



Friday 3rd July

Dear Parents and Carers,

Wow... what a week!

### **AK Midsummer Night's Ball**

The Ball was a fabulous evening and a huge amount of work went into it to make it so successful. Thank you to all involved, I saw first-hand how brilliant it was, well worth all of that planning and effort, thank you. Not only did it provide a stunning evening entertainment for the adults, it also raised lots of money for our fantastic school. It would not happen without such fabulous support from the friends of the school.

### **Sports Week success**

Team AK have thoroughly enjoyed our first Sports Week. We have booked in for the same week next year as we get excited about the Olympics 2016 in Rio.

The school has been literally buzzing this week! Each day the children have had a range of sporting activities and challenges with at least one WOW sports challenge each day. I will briefly summarise the week, but will try to make a film for you with all the footage from the week to play at the start of our heroes and heroines assembly on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 9am.

On Monday, we began the week with a special assembly from Mr Brown all about the Olympic values:

- Respect
- Friendship
- Excellence
- Courage
- Determination
- Equality
- Inspiration

We focussed on these values all week and gave extra star challenges the children could take part in though out the week- a photography challenge to photograph one of the values in action, to design a Team AK mascot and to write a sports report. Then the children played wheelchair basketball which the children and staff loved taking part in, the playground was a buzz of excitement! It really helped us focus on the value equality. In the afternoon we had Cirencester Cricket Club in for Years 3-6 which was fantastic.

On Tuesday, we were visited by The GB Olympian and high-jumper Tom Parsons, it was an inclusive team morning with an inspiring message for us all. Not only did the children and staff love the circuits to music, meet and be inspired by Tom and enjoy watching Mrs Saville attempt a high jump, we also raised £500 for our school. We have donated £125 to British Heart Foundation as they have provided us with a school set of skipping ropes and a DVD. The rest of the money will go towards refurbishment of the school playground so that all of our children benefit. We have just booked for a company to come and re-surface the playground in September with a fabulous range of bright and beautiful high quality playground markings which will be amazing for the children when they are at



play. The rest of the money to have this done will come from the fantastic fundraising which the FoAKs team have done over the year. On Tuesday afternoon, the children all sampled the fantastic Phoenix martial arts.

On Wednesday, Mrs Timm led a healthy eating assembly- 'Give me Five a Day' which was excellent and made the children think about healthy foods. They were able to observe a rainbow of fruits and vegetables and prepare to design smoothies ready for the smoothie challenge the next day. We then welcomed Meryl Miller with her *Zumba for Kids* morning which got all children and staff motivated and smiling. We have booked Meryl to come six times next year, just before each half term so the children can look forward to doing this as part of their PE provision. Loads of children said how much they loved Zumba, especially the Chihuahua dance! In the afternoon, Murray and the team came in to give the upper juniors some super tennis sessions which were really well received.

On Thursday the whole school took turns to pedal a smoothie bike with Mrs Timm and Miss Noonan with *Kitchen Club* after designing and making their own smoothies, they enjoyed trying them too! Thank you to Cygnet catering for providing the smoothie bike for us to use and to Mrs Timm and Miss Noonan for their time. Meanwhile Years 2-6 had fencing sessions and so enjoyed something completely different. I was glad to see them turn up with foils and fencing sport equipment rather than 6ft panels- at least I booked the right Swindon fencing people! In the afternoon Mr Brown had the children working in buddies on a cross country challenge.

Today we have had our Sports Morning and our AK World record attempt for the community. In a nutshell, it was amazing. The children and adults were all beaming as we enjoyed a morning of a range of sports followed by a fantastic community challenge. My thanks go to Mr Brown, Mrs Lange and the rest of my staff team for a superb Sports Morning, to the local community and parents and carers who supported us today, to FoAKs for their superb support, to the South Cerney Army team who were outstanding, the fantastic photographer and drone operating team and to James Gray MP for his excellent support. I hope I have not forgotten anybody, my thanks is with all of you! What a community event, fantastic for including our school in the community and promoting team AK. I hope the newspaper report is a good one! We managed 413 people for the hop, not quite breaking the record, but making us determined to return to the challenge and completely break the next one- such fabulous team spirit- thank you all!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all involved with making this special Sports Week happen, together, it made this week an excellent learning experience for all children, one which was incredibly memorable for us all. I hope that it has inspired the children and helped them see how diverse sport is and how enjoyable it can be, how there is something for everyone and maybe it has inspired the children to do something they might not have done before this week. I very much look forward to the next one.

### **Governor of the month for June/July**

Meggen Cantillon is one of our 3 foundation (church) governors, has 1 child in the school, who is currently in Year 1, and has another child starting Reception in September. Meggen's background is in



business planning, marketing and strategy and she currently works part-time at Alcatel-Lucent. Meggen is involved in various activities with Holy Cross Church, including sitting on the Parochial Church Council and you may have seen her helping out at Messy Church as well. Meggen will be meeting with Mrs. Saville to discuss how the school has taken on the government's new Curriculum 2014 as well as looking at

Assessment and Monitoring Data, which has been a focus of our school improvement plan this year. Look out for Meggen at the school and if you see her around, please feel free to approach her with queries or comments.

### We welcome two new members of staff

Following our recent appointments, we welcome two new teaching assistants, Mr. Stuart Jackson and Mrs. Jo Campbell to Team AK from September. Mr. Jackson currently works at Minety pre-school and supports within Minety primary school with forest schools. He is a qualified teaching assistant who is also Forest School trained to the highest level, which is fantastic for when we launch forest schools here at AK from September. Mr Jackson will join the Early Years' team in Reception and also work with one of our 1:1 pupils. Mrs Campbell is an experienced teaching assistant currently working in Anne Edwards Primary in South Cerney. She will become the Class 6 teaching assistant in the mornings as well as supporting in the Early Years on a Friday afternoon. Team AK welcome them both.

### Reminder:

Date	Event
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July 5-7 pm	Informal open evening to visit your child's classrooms.
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 5 & 6 production 6pm (tickets on sale soon)
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	AK Music Concert for those whose children are involved- new start time of 1.30pm.
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 5 & 6 production 6pm
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	Moving up day- children meet their new teachers for the morning Annual reports sent home to parents/carers.
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	AK's Got Talent for pupils and staff (I will aim to invite parents to the next one)
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	9am Heroes and Heroines
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	11am Leaver's service for Year 6 pupils in school hall- parents and carers invited 1.30pm Year 6 v parents rounders match End of term for pupils.

Thank you for your continued support,

*S.L.Saville*

Mrs. Saville  
Head teacher