



Friday 27th May 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week we have had passports at the ready as we have travelled around the world visiting: Iceland, New Zealand, Spain, Nepal, Madagascar, Uganda and Japan! We have had another wonderful World Awareness week and the children and staff have not stopped smiling! We hope you have heard all about it!



Team AK Shining Brightly:

World Awareness Week Highlights

I hope your children have been telling you all about our wonderful week around the world. I have really enjoyed them all working with their Buddies as they travel around the 7 different classrooms and countries working with all of the staff. The children have said they have loved this week. It has been wonderful to hear from parents just how much their children have enjoyed and how much they have learned. Handmade clicking castanets in Spain seem to be very popular, the necklaces from New Zealand are stunning and the weaving in Madagascar was so well done. These are just a few of the wonderful crafts produced this week.



Thank you

I would like to say thank you to the children and staff for this wonderful week. We have taken lots of photos and footage to show you. The staff have worked so hard to provide such fabulous experiences for all of the children as they travelled around the world with their Buddies. We look forward to sharing a few highlights in Heroes and Heroines assembly today.

Kitchen club and volunteers. We had two wonderful days of cooking. Every child cooked for an hour. We hope you enjoyed tasting the Nepalese soup and curry as it came home! A huge thank you to Mel Timm for a brilliant well planned and prepared experience and a massive thank you to all of the parents who gave up their time to help make this event possible, it really is appreciated. Your fundraising via FoAKS has enabled this extra special experience to happen.



We were very lucky to be visited by our very own Reverend Shirley and by Reverend Angie from South Cerney this week who came in on separate occasions

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to share their experiences with children in Uganda. Both visits made us really reflect on how different school is across the world and to be very thankful for what we have. We were also very inspired to hear about the differences that can be made.



This week Kathryn Gray has been in school in the afternoons enabling every children to contribute to our new mosaic cross which reflects beautifully our 4 core values: trust, creativity, perseverance and friendship. Once done, the cross will be in the reception area outside my office, please come and see it, it will be beautiful.



Message from Miss Thomas: Thank you so much for contributing to the Cake sale for Christian Aid. You will see from our website, we raised a massive £69.58!

That is enough to buy 3 wormeries for people in Bangladesh. These wormeries are used to make compost which can boost their crop production. Thank you very much for all those who donated or bought cakes. Thank you also to Linda Tuck for coming in and sharing an inspiring Christian Aid assembly with the children.

Four of our Year 2 pupils, Izzy, Anna, Lottie and Abi were incredibly thoughtful and managed to raise a fabulous £6.50 for Christian aid by selling all of their handmade bracelets. What a thoughtful and charity minded thing to do.



We are delighted to report that as a result of the AKPS sponsored Marathon and a generous sponsorship contribution from CB Slade, we have raised almost £2,500 for sports kit. This week we have met to finalise the order for kit for all sports competitions. This kit is super smart with the school logo, CB Slade logo and TEAM AK. We will look amazing when we take part in sporting activities, I cannot wait to get the kit here so we can show you what it looks like. You are all amazing, thank you for your fabulous contribution for something which we really need. We are going to use the extra gift aid contribution from the fundraising to be split towards our link school in Uganda and the Ben Smith charity who inspired the Marathon event. This means that lots of people have benefitted from this event. I would like to thank Claire Clark for helping with the collection of money and helping order all of the kit.

London Year 6 Residential 2016 was AMAZING!

What a fabulous time we all had. It was an absolute privilege for me and my fabulous team of staff to take all 27 of our Year 6 pupils to London last week! You only need to ask the 27 children or staff about the experience and they will happily

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tell you how amazing it was. We loved every minute and received so many compliments about our children, allowing Team AK to shine brightly in London. It was an excellent team building, off-site cultural and educational experience. I have booked ahead as far as I can to ensure we go to London every year in Year 6 to give the children something wonderful to look forward to! Thank you to the children for being brilliant and to the staff team: Mrs Voss, Mrs Campbell, Miss Noonan and our Governor Jan Thompson for making it such a successful visit.

SATS 2016

I have been so proud of how the pupils and staff have approached the SATs tests over the past few weeks. The children all showed fantastic learning behaviours, positive attitudes and it was really satisfying to see how they embraced the week. With all of the negativity in the media around testing at the moment, we felt incredibly proud of all of our pupils and of how our staff had approached these weeks. All school are faced with the sudden raise in expectations this year, but I feel so proud that this was not at all put upon the children and we managed it positively. Before the results come back, I will write to parents of Year 2 and 6 to explain how they will be reported this year and clarify the raise in expectation.

Deputy Head Appointment

I am delighted to inform you that our new Deputy Head is Miss Leah Perring. Miss Perring is currently an Assistant Headteacher working in Swindon and previously worked in an outstanding large primary academy in Gloucestershire. She is an experienced teacher who has worked across the primary age ranges, but particularly with year 6. She is a perfect fit for our school and brings lots of experience and masses of passion and enthusiasm. The team and I are so excited about Miss Perring's arrival and she says she cannot wait to join Team AK. Miss Perring will be joining us on 'moving up' day so she will get the chance to meet her new class. I am sure you will join me in warmly welcoming Miss Perring to Team AK in September.

Classes for September 2016

I am pleased to be able to let you know the class structure for September 2016. There are a few changes this year which we are all very pleased and excited about.

| Class | Staff |
|-------|---|
| R | Mrs Serle/Mrs Crowley (job-share) supported by Miss Davies, Mr Jackson and Mrs Brown. |
| 1 | Mrs Mee/Miss Kibblewhite supported by Miss Hancock, Mrs Watts and Mrs Barratt (job-share) |
| 2 | Miss Igoe supported by Mrs Simpson |
| 3 | Miss Redman supported by Mrs Tromans |
| 4 | Mrs Voss supported by Mrs Thomas |
| 5 | Miss Thomas supported by Mrs Lang |
| 6 | Miss Perring (Deputy Head) supported by Mrs Campbell |



Miss Noonan will continue to work across all classes as a learning mentor as will Mrs Watts. 1:1 and small group adult support will remain the same across the school. Mr Brown will continue to provide sport for the school every day except Wednesday, Forest schools will continue on Tuesday and Wednesdays with Mr Jackson and Mrs Willis and Mrs Pegg will continue to provide 1 days cover within the school. Mindfulness will continue with Mrs Tromans. I would like to take this opportunity to say a heartfelt thanks to my entire staff team, they strive for the best for your children and are such a passionate and dedicated team.

Headlice Half term Check please!

Please can we all use this half term break to check our children's hair for head lice as it is the time of year when they are around again. Thank you very much to those of you who check regularly. Parents have been reporting that the preventative spray available in many stores including *Poundland/ Home Bargains* which is chemical free, along with tying back longer hair seems to be having the best impact currently. I know what a problem this can be for all schools, let's work together to help make this more comfortable.

School Meals

Cygnets Catering have increased the price of their hot meals to £2.30 per meal. I am afraid we have no control over their costings and the increase is immediate.

Sainsburys vouchers

As the supermarket is no longer issuing these vouchers, please can you bring in any which may be still lurking at home into school as soon as possible and no later than 17th June. Thank you.

I hope you have a wonderful half term break and we look forward to welcoming you back on Tuesday 7th June (school closed for teacher training on Monday 6th) when we will be joined for the day by Martin, the wonderful storyteller, in our outside storytelling area.

All the very best 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 for dates.

| DATE | EVENT |
|---|---|
| Mon 30 th - Fri 3 rd June | Half-term holiday |
| Mon 6 th June | TD Day - SCHOOL CLOSED |
| Tues 7 th | Storyteller in school |
| Wed 8 th | Class R Reading Breakfast (more details to follow) |
| Thursday 9 th | 11.30am District Sports for selected pupils 1.45pm Ising pop concert in school hall |
| Fri 10 th JUNE | Charity den building day |
| Wed 15 th | Class R trip to Cotswold Farm Park |
| Sun 19 th | 3-5pm Church fete |
| Tues 21 st | 8.00am Breakfast club cooking session 9.00am Class R assembly - all welcome |
| Wed 22 nd - Fri 24 th | Year 5 residential trip to Viney Hill |
| Wed 22 nd | Classes 1 & 2 trip to Living Forest |
| Mon 27 th - Fri 1 st July | Sports Week |
| Tues 28 th | 6.00pm Parents' meeting for new Reception pupils 2016/17 |
| Fri 1 st July | Sports morning - all welcome 5.30pm Year 4 Forest School overnight camp |
| Wed 6 th | 10.00am Coffee morning for Sept 2016 Reception children and parents |
| Fri 8 th | Fairford Air Show visit for Years 2,3 & 4 |
| Sat 9 th | Evening - FoAKS Annual Ball |
| Mon 11 th | 9.15am AKPS Open morning - all welcome including prospective parents |
| Tues 12 th | 6.00pm Years 5/6 Production - all welcome |
| Wed 13 th | Annual reports to parents 6.00pm Years 5/6 Production - all welcome |
| Thurs 14 th | AK Got Talent |
| Mon 18 th | 2.00pm School summer soiree concert in school hall |
| Wed 20 th | Moving up day |
| Thurs 21 st | 11.00am Leavers service in school hall followed by balloon release 1.00pm Leavers v mums/dads rounders match |
| Fri 22 nd | Training Day - SCHOOL CLOSED |
| 25 th July - 31 st August | School Summer Holiday |
| Thurs 1 st Sept | School restarts for 2016/17 |