



Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a brilliant Sports Week we have had! Today ended with a superb sports morning and I was delighted that so many of you could join us and also stay for the picnic afterwards. Times like this when we are all together are precious and make us all feel proud of our children and our school. To add to this, the weather behaved and we had sunshine for our picnic!



**Team AK Shining Brightly:  
Sports Week Highlights**

I hope your children have been telling you all about our Sports week. The week started with a fabulous assembly by Mr Brown to focus the children on the 7 Olympic values from which they had a star challenge to follow for the rest of the week. This year on the sports menu was: wheelchair basketball, cricket, tennis, martial arts, table tennis, sports leader fitness courses and activities, football, tag rugby, Zumba, an opening dance for the RIO 2016 Olympics ceremony, orienteering, archery, golf, circuit training, smoothie bike and healthy eating workshop, a visit from a local star of past Olympics and local Gymnastic coach Dave Cox which was very inspiring and the visit of Harry George Owen Commonwealth Games Gold Medallist 2014 who treated us to some of his fabulous artistic gymnastic skills. In between all of this the children continued with their English and Maths, some with a sports and health focus. I was delighted to see the Year 2 class applying measuring skills to long jump!

Thank you to all who helped with Sports week, the amount of local sports groups from the wider community that were involved was incredible, making great links with our wider community and encouraging our children to take part in clubs outside school. The diverse range of sports on offer was planned with the hope that there would be something for everyone and give our children some new experiences. Many thanks to Mr Brown and Chris Powell for supporting me to plan this amazing week and to Mrs Timm and Mrs Griffin for their generous contributions to the week. Thank you to my staff team for embracing this fabulous week which ended with another great Sports morning. I was personally pleased to not finish last in the Mum's race and would like to confirm that I had not secretly been practicing the penguin run!

We are already planning Sports Week 2017 which will be Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June ending with sports morning and picnic on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017!

**Sports kit up date**

We have been busy behind the scenes ordering the very special AKPS sports kit using the wonderful amount of money raised by you during the marathon. My thanks to Claire Clark for all of her hard work with this. As soon as it has all arrived, we will ask some children to model

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it so we can share pictures of the kit. I cannot wait to see our children out and about representing our school in a smart unified AKPS sports kit! Thank you all so much! I also look forward to sending off the Gift Aid part of the money raised to Uganda to our link school so that they can benefit too!



### **AKPS Choir shining brightly in the community**

If you were at the AK adult choir concert on Saturday, you were in for a treat. 20 of our older school choir members represented the school beautifully as they sang with the adult choir. I have received so many compliments from the community and lovely cards too stating how well the children behaved, sung and what a credit to the school they were. I am so proud of them all, and have to mention Daniel in Y4 who did his first solo so brilliantly and bravely! It brought a tear to my eye when I watched the video of the performance. I would like to thank Mrs Crowley who gives so much passion and dedication to our school choir and also thanks to Mrs Hancock who has given up so much of her time to help the choir. Finally thank you to the children who attend choir, we now have 60 children in choir which is amazing! The choir will perform again alongside some of our musicians in our AKPS Summer Soiree concert on the afternoon of Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July, please come and join us.

### **Forest School broadcast**

All week BBC Wiltshire has been broadcasting our Class 6 interviews about Forest School. Please see our website for the link.

### **Outside area**

Due to illness, Kathryn Gray has not been able to plant the lavender around the outdoor classroom. She plans to do it on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July at 9am if the weather is fine and would be very appreciative of help with the planting. Thanking you in advance for your help.

### **Cameras**

Thanks to your generous giving at FOAKS events, we now have a new camera for every class. These were very much needed in order for us to take many pictures and films to share with you in parents' assemblies and on our website. So thank you, this is a fabulous way to support all of our children in our school.

### **Y5 residential**

In a nutshell, it was awesome! The children were superb, the staff were brilliant and the whole 3 day experience in the Viney Hill Christian Adventure Centre in the heart of the Forest of Dean was unforgettable. I witnessed first-hand children thoroughly engaged in a technology free outdoor experience where they tried new things and challenged themselves totally. I have

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had such positive feedback from many parents and carers for which I am grateful. The activities included abseiling down a 80ft rock in the middle of the forest, caving in real caves, canoeing on a stunning lake, building dens in the forest, looking for wildlife and cooking campfire cakes! Thank you to the staff team: Miss Thomas, Mr Jackson and Mrs Cook for being brilliant and helping me ensure our children had an amazing, safe and memorable experience.

### **Children running lunch clubs...**

I have been so impressed with our children. Our outdoor classroom is now utilised fully every lunchtime by the children as they use their initiative to run their own lunchtime clubs! On Monday and Friday we have reading, Tuesday Eco club, Wednesday sketching club, Thursday Massage (using the pupil MISP trained guide) club. All clubs are inclusive of everyone and run by children across the school. I will have to watch out as the children may be running the school soon!

### **Church fete thank you**

A kind hearted group of children from our school went to the church fete to sell their handmade willow bracelets. Well done to them for giving up their time outside school to represent the school and help the Church at their fete.

### **Sainsbury's vouchers**

Thank you to all of you who donated Sainsbury's vouchers. We have been able to order a wonderful stove and burner cooking set for Forest Schools and some netball equipment. We look forward to receiving it in the Autumn Term.

Tonight is the first ever Year 4 residential when they have a forest school one night sleepover. We have a very busy evening planned for the children including forest school activities, stories in the outdoor area, nature watching using the bug hotel they built in forest school, bat watching, team games and campfire dinner and treats. Hopefully following all of this they will all sleep! In the morning they have a special breakfast on offer including Mrs Saville's special scrambled eggs! They are certainly excited!

Thank you for your support, we really do appreciate your contributions to our wonderful school.

With my kindest regards,

*S.L.Saville*

Mrs. Saville

Head teacher

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

DATE	EVENT
Wed 6th JULY	10.00am Coffee morning for Sept 2016 Reception children and parents
Fri 8 <sup>th</sup>	Fairford Air Show visit for Years 2,3 & 4
Sat 9 <sup>th</sup>	Evening - FoAKS Annual Ball
Mon 11 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am AKPS Open morning - all welcome including prospective parents
Tues 12 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm Years 5/6 Production - all welcome
Wed 13 <sup>th</sup>	Annual reports to parents 6.00pm Years 5/6 Production - all welcome
Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup>	AK Got Talent
Mon 18 <sup>th</sup>	2.00pm School summer soiree concert in school hall
Wed 20 <sup>th</sup>	Moving up day
Thurs 21 <sup>st</sup>	11.00am Leavers service in school hall followed by balloon release 1.00pm Leavers v mums/dads rounders match
Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Training Day - SCHOOL CLOSED
25 <sup>th</sup> July - 31 <sup>st</sup> August	School Summer Holiday
Thurs 1 <sup>st</sup> Sept	School restarts for 2016/17