



Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,



### Team AK Shining Brightly:

This week the school has been alive with pops, bangs and explosions as we have had

our Science week. Thank you to Mrs Serle, our Science Leader, and the staff team for planning this exciting week for our children. It is part of our school improvement plan to really raise the profile of Science in school and although we regularly teach Science, we felt a Science week would really put it into focus for the children in a fun and practical way and it certainly has! Every class has been taking part in some really exciting experiments



and I am sure you have seen the playground with remnants of experiments which have taken place! Children have been making their own gloop, bouncy balls, creating their own experiments, fair testing, recording experiments, making predictions and drawing conclusions and most of all absolutely loving Science. Today, the week ended with a special visitor who delivered an inspiring and fun



workshop to every class which the children absolutely loved! It was brilliant, I am sure your child will tell you all about it this evening. Here is what a few of your children from across the school said about the Science workshops:



*"I enjoyed the levitation football and leaf blower experiment with Professor Nitrate because the ball looked like it was flying!"*

*"I loved it when, me and Max came up and shot Professor Nitrate with a toy rocket and everyone giggled (It was part of the experiment). It was so much fun!"*

*"I loved the cola and mentos experiment, I predicted what would happen but I didn't think it would be as explosive!"*

*"Professor Nitrate made us all giggle and learn Science at the same time with some really messy and explosive Science experiments"*

*"I liked the rockets being fired because I got the chance to do it, especially when it hit his bottom"*

*"My favourite was the toilet paper experiment, which demonstrated up-thrust and lift"*



It has been a very messy, busy and incredibly exciting Science week, I know the children have enjoyed it and are looking forward to their next Science lesson!

## Choir

On Wednesday, I accompanied the choir, Mrs Crowley and Mrs Hancock to the rehearsal for the Oasis concert. I have to say, the 'Night at the Oscars' theme is brilliant and the singing sounded stunning! Those of you who have tickets for the event to see their child perform in the choir will not be disappointed. Our school have many of the harmonies to sing, it is brilliant. I think it is magical to bring all of the cluster school choirs together to perform. It gave me goosebumps to hear them sing, you are in for a treat! My thanks to Mrs Crowley and Mrs Hancock who give so much to the children through choir and their passion and enthusiasm for singing.



## Mock Trials

We could not be more proud of all of Year 6. They have all been working with Cirencester Magistrates to prepare for the Mock Trial competition which took place today. Every child who was in school today attended the trial due to it being held in a new, larger, venue. The class were supportive of one another and those performing did so brilliantly, we could not ask for any more from them. Thank you to the staff and parent helpers who transported the children to the

event to avoid transportation costs. Amber's Mum, Mrs Lyons, kindly sent this message:

*"So pleased I was able to witness the mock trials this morning; the behaviour and maturity of Class 6 was exemplary. It really was like being in a proper courtroom and the team spirit was fabulous. I really wasn't expecting proceedings to flow as well as they did, particularly as it is the first time they have done anything of this nature. Well done to everyone for playing their part in it!"*

Mrs Bromelow, parent and Governor wrote:

*"What an amazing morning I've had! I had the privilege of accompanying year 6 as they competed in the Annual Gloucester Mock Trials in Cirencester and they did a fabulous job. The Trials were truly authentic, the atmosphere electric and the court room was silent as we watched the children perform their roles.*

*Those who had court roles and spoken parts were fantastic - from firefighters to shopkeepers - they knew their lines, thought on their feet and most definitely looked the part in costume. The other Year*



*6s who came to support also did their school proud by demonstrating impeccable behaviour and good manners both during the journey to Cirencester and then sitting through the mock trial. Class 6 truly shone brightly today!"*

Thank you and well done to the Year 6 team and staff team. I particularly admire the way that this process included the whole class and gave them all opportunity to contribute and lead. We honestly could not be more proud of them all. Well done Team 6, excellent learning for life!

### Filming

We really enjoyed the filming on Tuesday. The PQA team, Dee and Doug were excellent and very generous to give us their time and this opportunity. There certainly was a lot of footage to work with. I will let you know when the film is ready to air - watch this space!

### Disco Dancing Brilliance!

Thank you to all parents and carers who volunteered to make



the discos happen for our children. Both discos were well attended and the children were brilliantly behaved, as we would expect. We were particularly impressed by their moves on the dance floor and how many children



and parents got involved! Ethan in Year 4 told me " This is my favourite of all FOAKS events". Thank you for making our children so happy!

### Breakfast Club crepes!

This morning, Breakfast Club had another special morning when we were treated to another parent's skills when Mr Felipe came into school and treated Breakfast Club to some of his special signature crepes! They were super yummy and children had a range of tasty toppings on their crepes. Thank you Mr Felipe, we look forward to your next visit. I will put the super photo of you with crepe in mid-air onto the website. The children were so inspired, Zack in Year 1 designed his own paper crepe like Mr Felipe's. Thank you to Mrs Morton and Mrs Cooper our breakfast club leaders and Mrs Cook who always gives her time freely at these events.

### Parent skills

Please don't forget to come forward if you have some particular skills you could share with our children, we are always happy to have a discussion and utilise parent skills. Thank you for getting involved!



### **Class 3 and 1 Assemblies**

We were both excellent and showed how much our children enjoy their learning and performing for parents and carers. We received lots of positive feedback from parents and carers and this was shared with our children. Class assemblies are very special and a fabulous opportunity for our children, thank you for supporting them.

### **Red Nose Day Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March- buy your noses here!**

We have ordered some more red noses because we have sold out, which is very impressive. We will let you know as soon as the order arrives.

### **Calling all Mathletes- Mathletics 2017 March Maths Challenge... we still have a couple of days- please help!**

Mrs Voss has registered our school in this year's Mathletics March Maths Challenge, where all children with Mathletics accounts (Years 2-6) can earn points to help us compete against other schools registered with Mathletics. Children can earn 10 points per correct answer in their curriculum activities between 6<sup>th</sup> March and 19<sup>th</sup> March, and can download a special participation certificate from their Mathletics account. At the end of the qualifying period, the top three schools will receive funding towards their Mathletics subscription, a trophy, wristbands and certificates. Please encourage your child to take part!

### **ican Easter Sports Holiday club**

Mr Tanner is running a daily sports club for the 2 week Easter holiday. He has lots of exciting sports activities planned and hopes to see many AK pupils there. This club is also open to pupils from outside the school. Please see Mr Tanner for more details.

### **AKPS Parent/Carer Spring surveys**

We really appreciate you taking the time to complete the surveys, your comments are very important to us. Please continue to send in your completed surveys to the school office. Many thanks.

Have a lovely weekend and thank you for your continued support,

*S.L. Saville*

Mrs. Saville

Head teacher



Please always check the calendar on our website [www.akps.org.uk](http://www.akps.org.uk) for dates.

Date	Event
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	Red nose day (School council will be organising the sale of noses well in advance of the day to avoid disappointment)
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Class 2 assembly to parents and carers 9am in hall
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> March	Music festival (Swindon Oasis) for the choir
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	Evening - Classes 3 & 4 Production
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	Am Zumba with Meryl for every class Evening - Classes 3 & 4 Production
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 6 Residential Parent Meeting 5pm in Class 6 (approx. 40 mins)
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> April	3.15pm End of Term 4
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> April	8.45am Term 5 starts
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6 KS2 SATs week every day
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	Leavers and Class photos
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6 residential to London
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May- Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	World Awareness week- Team AK travel around the world!
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	5pm Year 5 parent and carer meeting for Year 5 residential (in Class 5)
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	Last day of Term 5 ends at 3.15pm
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	TD day- school closed to pupils
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> June	School re-opens 8.45am Term 6
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> June	Class R assembly for parents 9am.
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> - Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Year 5 residential to Viney Hill activity centre
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Week
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	Am Sports Morning- please save this date in your diaries AK Music and arts festival begins (more details later) Y4 Residential- one night forest school camp at AKPS
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	3.15pm Term 6 ends