



Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for attending the recent parent consultation evenings, we hope you found the new report format and target cards supportive and informative. This week we have lots of news for you from AK.

**WOW- Thank you to classes 1 & 3 and to Team AK!**

I am so grateful for classes 1 & 3 for providing so many cakes for our cake sale today- we really are grateful and appreciate your generosity. Thank you to all of Team AK who supported the school by buying cakes! Once counted, I will let you know how much we have raised for the willow tunnel and school gardens.

**MOCK TRIALS FOR TEAM AK**

I am oozing with pride as I report to you about the Mock Trials this morning. All of the children in Classes 5 & 6 took part in preparation for the trial and today; some supported while others performed their hearts out. The staff could not be more proud of the children, they were fantastic! They performed so well and with such confidence, you would not have thought this was the school's first time. I look forward to our school being part of the Mock Trial for future years as it is such a fantastic opportunity and experience for our children. The photographer from the Standard was at the first trial so I am expecting our school to feature at some point soon. Well done all, what an achievement. Thank you so much to the parents who transported the children, we could not have taken part without your help! A big thank you to Miss Thomas and Mrs Voss who have embraced the opportunity and ensured that both classes fully benefit from the experience.

**AK Year 6 pupil selected to represent the Country in ice hockey!**

Huge congratulations to George in Year 6 for being selected to represent his country in an ice hockey tournament in the Netherlands at the end of this month. We know how hard George works with his ice hockey outside school and wanted to say on behalf of the whole school family how very proud of him we are! Good luck George!

**World Book Day Fun**

Wow, what wonderful costumes and superb effort made by our pupils and staff! We had a brilliant celebration assembly where the staff did a catwalk of their costumes for the children and we showcased the efforts the children had made! We did a whole school draw to win some books which were kindly donated by Mr. Loveridge and the winners were Joseph and Hannah in year 6 and Finley in year 1 who won beautiful hard backed story books. Well done to them and thank you to Mr. Loveridge for the book donation. This day was certainly one to remember, photos will be on the website very soon!

**Netball success for Team AK**

Our netballers proudly represented the school this week and were successful in winning 3 out of their 4 matches and securing a place in the next stage of the tournament. This is a fantastic sporting achievement. Well done Team AK! Thank you to Mr. Brown and the parents who accompanied the children and to Miss Igoe for running the netball club in all weathers!



### **Miss Igoe**

The parents of Year 4 have already been informed, but Miss Igoe will be off work for a short period from 18<sup>th</sup> March while she under goes knee surgery which she has been waiting for a long time. I am delighted that Mrs. Pegg has agreed to cover her class while she is away. Miss Redman and Mrs Pegg will be working hard together to prepare the Year 3/4 production. For this period, netball club will not be on and Miss Igoe will advise you when the club restarts. We wish Miss Igoe all the best for her operation and a speedy recovery.

### **Easter breakfast Club Fun Session**

On the morning of Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March, we will be holding an Easter special at AK Breakfast club. There will be a special Easter egg hunt and a chance for children to design, make and drink their own healthy smoothies. There will also be a chocolate egg for each child to bring home and enjoy on Easter Sunday. If you would like your child to attend, please book and pay in advance - £3 usual price for the session. Thanks to Mrs. Tim who is kindly providing the smoothie session for the children, to you for your support and thanks as always to my breakfast club staff Mrs. Sampson and Mrs. Moreton.

### **Pupil Feedback on the star challenge**

I have been asking the pupils what they think of the star challenge and how it helps them as learners. They have given me some excellent feedback. To read their feedback and find out more about the star challenge at AK, please see the news item on our website. The star challenge operates on many levels, enabling all learners to make progress and strive for a challenge, from those who need extra support to those who are particularly able/ gifted in different areas. On Wednesday, we had a visitor from the local authority in to do a learning walk and she was very impressed by the star challenge system and commented on the high impact this is already having upon the children's learning.

### **New EYFS outdoor learning area**

I am delighted to officially inform you that we have planning for our new covered outdoor learning area for the Reception classroom. Building starts on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March and continues until Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March. It is anticipated that there will be minimum disruption. We are also ordering brand new tables for the area and are opening the area officially with the Reception parents, pupils, staff and governors after Easter on the morning of Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April (an invite has been sent to Reception parents as we will be doing a reading breakfast in the new outdoor area). This is fantastic news for our school and we know our children and staff will really benefit from the new addition.

### **Exciting- Athletics for Year 2!**

I am very excited to tell you that we have arranged for Year 2 to have access to Athletics at home. FoAKS have kindly agreed to fund this so that now Year 2 to Year 6 will benefit from this excellent online Maths programme. With the new curriculum, we feel it will be beneficial to start Athletics earlier, in Year 2. We are going to re-energise Athletics at AK and Mrs Voss, our Maths leader will be writing to you to offer you the chance to come in to see Athletics in action, so that you can see how to best support your child at home and get the most from the programme. We are also introducing merits for Athletics to encourage children to use it at home.



### Governor of the Month for March

Adam Loveridge is one of our 5 parent governors. He is chair of the staffing, policies and communications committee, and has 1 child in class 2 and 1 in class 5.

His background is in design and communications and he currently runs his own business supplying books to museums and art galleries in London and throughout the UK. Adam will be focussing on the EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage) during this month and we very much look forward to welcoming in for his planned visits. Please approach Adam if you have any questions for him, he will be happy to help.

### For your information and awareness

There have been an increased number of cases of Scarlet fever in the county. Although we have not had any recently in our school, I am making you aware of signs and symptoms and reminding that good hygiene practice such as hand washing remains the most important step in prevention. If your child does have Scarlet Fever, the doctor will give them antibiotics, children can return to school once they feel better and have completed 24 hrs of antibiotic treatment. The signs and symptoms often include a sore throat, headache, fever, swollen glands in the neck, white coating on the tongue, nausea and vomiting. After 12 to 48 hours the characteristic fine red rash develops on the chest and stomach, rapidly spreading to other parts of the body. On more darkly-pigmented skin, the rash may be harder to spot although the 'sandpaper' feel should be present. Here is a NHS link to help:

<http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Scarlet-fever/Pages/Introduction.aspx>

### Dates for your diaries:

Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	Red Nose Day- 50p come dressed in your own clothes with something red/ white and optional face paint/ funny face.
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	9.10am in the hall Class 1 assembly to parents/ carers/ Grandparents
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	6.15pm Class 3 & 4 evening production (save the date- more info to follow)
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	Breakfast Club Easter Event 6.15pm Class 3 & 4 evening production (save the date- more info to follow)
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	School Discos organised by FoAKS (more details to follow)
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	9.00 am Hero and Heroines Assembly for all 1.30 pm Easter service in the church All welcome. A lovely way to end Term 4 together.

All dates can be found on our website in the calendar. [www.akps.org.uk](http://www.akps.org.uk)

With very best wishes,

*S.L. Saville*

Mrs. Saville

Head teacher