



Gosditch, Ashton Keynes, Nr Swindon, Wiltshire SN6 6NZ

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

Email : office@ashtonkeynes.wilts.sch.uk www.akps.org.uk

Friday 3rd October 2014

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well done

I was very proud to present the first of our lunchtime merit awards in our celebration assembly on Thursday. Children were awarded for their manners and behaviour both indoors in the dining hall and outside during lunchtimes. Children were also presented with merits for work within classes and their class teachers were very proud to present these. Well done team AK.

A special congratulations goes to Erin in Class 6 who shared with us the very exciting news that she had won a competition to become a news reporter for the Bath Literature festival. This weekend, she and her family will be going to a couple of events at the festival and she may get the opportunity to interview some authors. Erin would like to meet and interview one of her current favourite authors, Emer Stamp and ask her whether she is writing a sequel to her *Unbelievable, top secret diary of a pig* book. Erin will be expected to write a news report at the festival which will be put onto the Bath Literature festival's blog. We are really proud of Erin and are very excited to hear how she gets on at the weekend.

A well done message from Miss Redman:

On Wednesday the School Council elections took place. All the teachers were very impressed with the number of children standing for elections. Class 3 had 16 children deliver speeches! It was clear that a lot of hard work had gone into making the speeches as polished as they were. It takes a great deal of confidence for children to stand up in front of their peers and ask for their vote and I would like to congratulate all the children who stood in the election. We were delighted by the response from pupils, so to enable more pupils to have a voice and

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INVESTORS IN PEOPLE



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have the opportunity to run a class council meeting, we will be introducing class councils this year. At these class councils, the school council representatives will be able to feedback to their classes on matters from their school council meetings, as well as set the class challenges. This way, it is more inclusive and more children get the opportunity to have a say. Today in assembly, our new School Council representatives were introduced to the school. They are as follows:

Class	Name of Representative	Name of Representative
1	Kayleigh Armiger	Tegan MacDonald
2	Daisy Edmonds	Gilbert Tim
3	Ruby Dorricott	Oscar Gray
4	Evelyn Dyson	Jack Andrews
5	Amber Johnson	Daniel O'Neil
6	Isobel Gater	Brianna Baldwin

Congratulations!

They will meet with me for the first School Council session on Monday 6th October from 12.30-1.00pm. I look forward to hearing their excellent ideas. They will be communicating with you soon about their plans for 'Children in Need' which takes place on Friday 14th November.

Miss Redman

Teacher Development Days

We have now set the remaining 3 TD days - they will take place on Friday 13th February, Monday 1st June and Wednesday 22nd July. This is in addition to Wednesday 22nd October. School will be closed on these days.

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Bonfire and Lanterns

Remember, remember the 8th of November is the FOAKS Bonfire night. I am really looking forward to this event as I have heard how brilliant it is. Please see the Gosditch Grapevine and our school website for further details. Any help with the evening is massively appreciated. It is a very important event for the school as it helps raise money for extra resources for our children. We are aiming to introduce I-pads into the school and we would like to use some of the money to purchase an I-pad for each classroom to begin with, along with purchasing some new reading books for the school.

If you would like your child to make a lantern (they are beautiful and I have purchased two for my girls), Kathryn Gray has kits available for £2 and still has spaces on Monday 13th for her workshop in the school hall at 2pm where she will demonstrate and support with making the lanterns. Children can join in the parade of lanterns during the bonfire night.

School Website:

Our school website is constantly being updated. Letters which are sent home, home learning, exciting news from classes and clubs and a whole range of useful information for parents and carers can be found on the website. It is an excellent source of communication.

Church Links: Thank you for your generosity by sending in food items for the Swindon food bank. The children took part in a Harvest assembly in school today, led by Reverend Shirley and the Open the Book team. Reverend Shirley would like to remind you that all are welcome at Holy Cross Church at the Harvest service on Sunday at 11am where they will be telling the story they shared today and would love to have children participating in telling the story, if they would like to.

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3



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Dressing Down Day Tuesday 21st October

On the last day of term, Tuesday 21st October, we will be dressing down and not wearing school uniform. On this occasion, the children will not be expected to bring in food for the Swindon Food bank as they have already contributed at Harvest time. Therefore we will enjoy dressing down day as a thank you for their Harvest contributions.

Operation Christmas Child 2014 - 'Love in a Box'

This year we are continuing with our shoebox appeal, however we thought it would be a lovely idea for every class to make up a shoe box each.

The children will have an assembly next week with our local co-ordinator who will talk about how Operation Christmas Child works. A letter will be sent out to the children with ideas of contributions towards the boxes at the end of the week.

To fund the money needed to ship the shoeboxes to their destinations, Class 5 are intending to run a cake sale after school, details to follow.

If you wish to make an individual box as a family, you are very welcome to do so, the final drop off date at school will be Friday 7th November.

KS1 Lunch with the Headteacher I wanted to let you know that I thoroughly enjoyed having lunch with the children this week. I enjoyed it so much that I am going to do it again with the whole school. My staff and I are going to join your children and have lunch together at least once a term. It was fantastic to see so many of our KS1 children trying hot lunches, and I thoroughly enjoyed my meal, I even had seconds! It was so lovely to sit and talk with the children and see them eating well together. I was accompanied by one of our Governors,

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4



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Caroline Hukins, and my Class 1 teacher, Miss. Langer, who equally enjoyed both the food and the dining experience with your children.

National Poetry Day

It was brilliant to see the children enthused about poetry yesterday and sharing poems with staff and each other. I think they all enjoyed my favourite poem, the Granny rap, which I shared with them in assembly. Later on I was invited in to Year 3 where they shared a spectacular class performance of an alphabet poem with me. I believe they will be sharing it with their parents as part of their class assembly (see dates below).

Reminder of dates for Class Assembly to parents and Heroes and Heroines in the school hall:

Heroes and Heroines	Thursday 16 th October 9am
Year 6 class assembly	Tuesday 21 st October 9.15am (approx. 30 minutes)
Year 4 class assembly	Tuesday 11 th November 9.15am (approx. 30 minutes)
Year 3 class assembly	Tuesday 25 th November 9.15am (approx. 30minutes)
Heroes and Heroines	Friday 28 th November 9am
Heroes and Heroines	Friday 19 th December 9am

Have a lovely weekend and thank you for your continued support,

Yours sincerely,

S.L.Saville

Mrs. Saville



INVESTORS IN PEOPLE

