



Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,



Well the sun is out and your children have certainly been shining in school!

**Team AK Shining Brightly:**

### Promo film on website

Please, if you have not already done so, take a look at the home page of our school website. The short promotional film of our school is on there and I hope when you watch it, you feel as we do that it really sums up our wonderful school. The music to accompany the film is the children's iSing pop cd that they recorded - so very special indeed. Class 5 were given the task to work together to produce a film to promote our school. They had to think of how they would design this to show the best of our school and I think you will agree, they did an amazing job! A massive thanks to Mrs Dee Thompson (Zack's mum) who kindly gave the day as a gift from her to make it possible for the school to produce a film of this quality. She worked tirelessly with her team member, Doug from PQA, throughout the day and spent many hours editing the film afterwards. The full film is 9 minutes long and explores the school more fully. This film will be aired during our open morning on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July.

### Open morning

Our annual open morning will be on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2017. 9.15-11.00am. An opportunity for prospective and current parents to visit the school and experience a tour of the school in action, guided by our very own children. There is a special opportunity to view the school film which was made by the Year 5 pupils and the Pauline Quirke Academy (kindly donated by Zack Thompson's Mum in Class 1)

### SATs

Wowzers, this week our Year 6 pupils have been amazing. They have certainly shone their socks off. They have approached their SATs with such calm, confident enthusiasm. They and many of their parents have told me just how much they enjoyed the SATs week and I am sure this is not just down to the buffet breakfasts they have been treated to each day! Whilst the results are out of our hands, we know that every one of those children tried their best and made the most of the week and that is all we can ask of them! I am very proud that our school makes week's like these enjoyable and a great experience for our children.

### Crepe morning

Thanks again to Mr Felipe who gave us another tasty crepe (just like his mother used to make) session for breakfast club on Wednesday. We absolutely love parents and carers and grandparents offering to share their skills with our children, please keep them coming forward, we would love to welcome you!

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## **Marietta artist- star installation**

We are so lucky. We have an artist who is voluntarily working with our school to create a very special and unique art installation with every class in the school contributing. It is to represent our motto 'Shine Bright, Reach for the stars' through the medium of art and will be displayed in the hall as a permanent installation for all to see. Every child and staff member will make a star, the stars are all themed and the art skill behind them progresses as we move through the school; from 2D in Reception to wire sculptures in Year 6. We are so grateful to Marietta who is a community volunteer who visited our school as a friend of another kind volunteer and absolutely loved our school so wanted to give freely of her time. We are so lucky!

## **Specialist French in AKPS**

We never take for granted the time and effort that Enzo's mum gives to our school by teaching specialist French. Crystelle has become a true member of the team and the children really look forward to her sessions. We have noticed a real development in the children's French accent and pronunciation when speaking French which I know is down to having a native French speaker. Thank you Crystelle!

## **Specialist music in AKPS**

We are so lucky to have Mrs Crowley teaching specialist music to every class across the school. Last week was particularly uplifting as Year's 5 and 6 were playing 'Living on a Prayer' on the glockenspiel, reading music. We are so lucky to be able to share our talents within our school.

## **Stars for service**

Our value this term is Service (see the website for more ways to explore this value at home). Following on from the successful smarties chores challenge (which is still ongoing), we have been thinking about how we can use our talents to serve one another in school and how we do this quietly as the children understand Jesus did in the Bible. I have been staggered by how the children and staff have taken up the service star challenge set for them. If children/staff spot someone showing service they put a star in the jar for them. Each week in worship, they get the chance to say who the star was for and how they showed service. We are delighted with how our children and staff go out of their way to serve one another. Well done Team AK!

## **Strawberry Plant Sale**

Many thanks to everyone who took home some strawberry plants last Friday in return for a donation towards the plants for the school grounds. Kathryn Gray raised just



over £40 and has already planted up two containers outside the front of the school which are lovely. Thank you from the school to Kathryn for kindly donating the plants to us.

### Team AK's *Grand Day Out* wins SILVER at our first ever Malvern show!

How truly fabulous and exciting! The children, staff and volunteers have been working really hard to put together our Team AK Wallace and Gromit themed garden for the Malvern show this week. From the children's initial design and planning ideas, to the developed design, onto a fabulous handmade rocket, the children busily decorating and growing plants, we have created this wonderful garden for the show. So many kind volunteers and staff have been giving up their time and parents have generously been donating plants and materials for which we are truly thankful. Behind this whole initiative has been our forest school leader and TA, Mr. Jackson, who has been the driving force and we are ever so grateful for his vision, passion and commitment to this project. The children have absolutely loved and benefitted from having this opportunity as part of their forest school learning.



On Wednesday, Mrs Crowley was accompanied by a few Year 5 pupils who were incredibly brave, articulate and represented the school as they spoke to the judges at the show. Mrs Crowley was so impressed with them. Yesterday, Class 4 along visited the show and were absolutely delighted to find out that we were given the equivalent of a 'silver' placing which is a tremendous achievement for TEAM AK! They also got to meet Chris Collins (Blue Peter) which was very special! I was particularly impressed to see Mr Jackson wearing his special Wallace and Gromit tie in-keeping with the garden's theme! Today, I am taking a few Year 5's to the show to represent the school and share the garden with the general public. We have an appointment with the local radio station at 12.15pm which is rather exciting! You may also catch a glimpse of the garden on TV on *Gardeners' World* tonight as they were filming all day at the show yesterday.







Really well done to the whole of TEAM AK. It is wonderful for us to get our forest school work out into the community and to be recognised for our efforts. So much has been learned through this project and so much gained, a wonderful experience and opportunity for our children and school.

### **Dress down day, World Awareness week and Guatamalean Charity**

The children are ever so excited about our annual trip around the world which will be taking place during the week of 22<sup>nd</sup> May. They will travel around with their buddies taking part in enriching global activities with lots of arts and culture along the way. The countries/places they will be visiting are: Thailand, USA, The Netherlands, Mexico, Greece, Israel & Goa.

On Monday and Tuesday they will be cooking delicious dishes from these countries with Mel Tim, kindly funded by FOAKS from your fundraising. On Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May, we are having a dress down day in aid of Guatamalean familes. Please can your child dress down in their home clothes and they might like to wear something blue as the Guatamalean flag is mainly blue bringing a voluntary donation of 50p. We will be focussing on this charity in our Monday morning worship that week so the children thoroughly understand how their money will directly help others in the world. In addition, there will be a few cakes for sale after school on Friday for the same charity. A lovely way to end a fantastic term.

### **Unwelcome visitors**

We have had reports of unwelcome visitors on the school field on two evenings this week. We have reported the incident to the police. One scooter has gone missing so please do not leave bikes or scooters on the school grounds overnight as we can not be responsible for any loss. The scooter which has gone missing is a silver and purple Mongoose model - if you have any information please contact the school office or Enzo's mum in Class 4.

### **Road Closure**

Please be aware that there is a planned partial closure of the road between Happy Land and Waterhay just outside the village for the week commencing 22<sup>nd</sup> May if you come from the Cricklade direction.

Please be reminded that Heroes and Heroines is 9am in the hall on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May. The merits will be given to children from their around the world experiences from the week and there will be Golden Headteacher ones too. I hope to see many of you there.

Have a super weekend,

*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.

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> - Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	World Awareness week- Team AK travel around the world!
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	Movie Night
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	Dressing Down Day - wear something blue 9am Heroes and Heroines assembly Last day of Term 5 ends at 3.15pm
29 <sup>th</sup> May - 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	Half term holiday
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	3 - 5pm Church fete - Church Walk
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
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Class R trip to Adam's farm
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> June	Class R assembly for parents 9am.
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Breakfast Club special cooking session
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	Fathers' Day/carers pocket money stalls
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> June	Classes 1 & 2 trip to Cotswold Wildlife Park
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> June	Ashton Keynes Marathon 6pm New Reception parents meeting (entry Sept 17)
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> - Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Year 5 residential to Viney Hill activity centre
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup>	FoAKS School Festival
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
Mon 10 <sup>th</sup> July	9.15 - 11am Open morning Class R coffee morning
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Visit to Royal Air Tatoo (KS2)
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	School Disco
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	Moving up Day
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	3.15pm Term 6 ends