the main gate at the front of the school.

The end of school will be at 3:15pm for all children and parents should wait on the playground in the final third of the netball court and the small playground by the climbing wall. This allows teachers to bring their classes to the first third of the netball court to dismiss the children as they see you. As a reminder, Picasso children (Year 5&6) are dismissed from their classroom without the teacher and are expected to find the adult that they are going home with; please remind them that there will always be an adult for them to wait with on the playground if they can't find you. Children should never leave our site without an adult unless you have given permission via the office email for them to walk home on their own and this is reserved for children in Year 5&6 only.

Finally, a reminder that we will also be back in school uniform and your children will need a PE kit, as well as a change of shoes (such as wellingtons or old trainers) that they can change into if the field is wet. They will also need a water bottle to keep in school as we have this year.

Queens Platinum Jubilee

As part of the celebrations for Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022, people will be able to enjoy a UK-wide four-day weekend in recognition of the first time that a British monarch has reached this milestone. In respect of this, schools have been asked to reduce the number of teaching days by 1 if the bank holiday falls within their half term in June 2022. We have therefore decided to reduce the term by 1 day at the very end of the Summer term which will now finish on Thursday the 21st July and not Friday 22nd July. We are hoping that this will cause the least inconvenience for all as we are aware that we have previously shared our term dates with parents.



Attached with this newsletter is an updated copy of the term dates for the next academic year reflecting this change.

COVID support grant and Summer holidays

The Local Authority have secured funding in order to offer financial support to a range of families. For parents of children who are eligible for Income Related Free School Meals (not Universal Infant Free School Meals) then you will once again receive supermarket vouchers (one per child of £42 on 23rd July and a second for £42 on 13th August). It is not too late to receive these vouchers if you think you may now be eligible and details of how to check and to apply are in the letter. There are also details of how to access support for families who are finding things difficult financially but who may not meet the criteria for income related support. Full details regarding all of this can be found in the [letter from the Local Authority found here](#).

We have sent a 'Frequently Asked Questions' regarding the free school meal vouchers to our families who are currently eligible which has further specific details about the vouchers.

Dinner money owed

If you have received an email from Mrs Nixon stating that you have a debt on your child's dinner money account, please can you ensure payment is received before Wednesday at the very latest. This is vital as we cannot hold debts and any cash received needs to be banked before the end of term. If you are finding payments difficult, please do let us know and we can make arrangements with you directly.

Learning in the holidays

We know that many families will take a well-deserved rest over the holidays but we also know that we have many families who would like to continue with some element of learning during this time, in a fun and engaging way. Therefore, we are reminding parents about the 'Moving on Up' series of English and Maths booklets which have been design to support your children with preparing to move up to their next year group. The activities included have been selected to encourage children to practise and develop a range of English and Maths skills in a fun and motivating way. Please remember that you know your child; if you know that they are working below the expected level for their age, please use the appropriate booklet.

We have 'Moving on Up to Year 1' through to 'Moving on Up to Year 6' available [here](#).

Summer Reading Challenge

We would love your child to take part in the school's Summer Reading Challenge – there are some great prizes available in September! If your child is in Year 6 please feel free to still encourage them to enter and their competed challenge grid can be posted to school so they're still in with a chance of winning! The challenge has been sent home with this newsletter.



Diary Dates

We have attached an updated diary date's list. Please do take the time to note these down in your diary so you don't miss anything.

Any new dates added in the future will be in bold italics

17 th July	Deadline for the £21 in 2021 fundraiser
20 th July	Y6 leavers assembly -1.30pm
22 nd July	End of Summer Term
23 rd July	Teacher Training Day – School closed