



Friday 12th January 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

Team AK Shining Brightly:

Welcome back to the start of another exciting year at AKPS. I hope you all had a happy and healthy Christmas and New Year break. Thank you ever so much for all of your kind comments, cards and gifts at the end of term, I am incredibly thankful. Here is just a brief welcome back newsletter with a few key dates for your diaries.

AKPS in the News!

I hope you managed to see us on the front page of the Wilts and Glos standard over Christmas to celebrate us being the top performing school in Wiltshire out of 237 schools. Here is the link to the online report in case you missed it, I have a copy in my office should you like to see it:

http://www.wiltsglosstandard.co.uk/news/northwilts/15796519.Schools_take_league_table_s_top_two_spots/

Class R Ice palace and Lake

Class R have had such fun this week exploring their Icy wonderland created for them in their indoor and outdoor areas. Every time I have visited them, they have been so excited about this. Keep an eye out on their class page on the website for more photos.



Ising pop is back! Yippee!

In case you missed it in the mammoth Christmas edition of my newsletter, I would like to remind you that iSing Pop and Rob will be returning to AKPS in April with a new set of songs and a new CD to purchase. The date of the concert is Friday 20th April in the afternoon and then also the evening so please save this date, tickets will go on sale before the event and I will let you know nearer the time. This is so exciting, we cannot wait!

Clubs

One of our aims is to develop pupil leadership across the school. I am really encouraged to see a variety of different children from across the school coming forward to work with me to plan and organize some club sessions at lunchtimes. This term so far we have origami from some keen Year 5 pupils, Jess, Sophie and Camille and their team and a fun club from Samantha and Evie in Class 3. Other teams of children from across the school are currently planning some really exciting clubs for your children. Today I was really impressed with the origami boats which the children all made at lunchtime during the club. Well done.

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Packed lunch changes

I felt I should explain why we are no longer allowing children to dispose of their packed lunch rubbish at school and why therefore they will be bringing rubbish home in their lunchboxes. Before Christmas, we were finding whole, untouched, wrapped sandwiches and unopened crisps/ snacks in the bin and we were very concerned that children were not eating their packed lunches and then bringing home an empty packed lunch box. It is very difficult for us to find out exactly who these food items belong to and it was happening regularly. Therefore we asked that children do not use the bins to help prevent this happening and so that you can see what they have/haven't eaten. I am sure you understand this reasoning behind our change in routine to help prevent children throwing away their lunches and make it easier for school and home to see if children are not eating their lunches and to be able to support them. Thank you for your support with this.

World Book Day Advanced warning

World Book day this year is on Thursday 1st March and following on from the success of the whole school theme of 'Where's Wally' last year, we are going to make the theme Witches and Wizards. So to give you time to prepare, your child can come dressed as a Witch/ Wizard from any book e.g. Harry Potter, Worst Witch, Lord of the Rings, King Arthur, Meg and Mog, Room on the Broom, Winnie the witch etc... the list is endless. If you are struggling and have a cat outfit, then your child could come as witches' cats e.g. Mog from Meg and Mog or Mildred's cat from Worst Witch but they must know which book they are from. Mrs Hancock is working hard to plan some very exciting events for our children during the day as she did last year. This is really something to look forward to. I wanted to give you the heads up so you can start thinking and to remind you that we do not expect you to buy costumes, home-made efforts are just as good, but the choice is yours!

Gymnastics success

We are super proud of all our Year 5/6 children who took part in the recent area gymnastic competition. This is the first gymnastic competition we have entered into so I am delighted that we did so well. All of the children were pleased with their placing and I must mention Gilbert who scored the highest score in the competition, followed closely by Theo for AK school. Next week it is Year 3 and 4's turn to take part in the competition so good luck to them all.

It really is lovely to be back. Already, in just a few days, I have seen some brilliant writing, beautiful presentation, engaged and happy learners in school and there is the special AK buzz around which is what makes our school so special. Here's to a wonderful 2018 together!



Just to let you know, I will be away on my annual Headteacher conference Wednesday 17th January lunchtime until Friday 18th January (next week) so please see Miss Perring in my absence should you need to. Many thanks.

Kind regards,

S.L.Saville

Mrs. Saville

Head teacher

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
Sunday 21 st January	Messy Church in the School Hall 4pm
Monday 29 th January- Wednesday 31 st January	Annual Challenge Partner Review of the School- 3 visitors will be in school from 1pm on Monday until 1pm on Wednesday.
Thursday 8 th February	Breakfast club session - Chinese New Year 9am Heroes and Heroines Term 3 ends
Friday 9 th February	Teacher Training day, school closed to pupils.
Monday 19 th February	Term 4 starts
Thursday 1 st March	World Book Day- Witches and Wizards theme Pm School Disco (FOAKS)
Friday 9 th March	Mid-year reports out to parents
Tuesday 13 th March	3.30-7pm Parent Consultation Evening
Thursday 15 th March	3.30-6pm Parent Consultation Evening
Friday 23 rd March	9am Open the Book- Easter for the community if you would like to pop in
Tuesday 27 th March	9am Class 2 assembly to parents and carers in the hall 6pm Year 3/4 production
Wednesday 28 th March	6pm Year 3/4 production
Thursday 29 th March	9am Heroes and Heroines End of Term 4