



Friday 2nd October

Dear Parents and Carers,

This newsletter is packed full of key information and dates which I wouldn't want you to miss:



Team AK Shining Brightly:

On the menu today in class R's outdoor learning area was:

Mud lasagne, Mud 'Bsgetti' and Mud Macaroni! Yes, you heard correctly, our Reception children were having the best time in their new outdoor mud kitchen! Mrs. Crowley was delighted to hear the rich language they were using in conversation in the mud kitchen and the fabulous use of imagination. The

mud kitchen has been made as part of our new AK Forest School programme where the 4 and 5 year olds, ably lead by Mr. Jackson, (our new forest school leader and TA) made the kitchen themselves using recycled materials!

The whole school have been learning a fantastic three part acappella song to sing for you during the opening of the outdoor classroom on Friday 16th October at 2.45pm. As the World Cup is in focus, there is a slight link with this song! When we sang it for the staff today, they all had goose-bumps!

I have been delighted to be presenting our new pride in presentation merits again this week and see our children working incredibly hard to produce their best work. Well done all.

Kind children thinking of others

Our wonderful children have again been thinking of others and spontaneously asking if they can raise money for various charities special to them. I have suggested that on the afternoon of Friday 6th November from 3pm, children can set up their stalls of special things they are making and planning to sell along with a poster to explain which charity they have chosen. This will give them time to prepare and give us all one agreed time to purchase. I am so proud of them for being so thoughtful, please pop this date in your diaries, I know they will be over the moon if they sell to you. There are many children involved from across the school, a great Team AK effort, initiated by your very own children. It will be on the playground if dry or in the hall if raining. Thank you. This will not effect multisports club as the children can change beforehand and attend the club on time as they will be selling from 3pm.

Safety

A parent has raised a concern about cars mounting the pavements of Gosditch when our children and parents/ carers are walking to and from school. We appreciate that it is a narrow road and difficult to pass when cars are parked along it, but please can we all be mindful of this for the safety of our children and the community.

Mosaic workshop

The first of our two mosaic workshops to make mosaics for our new outdoor classroom took place on Monday, kindly run by Mrs Gray with help from her son Lucas. The second workshop is on next Monday after school from 3.30 - 5.00 pm and it is open to all families of the school and local community should they wish to attend for free. There'll be a mix of people there - some parents with their children will be finishing off the mosaics they started last week and others will be starting their mosaic this week. Some teaching staff will be making one too. We're making bee or butterfly mosaics to decorate the edge of the garden bed by the new outdoor classroom. Absolutely no experience is needed and all tiles have been cut. All you need to do is follow the design on the template using brightly coloured tiles. What a legacy to say you had a part in making the beautiful mosaics which will be around our new outdoor classroom! Please let the office/ Mrs Gray know if you can join us, so Mrs Gray can prepare resources for you. I will be on hand to make you a complimentary cuppa!

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Calling all parents

If you would like to meet other parents, get to know parents from across the school, just get together and maybe at the same time find out about our wonderful friends of the school team FoAKS, we would like to invite you to join us at the White Hart Pub, Ashton Keynes on Wednesday 14th October from 6.30pm. It is not just about fundraising, the FoAKS team have really been trying to organise events for the parents, staff and friends of the school to enjoy together. They have got some really exciting plans for this year and we would really like to be able to share them with you. We really hope to see you there.

Hot Dinner Order Change of Date - important change

Cygnat Catering (our hot meals provider) have requested that dinner orders will have to be placed on the Tuesday of the preceding week instead of Wednesday. This is to assist them in streamlining their processes and provision of a more accurate service for our children. This new procedure will commence on 2nd November, the week after the October Half term so please ensure your order is in the office by 9.00 am on the Tuesday. Also, please note the cost of meals is £2.05, not £2.24 there is an error on the current order forms.

Residentials

The rumours are true. I can confirm that I have changed this year's residential visits for Classes 5 & 6. I am really excited about the changes and I know the Governors and staff are too. I will be writing very soon to parents of both classes to unveil my plans, I am just waiting for some final costings. The aim is to provide two very different experiences for each class, with two different costs to make it more manageable for families. I can say that the Year 5 residential will be an exciting outdoor-activities based two night team building experience, not miles away but involving some brilliant activities. The Year 6 will have a three night action packed educational trip to our capital city with some fabulous treats in store. I am aiming for these trips to be ones which the children really look forward to attending as they progress up the school and will provide wonderful learning experiences for the children. I cannot wait to tell you more.

Arrival at School Reminder

Please remember that your child should not arrive at school by themselves before 8.45am unless accompanied by an adult. Staff are on duty from 8.45am but not before this time and therefore cannot be responsible for your child if they are left alone on the playground before this time. Thank you very much.

I would like to thank you for making the effort to arrive in school on time. The bell goes at 8.50am after which the children are swiftly registered and off to daily worship for 9am. If your child is late it is very disruptive for them, the other children and staff. In addition, often some snappy learning activities take place during registration which really help children with their learning for the day and should not be missed. Regular lateness is recorded and arrival after the register closes at 9.15am may result in an unauthorised absences unless accompanied by a valid reason. Thank you for your co-operation.

Breakfast Club Exciting Event

Friday 16th October is World Food Day. To celebrate this event our Breakfast Club will be participating in an exciting cooking session. If you would like your child to attend please contact the school office - standard breakfast club fees apply. To back this up we will be running follow up cooking sessions at Breakfast Club throughout the year giving children a chance to create a cookbook portfolio - more details to follow. We are keen to make our Breakfast Club not just a childcare provision, but an educational experience as well. Cooking is an excellent activity and life skill to provide for the children aiming to promote healthy eating.



Photographs

Please return your orders for both individual and whole school photos by end of school next Wednesday 7th October.

Have a lovely weekend, thank you for your continued support

S.L.Saville

Mrs. Saville

Head teacher

Please always check the calendar on our website www.akps.org.uk for dates.

Date	Event
Sunday 4 th October	Harvest Festival - Holy Cross Church
Tuesday 6 th October	Classes 3 & 4 trip to Ashmolean museum
Tuesday 13 th October	9am Class 6 assembly to parents in the hall
Wednesday 14 th October	Zumba Kids Morning- all children will receive 30 minutes of Zumba with their classes (free of charge to parents as funded by the school)
Thursday 15 th October	4-5pm <i>Keeping up with the Kids Maths Session</i> in the hall. More details to follow. The staff sharing latest maths teaching strategies to help you support at home.
Friday 16 th October 2.45pm	Breakfast Club World Food day session Official opening of the new outdoor classroom. FoAKS will kindly be providing refreshments for a small charge. All invited.
Monday 19 th October	4-5pm <i>Keeping up with the Kids English Session</i> in the hall. More details to follow. The staff sharing latest English teaching strategies to help you support at home.
Tuesday 20 th October	Dressing Down Day - please bring a can or packet for the Swindon Food Bank 9am Heroes and Heroines Assembly in the hall for parents and carers End of Term 1 FoAKS end of term disco for pupils (more details to follow).
Wednesday 21 st October	Teacher Training Day- school closed to pupils
Monday 2 nd November	8.55 am School restarts for Term 2