



Friday 23rd September 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

There are so many ways in which Team AK are shining brightly in school and out. Here are just a few highlights and some important messages:



Team AK Shining Brightly:

Buddies The Buddies have got off to a great start by sending home letters to welcome the families of the new Reception Class and to introduce themselves. I have been so impressed by how kind and helpful the Year 6 Buddies have been at play and at eating time to ensure their younger Buddies are settled and happy. They have been there for them at playtime and have been supporting them to play with other children in Class R. They have loved having a storytelling session together on a Friday afternoon. It really is lovely to watch our children showing natural responsibility, nurture and care for one another, summing up what our school is all about.

Ashton Keynes Flower and Produce Show 2016

This was such a lovely event, what talent we have in this village! It was lovely to see some familiar faces from school there too! The WI were massively impressed with the children's handwriting and were keen for me to let the children and teacher know this. They thought our new cursive joined handwriting was incredibly impressive, which is brilliant! We can certainly see a real difference in school, I hope you can at home! Well done to all who took part in years 4,5 and 6. The winner was Eliza in Class 5, Second place went to Evelyn in Class 6 and Third place to Alice Richards in Class 4. Highly commended were: Matilda in Class 5, Lucy and Evie in Class 4. Well done to all, they found it hard to judge as the standard was so high! The WI were so kind and sent little prizes for all children. It was such a lovely event for our school to be part of.

Learning stars

I was delighted to present the first 3 learning stars of this academic year to Aubrey, Zoe and Jacob in Class 2. We are continuing with our tick sheets from last academic year and some children are very close to their 10 ticks now! Keep going! There is one star waiting for every child.



New Team AK Sports Kit

Our Year 5/6 tag rugby team went off in their super smart new sports kit to represent the school on Tuesday and they made us so proud! I was so lucky to be there and see this first hand. Not only did they do ever so well finishing 2nd in



their group of 5 teams, but they played proudly as a team in their amazing new kit. We were the smartest school there! Thank you to Mr Tanner for organising and to the parents who gave lifts.

Our school value in focus is GENEROSITY

More details can be found on our website for how you can support this value at home.

A group of very kind pupils: Lottie, Edie, Emelia, Jack, Estella and Maximus were working hard at home to be generous and raise money for Cancer research, they raised a fabulous £5.20. On Fri 14th October at 3.10pm the children have asked for another charity event where they can bring things (cakes, items they have made) to sell in aid of cancer research, so bring your pennies on this day. We will then send all of the money, including the £5.20 off to Cancer Research. What a fabulous example of our pupils showing the Christian value of generosity through their own actions!

Visit of Ben Smith

On Wednesday we were delighted to be joined by Ben Smith who is running 401 marathons for 2 charities which support children and teenagers who have suffered bullying. He told us all about his determination and how he is close to finishing his mammoth challenge and we shared how he inspired us to do our school marathon challenge where we raised money for our sports kit and for Kidscape, the charity via Ben Smith and presented him with a cheque for £401 for the charity. Enzo, dressed in the new sports kit, presented Ben with the cheque. We then sang an iSing pop song which lifted his spirits ready for his next Marathon in Swindon that morning! We were very thankful he took the time to visit us and were happy to hear him say that in all the schools he had visited, he hadn't seen the children sing like we did and that it was fantastic! You might like to follow Ben in his final few marathons on his website <http://www.the401challenge.co.uk/> I am sure the children would be interested to see how he is getting on.

School Uniform Offer

I have been really impressed by how smart the children look as they have returned to school. Thank you for ensuring your children are dressed in the correct uniform colours, it makes a huge difference. PE now looks so smart with all pupils in their house colour t-shirts all of the time. Please remember to let them look smart on Tuesday for their school photo.'

There will be a Parentmail coming home to let you know about a special sale we have arranged with the school uniform company to support parents and carers with purchasing the logo sweatshirts, cardigans and polo shirts. It is perfectly acceptable to wear non-logo uniform of the correct colour, but we do not wish to see the old logo anymore in school. We have had an almost 2 year period of phasing this out so would like to see new logo now where possible. I hope this little discount and free delivery helps you. Thank you.

2

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Save the dates... Parent Consultation Evenings

These are on **Tuesday 8th November 4.30-7pm** and **Thursday 10th November 3.30-6pm**. Please put these dates into your diaries so we can ensure appointments happen on these evenings. If you genuinely cannot make these dates, we will do our best to accommodate you but I try to send out dates well in advance to avoid additional evenings being required. The sign up boards will go out one week before. (on Monday 31st October 3.15pm- Friday 4th November). If you are not able to sign up in school, you can telephone to book your slot on Monday 31st October and the office will help you. Please do not email requests.

Harvest Experience

After the success of Easter experience at the church, our lovely 'Open the Book' team are providing exciting workshops via the Harvest experience for our pupils this year. This will take place during the week of October 3rd. We will send a parent mail, but will be suggesting a tin or packet of food for the food bank as a donation instead of an end of term dress down day contribution. More info will come via a parentmail to help remind you, if you would like to help.

Safety when travelling to school by bicycle

It is brilliant to see so many children cycling, scooting and walking to school where possible. I would like to remind you that where children are cycling to school, cycle helmets should be worn for their safety, I know most do already. Thank you for ensuring you child is always wearing one of these when cycling to school, I am keen to keep all of our children safe.

Thank you very much for your continued support. Have a lovely weekend,

Kind regards,

S.L. Saville

Mrs. Saville

Head teacher

Please always check the calendar on our website www.akps.org.uk for dates.

Date	Event
Tuesday 27 th Sept	School Photos - 8.30-9.00am for photos with pre-school children
Sunday 2 nd Oct	Holy Cross Harvest Festival
Thursday 6 th Oct	3.30pm Book Fair in school - all welcome
Tuesday 18 th October	School Disco organised by FOAKS
Wednesday 19 th October	1.45pm Afternoon tea for senior villagers
Thursday 20 th /Fri 21 st	Teacher training days - school closed to pupils
Mon 24 th - Fri 28 th Oct	Half-term holiday
Monday 31 st October	8.50am School restarts for term 2
Saturday 5 th November	Fireworks Night - bar, BBQ and live music at Bradstone Playing Field organised by FOAKS
Tuesday 8 th November	4.30-7.00pm Parents Evening
Thursday 10 th November	3.30-6.00pm Parents Evening

ASHTON KEYNES

Church of England VC Primary School

SHINE BRIGHT ★ REACH FOR THE STARS



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INVESTORS IN PEOPLE



Healthy School