



Friday 8th December 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

Team AK Shining Brightly:

What a wonderful time we have been having in school!

We have achieved the Church School Partnership Award!

I am so proud to be able to tell you that we have received this award and I am so proud of our school and church partnership.



On Monday, Reverend Shirley and I met with the Diocese to be assessed for our Church School partnership award and we are absolutely delighted to let you know that we have passed and achieved this fabulous award for our school and church!

This is a true reflection of the fabulous partnership our school and Church have and Sunday's Christingle and Carols at the pub were an example of this. Whilst here, our visitors discussed our action plan over lunch, were given a tour of the school with our pupils who were true ambassadors for our school and for our school Church partnership, they really impressed our visitors and blew them away! They then joined us for a message in schools session in Year 6 as part of our pupil well-being element, which they loved and then the final decision. The feedback was so lovely, we were told that the Diocese would like to bring other schools to see our successful school and our partnership in action. They said this is a wonderful school and they are so impressed with the environment and ethos and that we must be very proud (which we all are). Our children were incredible and as I listened to the feedback that the children gave, I felt super proud to be their Headteacher. It reflected how important that we continue to have high aspirations for our pupils and create a unique and special 7 year journey for them through school because they say this is what inspires them and drives them on! Well done Team AK on another success.

Success for Team AK in recent sport events

We recently went out to a team Cross Country event in Bradon Forest where our Year 3 and 4 team earned a silver medal by coming 2nd out of 15 teams and our Year 5/6 did really well coming 5th out of 12 teams. Well done to all who took part and thank you Mr Tanner and the parents helpers for making this possible for our children. There are many sporting events taking place and in the pipeline outside school which is excellent.

Class 4 Assembly

Class 4 planned and delivered an excellent assembly to parents and carers sharing their learning from the year so far. They shared their learning around Ted Hughes *Iron Man* book



including: wonderful news reports, artwork, Science, drama and some incredibly well written diary entries. The assembly was so well attended by parents and carers and the children and Year 4 team did us proud by showcasing their wonderful learning in class and speaking so clearly!

Pocket Money Stalls

Thank you to all who have helped FOAKS make this happen again for our children this year. I hear there was a fabulous turn out for wrapping and it was very festive too. Thank you, we all really appreciate it. Children will be bringing their gifts, which they have lovingly chosen for others, home with them tonight. Thank you for supporting this wonderful and very special event. I have just been in with the children as they are choosing their gifts and it really is so lovely, so thank you to all who have helped make this happen.



Pantomime



The Pantomime was incredible! Not only did I get covered in water by Ian Beale and his water pistol, I absolutely loved watching the happiness on the faces of the whole school as they watched an incredible performance of Peter Pan. I absolutely love taking the whole school to the pantomime and again I have received such positive feedback from children, staff and parents about the impact of the trip. The children's behaviour was brilliant and their manners were fabulous, just as we would expect. Therefore, I can excitedly announce that I have just booked for us to go again next year on Tuesday 11th December 2018 to see Aladdin! Please put the date on your new calendars/diaries

which I am sure you will be getting in the New Year and I hope you are really pleased that we are all going to the panto again next year!

I would say a special thank you to FOAKS, who every year use your fundraising to pay for every child to travel on the coach to the panto. This is an excellent use of fundraising from events like the AKschoolfest and Fireworks to directly benefit every child. They pay £6.00 per child to cover the cost of the coach to and from the panto meaning that parents only need to cover the cost of the ticket.

Violinists performed beautifully in assembly

This morning our violin teacher arranged to bring her 2 pupils into assembly to perform for the school and the children's parents. Zara





in Year 4 has been learning violin since September and Scarlett in Year 6 since November. They were both incredible and it showed that if you put the effort in and believe you can do something then you will!

Breakfast Club Christmas Special

Please be reminded that the annual visit from Father Christmas is here again - 8am- 8.50 on Tuesday 12th December for the Breakfast club Christmas Party- visit of Father Christmas with a gift , party games and Christmas Breakfast. £3 per child. Booking in advance is essential. First time visitors very welcome. Thank you to our brilliant breakfast club team for organising this wonderful event. They are also having a special crepe morning on Thursday 14th December where our crepe master Mr Filepe will be making yummy crepes for the children (and hopefully one for the Headteacher). (Please book in advance)

School Christmas Enterprise

Please be reminded that on Friday 15th December, straight after the carol service (3.15-4pm) our children will be selling their wares around the school in the AK Christmas Enterprise Market.

As part of our school improvement plan, to develop the entrepreneurial skills of our children through our *Shine Enterprise* project, our children have been busy designing and making goods to sell. Classes have been set the challenge to raise £3 per child for their ticket to the theatre in the school production of *Charlotte's Web* I have booked for the Summer. Last year I treated the whole school to a production of *The Lion Witch and Wardrobe* and this year I thought it would be excellent for children to earn their ticket to the show through enterprise. Any additional money raised by each class is theirs to spend in whichever way they wish. Last year, Year 4 bought binoculars and nature books and went on a nature walk to the Millenium green as this is what they wanted to spend their enterprise money on. Class 5 this year have just finished their hot chocolate business and made a profit of a staggering £140! They have paid for their tickets to the theatre show and are now thinking about what the class would like to buy together.

I know all 7 classes have been working very hard for the Christmas market next Friday and have some beautiful items to sell. There are many items created through their forest school sessions too which is excellent. So please bring your pennies and come and buy, I know the children will be delighted to see you! The enterprise initiative will continue all year so look out for notices in my newsletters and on the playground/ parent mail as they pop up.

Pop up Coffee Shop Wednesday 20th December 8.40-9.00 on the playground

Year 6, as part of their enterprise, are organising a pop up coffee shop before Heroes and Heroines on Wednesday 20th December 8.40-9.00am. Please bring your pennies if you would like a fresh coffee before Heroes and Heroines.

3



Lunchtime reminder...

Please can packed lunches be sent in named lunchboxes. We are noticing lots of carrier bags being sent in and the problem with this is that lunches cannot be identified clearly and the bags are not being claimed at the end of the day creating rubbish for us to clear and mouldy lunch bags which is unpleasant. A disposable carrier bag lunch is excellent for school trips but not for daily lunch in school, thank you.

Please don't forget Christmas Jumpers and a donation of 50p on Friday for *Save the Children* Christmas jumper day organised by school council!

Thank you, we are loving this glittery time of year in school.

Kind regards,

S.L.Saville

Mrs. Saville

Head teacher

Here are some dates until the end of term 2 (Christmas). The school calendar on the website www.akps.org.uk is loaded with dates up until the end of this academic year 2018 to help you plan ahead:

Date	Event
Tuesday 12 th December	8am- 8.50 Breakfast club Christmas Party- visit of Father Christmas with a gift , party games, Christmas Breakfast. £3 per child. Booking in advance is essential. 9am Worship council leading worship for the community. It is their first community worship if anybody would like to join. 9-9.25am. 1.30-2.30pm EYFS/KS1 Nativity
Wednesday 13 th December	12.15 Christmas Lunch (to order in advance) 1.30-2.30pm EYFS/KS1 Nativity
Thursday 14 th December	Breakfast Club Crepe Session with our fabulous Crepe Chef Mr Felipe! (book in advance advised) 6-7pm EYFS/KS1 Nativity
Friday 15 th December	Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children organised by School Council 1.40- 2.55 Christmas Service Holy Cross Church 3.15-4pm AKPS Annual Christmas Market where classes will be selling goods they have created as part of an entrepreneurial challenge to raise funds for their classes to spend. This was a great success last year, please come this year!
Sunday 17 th December	11am AK village Santa Fun run in the morning. Suggested donation of £3 per entry £10 per family. Dress festive if you would like to. Money raised will go to Alzheimers charity and AKPS school (towards the <i>Smooga</i> project). Thanks to Beck Buckle and Caroline Hukins for organising this and generously thinking of the school in their fundraising. I am hoping to be there!
Tuesday 19 th December	9-11 AK's Got Talent Christmas Special-children. 3.15pm FOAKS Christmas Movie night
Wednesday 20 th December	8.40-9am <i>Luxury coffee pop up coffee shop</i> enterprise for parents and carers on the playground organised by Year 6. Please bring money for fresh coffee if you would like one. 9am Heroes & Heroines End of Term 2

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

