

Head Teacher: Mrs S. Saville | Tel/Fax: 01285 861436 Email: office@ashtonkeynes.wilts.sch.uk | www.akps.org.uk

Friday 26th September

Dear Parents and Carers,

As I write this letter I would like to draw your attention to our new school logo at the top of this page. I am really pleased that it is more contemporary but still maintains the traditional heritage of our school. Thanks to Adam Loveridge for enabling us to secure this new logo at no cost to our school.

Excited children

There certainly was a buzz on Wednesday when I unveiled the new merit bookmarks which will be awarded weekly to children in Celebration assembly. I gave them out to the children who have already had their name in the celebration book for this term. I was really excited by the children's response, I hope they (and you) really enjoy these merit bookmarks coming home and celebrate with your children.

Our children were also really pleased to visit the Life Education Van and Harrold the Giraffe! Even our oldest children (and staff) relish in the opportunity to see Harrold each year. A big thank you to our very own FOAKs for providing the money for all children to attend the life Education Van and thank you to you all for supporting our FOAKs events and raising money for our school.

Our Year 5 and 6 children were buzzing as they returned from their trip to @tBristol yesterday. They delighted in telling me about their favourite parts: Clarke said, "The human hamster wheel was brilliant, it generated power and we all loved it", Jess B said, "I really enjoyed the telephone communication dish challenge and speaking to my friends through it", Amber J commented, "I really enjoyed the leaning lounge because when you went on it, you slipped down... it made us all laugh when we tried to stay upright on it". All of the children loved the tornado simulation, as they have been learning about tornadoes in class, this one made their hair stand on end! A special wow trip to make their learning come alive at AK.









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Home Learning

Spelling- Years 1-6 will, on Monday send home part one of 3 lists of words which are taken from the new National Curriculum 2014 and are the expected words to be known and used by pupils in each year group. We have decided to break these down into sections rather than send them all home in one go and bombard you and your children. Please use Look, say, cover, write, check method to learn these words with your children. In addition, you could try and find the words in reading books or in the environment to help the children put them into context. Please help your child know what the words mean and try and use them within sentences. In class, children are learning spellings based around specific letter patterns. Soon, your children will bring home a weekly look, say, cover, write, check sheet with words from the particular spelling pattern they are learning, to make spellings more personalised. Thank you for your support with this. We are working hard as a school with spelling and your support at home is important as part of the home school partnership.

AK Home learning Brochures- I am delighted to let you know that the staff team are all ready to launch these on Wednesday 1st October Years 1-6. Our Reception class have already brought home their home learning brochure with phonic fan tasks and a wide range of exciting activities for home. I will send home a guide to accompany these brochures, but I hope that you will: find them supportive, at the right level for your children, enjoy seeing what is coming so that you can plan ahead, as well as knowing that the tasks feed into the children's school learning and are highly valued.

Calling Parents...

Are you musical, enjoy playing an instrument? Would you like to share your talent with our children to inspire them? If so, please make yourself known to Mrs. Crowley (Class R teacher) who is our Music leader and she will arrange a time for you to come in and play to our children. We look forward to hearing from you.









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<u>Church Links</u>: The children and staff have certainly been working hard at bringing our Christian values to life. The value in focus at the moment is trust and I have been impressed to see how it has been brought to life in school in a number of different ways. Class 4 were thinking about trust today in their class worship and were thinking about trust in relation to internet safety, having a very important discussion as a class.

I was visited this week by the Bristol Diocese Director of Education, to welcome me as a new Head teacher. I was really pleased to give our visitor a tour of the school and I was delighted to hear that he was very impressed with what he saw. Well done team AK.

National Poetry Day

Next Thursday 2nd October is National poetry day. We will be using parts of the day in school to promote poetry to our pupils in school. All staff are bringing in their favourite poems to share with the children. If your child would like to find a poem which they enjoy, they can bring it in on Thursday to share within their classes. We will throughout the day find opportunities to perform poems to one another. I am looking forward to performing one of my favourite poems with the children, 'The Granny rap'.

Have a lovely weekend and I shall look forward to reporting the exciting weekly events in the life of our school in next Friday's letter.

Yours sincerely, S.L.Saville Mrs. Saville









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