

SHINE BRIGHT ★ REACH FOR THE STARS 🖌

ASHTON KEYNES Church of England VC Primary School

Friday 27th March

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a busy couple of terms we have had here at AKPS. The classes have written for you to share some highlights from their learning this term.



This term Class R have been learning some traditional tales like the Little Red Hen and The Gingerbread Man. We had great fun in our bakery and were busy selling cakes and bread to each other! Making gingerbread men and mini bread rolls gave us a chance to create something yummy to eat. Also this term we have been invaded by dinosaurs! We have set up our very own dinosaur museum with



information, fossils and realistic models to look at. Little did we know that dinosaur eggs would arrive and actually hatch!

Aside from all our super learning, we have been able to watch as our fantastic new outdoor learning space takes shape with the addition of a shelter to provide much needed protection from the weather. We can't wait to get out there and use it!

We had a delivery of dinosaur eggs!

Year 1 have had a busy term. As part of the 'Food a Fact of Life' project we have made toast and spread it with our favourite toppings as well as trying something new! We have enjoyed World Book Day, arriving in school in some fabulous costumes and continued the theme into our pirate topic, reading and writing lots of pirate stories and poetry. 'I liked doing the pirate topic because I liked

Our clay session

doing the homework', 'I liked doing the tropical fish because they were very colourful'. We performed our assembly to the whole school and parents, highlighting some of the things we have been learning about; our bodies, our times tables, and team work and the people who care for us, 'I liked it when we sang the chicken song.' We have been using clay and watercolours in our art to create seascapes and learning about fruits and colours in French. (Please ask to hear our French song!)





Class 2 have been very busy since their last update at Christmas. Here are some of the children's highlights:

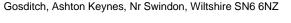
Ethan - 'I'm really enjoying playing on Mathletics because I love maths!'

Sophie - 'The Year 3 and 4 play was brilliant.'

Niamh - 'I enjoyed blowing bubbles with Mrs Bobe while we were learning about Easter. It was a quiet time to think about people who have died.' Tom - 'I like trying to use adjectives and conjunctions in my writing.' Daisy-May - 'I loved writing a pirate story.'



On village exploration walk



Head Teacher : Mrs S Saville: Tel/Fax : 01285 861436



1







At the start of the Spring Term we kicked off our 'Under Attack' topic with a visit to the Corinium Museum. We learnt a lot about the Romans, particularly through the excellent workshops. Later on in the topic we borrowed artefacts from the Corinium Museum and the children became archaeologists when they used skeletal evidence and other artefacts found at burial sites to decide who the grave

might have belonged to. They used their detective skills well to decide if they were male or female, young or old, and rich or poor. Our topic culminated with some impressive art work. The children created a mosaic shield from a design by Ivy. All the class worked with Mrs Gray to complete the mosaic of a sun with overlapping swords inside.

This term, Year 3 have worked incredibly hard. Much of our energy has been directed towards our musical, Jack and the Beanstalk. There were a lot of songs to learn and lines to memorise in a short amount of time! I'm sure you'll agree that it was a huge success.

In English the children have produced some fantastic writing during our study of the Iron Man by Ted Hughes. Many of our newspaper reports about the destruction caused by the Space Bat Angel Dragon are on display in the year 3/4 corridor. More recently, the children have written some humorous recounts in the style of Anne Fine's Diary of a Killer Cat.

Here's what class three have to say about this term.

Amelia: I have enjoyed Maths this term because I feel I have been challenging myself more.

Lily: My favourite activity was writing the newspaper report.

Matilda; My highlight this term was learning about the food groups in Science.

Liam: My highlight was practising and performing Jack and the Beanstalk.

Daniel: My highlight was working in groups to create the joint class Greek Myth, Daedalus and Icarus. Oscar: My highlight was making the animations in ICT.

Niamh: I enjoyed writing Greek myths, especially about the Gorgon Medusa.

William: I have enjoyed our Maths homework because it has been fun do, particularly the coordinates work. Aoife: I liked the Iron Man because it was a fun topic.

Scarlett: I've really enjoyed Target Spelling. I think I've really improved.

Grace: I really enjoyed performing Jack and the Beanstalk in front of our parents.



In year 4 we have had a special visit from Stig of the Dump. He actually broke into our classroom and stayed the night.

"I liked Stig staying and it was fun learning about him" Jasmine

"Mrs Saville was awesome, really getting into the role of Stig" Tilly

"The Romans were fun too, but Stig was better!" Evelyn

We have enjoyed rehearsing our play and performing it to our parents and friends.

"It was fun learning all the songs" Zoe

"It was brilliant making all the props" Tyler

Mrs. Saville was really impressed with the writing that we produced during the Stig of the Dump unit. Please have a look at our writing in the corridor outside our classroom and in our class big book.

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2









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Over the last few weeks we have been looking at the story of Treasure Island. We have been studying the language Robert Louis Stevenson used and have been replicating it in our own work. We have written missing chapters to the story and will be creating our own books. We have also led a pirate invasion of Year 1. We dressed up as pirates,

rushed into their classroom and shared our pirate maps and stories. We took part in a treasure hunt and enjoyed eating the treasure.



This term has been jam-packed with exciting events! We have been

Young Leaders in both Art and PE, taken part in the Mock Trials competition and learnt lots in our topic, The Circle of Life.

In Art, we worked in teams, teaching painting and drawing skills to the other classes in the school. The work that we produced is being presented in the hall as a colourful 'Reach for the Stars' display. In PE, we worked in pairs to create an activity to teach younger children a variety of skills, including netball passing, dodging and throwing. We all really enjoyed these experiences and hope to do it again in the future.





The Mock Trials Competition took place on Friday 6th March. It's

a competition for primary schools where children in Years 5 and 6 learn what would happen in a real court case. There was a script that we had to learn and adapt with our own clarifying questions about a case of cyber bullying. Even though it was a little intimidating at first, everyone did a brilliant job!

Our topic, The Circle of Life, has involved learning about life processes and living things. We have learnt about the seven life processes (MRS GREN), life cycles, classification and adaptation. Fortunately, we were able to see some tadpoles from Mrs Crowley's pond and an Indonesian Moon

Moth, which Mrs Saville and her family have nurtured at home. Overall, this term has been really enjoyable!

Breakfast Club Easter Success

The children had a lovely morning on Wednesday, taking part in an egg hunt and making healthy smoothies that were the colours of the rainbow! The children tried new fruits and tastes and it was brilliant. We will run a Christmas and Easter special again next year and watch out for our healthy breakfast making workshops provided by Kitchen Club, which I will flag up on my newsletters. A massive thank you to Mrs Tim for working so hard to provide the healthy smoothie session for our children, it was excellent. Also, huge thanks to the breakfast club staff and staff volunteers who worked so hard to please the children on this morning as they do every day.

Thank you FoAKS

Thanks to FOAKS and our parent and staff helpers, the term was finished off with a fabulous disco for our lucky children. The disco was fantastic and encouraged lots of children and adults to dance the night away! Well done FoAKS and well done children for your beautiful behaviour!

Year 3 & 4 Production Success

Thank you so much to all of those who were able to attend the performance. The children worked so hard and performed their hearts out. The acting and singing was superb and it was a pleasure to work with them all. Thank

3

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you to everyone involved in the production, all the offers of help were appreciated and once again the chair fairies at the end of the evening were massively appreciated as all chairs were put swiftly away- thank you! Lots of parents commented on how much fun it was and the quality of the singing and acting. Lots of fun was had by all including the staff team. Well done Team AK. Thank you for taking the time to give your feedback to the children here are a couple:

'Fabulous show- best ever! You were all superstars' 'Wow, Team AK certainly reached for the stars! A fabulous performance!'

Good Luck to George in Year 6 as he represents the South West in ice hockey!

We wish George luck this weekend as he travels to Holland to represent the South West in ice hockey! Such an achievement for him and a wonderful experience too. Team AK are very proud of you George!

Dates for your diaries:

Wednesday 15 th April	Grand opening of the new Reception Class outdoor learning area with a reading
	breakfast for parents and carers of Class R children. Governors invited to attend.
Tuesday 28 th April	9 am Class R Assembly in the hall for parents, carers and grandparents.
Tuesday 16 th June	9 am Class 2 Assembly in the hall for parents, carers and grandparents.
All dates can be found on our website in the calendar, www.akps.org.uk	

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May I take this opportunity to wish you, your children and the whole school community a very happy and relaxing Easter, may the sun shine upon us all. I look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 13th April when we



welcome a new pupil Isabella Rodgers and her family to the school and into Year 1. The family are moving into the village over Easter, coming from Bristol. They are really happy to be becoming part of team AK, part of the village community and are looking forward to meeting you all. It is also good news that Miss Igoe will be returning on the first day back, ahead of her planned return following knee surgery, which is great news. Thanks to Mrs. Pegg for doing a sterling job in Class 4.

This has been another super term and I cannot thank you enough for your support. I have had great fun teaching in Year 5 recently, where we set sail to Treasure Island and yesterday the Year 5 pirates invaded Class 1 with

Captain Thomas and shared stories they had written from *Treasure Island* and took them on a treasure hunt. Captain Saville was proud to witness this invasion and I leave you with this lasting image as I wish you happy sailing me 'earties and have a great Easter!

S.L.Saville

Mrs. Saville Head teacher

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4



