



Thursday 29th March 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Team AK Shining Brightly:

We are at the end of term 4! What a busy term it has been! Your children have certainly been shining very brightly. Here are a few of our highlights, including a summary from each class:

Quick message from the scouting team...

As you may be aware, we now have a scout group run from our school each week. They have asked me to share the opportunity below:

Sport Relief Danceathon

We had a super energetic day on Friday, all dressed in sports-wear and successfully completing a danceathon whilst raising money for Sport Relief! We were absolutely astounded to see our Sports Coach Mr Tanner in his neon leg warmers, leggings and cape as he led this excellent event! Lots of fun was had by all, thank you for your support with this.

Success for Team AK in recent sport events

We have been so fortunate to have taken part in so many 'out of school' sporting events to give our children as many opportunities to take part in a range of sports. Our plan this year was to participate in Dance, Swimming and Gymnastics which we have achieved. A special well done to Enzo in Year 5 who has qualified and was selected to run for the county as part of team Gloucestershire, what an achievement.

I had the pleasure of accompanying the KS1 Gymnastics team to a competition where they finished 6/14 teams which for a first attempt was brilliant. They proudly represented the school and were excellent. We have also taken part in two swimming galas recently where the children swam their hearts out and did us all proud.

On Friday, Mr Tanner and I accompanied eight year 6 girls to a dance festival where they performed a dance they had choreographed themselves supported brilliantly by Mr Tanner. Honestly, the parents & carers who came to watch, Mr Tanner and myself were all bursting with pride for these girls who were so brave and incredible, especially as they performed with schools who had private dance lessons to prepare. We have asked the girls to open our sports morning on Friday 29th June with a performance of their dance for parents and carers. Until next year, we cannot wait to participate again, the event is open to boys and girls! Each class has a street dance workshop coming up in the next two terms, kindly funded by the school, during the school day, so I hope to be able to get them to perform their dances for you at some stage.

Scouting— Out of the office and into adventure

Here's a great opportunity to support your community, help your local Scout Group grow by joining the Groups committee

It's a flexible role & will help us to offer amazing opportunities & skills for life to local young people.

We're looking for someone who can:

- Be part of a team and work with other people
- Be willing to follow the guidance and policies of The Scout Association & Charity Commission



For more information contact Louise on:
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On Monday, Mr Tanner and I refereed the handball tournament for Year 5/6 children and parents in the smooqa. The weather was glorious and the activity was brilliant. It was our first smooqa parents/ carer/ pupil after school event and it was brilliant. Well done to the pink lady stars (a team of Mums) who played their hearts out and just pipped our green Year 5 team to a golden goal finish, winning by 1 goal!. Our next planned event will be next term on Monday 21st May for Years 3 & 4 £1 per person per entry to cover the cost of running the tournament and refreshments. 3.15-4.30. teams need to be registered in advance so please look out for a letter. The type of sport is currently being decided by Mr Tanner and myself.

TEAM AK were Girls Football Cup Champions 2018:

Message from Adam Loveridge who took our girls to the football event:

It is with great pleasure I introduce the inter-schools football Champions 2018.



With 2 pools of 5

teams from around the area:



Pool1: CPS White, Ann Edwards, AK, St Lawrence Gold, Fairford
Pool2: St Lawrence Blue, Powells, CPS Red, Avening, Stratton
AK- Won 3- Drew 1 - No goals conceded - Top pool 1
3rd place play off - Fairford v Powells- 0-0 Draw
Final - AK 1 v CPS Red 0
Overall winners: Team AK!

This was another spirited and combined team efforts from all the girls. It was great to see improvement from some of the less experienced players showing more confidence, commitment, determination and skill. I must commend them all for being acceptable substitutes, willing to change positions and for showing good sportsmanship. Well done Team AK you should all be very proud. Mr Loveridge

Year 2 class assembly to parents and carers

What an absolute delight this was. Every child spoke confidently and clearly, showed their brilliant art work, Science and poetry and sang a song which will stick in our heads forever! It was a really positive and upbeat celebration of the learning the children have been doing. Well done to all of Team 2, children and adults. Thank you!

Year 3/4 production of 'Goldilocks'

Huge praise indeed for the delivery by all of years 3 and 4 children, staff (and parents for costume support and learning lines), for a very mature and well rehearsed performance of 'Goldilocks' the musical. All children were fully involved through auditioning for lines/ singing parts, all singing in the musical, lighting and IT engineer roles. Parent & Carer feedback was so positive and included: "West End next for AK!", "Fabulous speaking, acting and wonderful singing", "Such a high quality production, well done all". Thank you for all of the wonderful comments in your feedback, we all really appreciate them. Until next year!

Highlight summaries from each class:

Class R:

It's been an eventful term for Class R!
Not only have we been improving our writing skills but we have also been learning the stories of the Little Red Hen, The Gingerbread Man and Jack and the Beanstalk.
We've also had some mysteries to solve





and some strange things happening! Bertie the Gingerbread man went missing but then, thank goodness, was found again; a magic bean grew mysteriously quickly over playtime and, perhaps not so mysterious, we enjoyed tasting and baking bread.

The last couple of weeks have been especially eventful with the arrival of 10 eggs which we really enjoyed seeing hatch and then looking after.



This is what some of the children wrote about the chicks:
"The farmer gave us six eggs. The eggs hatched into chicks"
"We held the chicks. The chicks did poos"
"Some eggs hatched. Ten chicks were on a piece of paper. I love holding them. It felt light."



The farmer ^{gave} us six eggs. The eggs ^{hatched} into chicks.

Class 1:

During Science Week we had fun challenging ourselves to see if we could be better nest builders than birds. We had to make nests which were cosy, safe and wind proof. We used natural materials we found around the outdoor area and each group also had some clay. There were many different ideas and creations. Making a nest is harder than it looks!





Class2:

Class 2 have been exceptionally busy this term, we have seen cheese being dug up, planted some seeds and even had some snow!

'The Great Fire of London' has been a super history project for the class. Mrs Hancock introduced the class to the event whilst impersonating Samuel Peeps. This really got the children talking and has resulted in some fabulous thinking and writing. The children have considered why the fire started, how it spread so quickly and how it might have felt to have been involved. They have produced some gorgeous newspaper reports, diary entries and silhouette skyline water colour pictures. I know the children enjoyed coming home and sharing their new found facts with you all.

We have also been thinking about our Shine bright enterprise project and how we can raise some money for our



class. We hope you enjoyed our Easter Egg Enterprise project, look out for our next event coming in the summer term!



We have thoroughly enjoyed having Mrs Hancock in the classroom. She has taught some fabulous writing lessons based on the book 'Lila and The Secret of Rain'. The children really took to this book and enjoyed writing

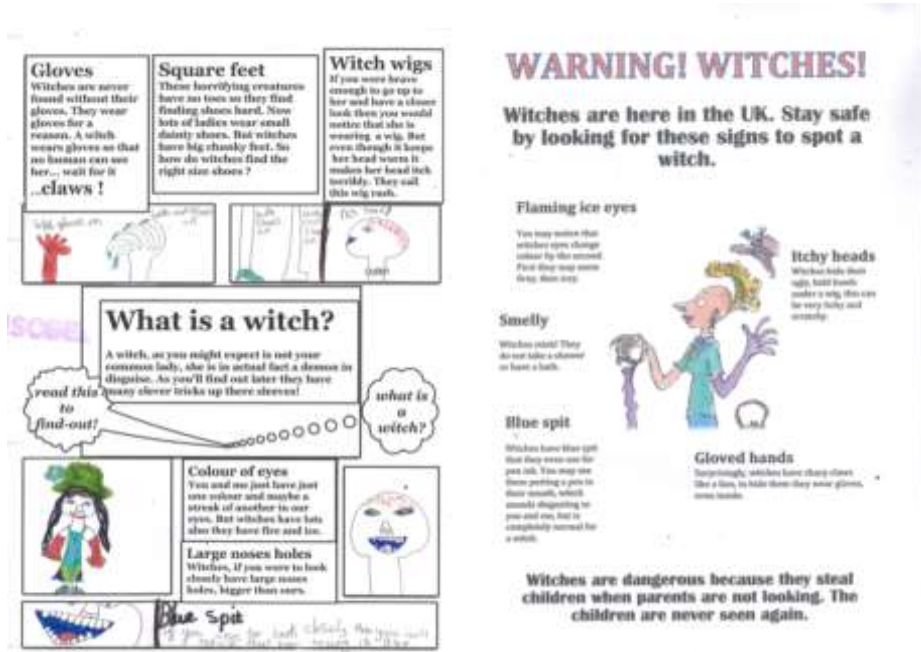
their own stories that were based loosely on this.

Class 3:

Class 3 had fun making plastic milk during Science Week! They used warm milk and white wine vinegar which made 'plastic' when the protein in the milk mixed with the acid in the vinegar! A sieve was then used to separate out the liquid from the solid.



The children have continued to enjoy reading the Witches and have produced some super home learning.



Our term culminated with the tremendous performance of Roald Dahl's Goldilocks. The children raised the roof with their wonderful singing and the feedback from the audience confirms it was a hit! We are very proud of how well they performed, their clear and loud voices and the fact they were enjoying their moment in the spotlight. They all shone brightly!

Class 4:
Kingshill Maths Challenge Year 4

We were invited to send a team of four mathematicians to a Maths challenge at Kingshill school on Wednesday 28th March.

The children had a great time and showed excellent perseverance when tackling some very tricky Maths problems.

Well done to all four children for representing AKPS brilliantly! Thank you to Mrs Dyson for taking them.

Class 4 have been an absolute pleasure to teach. They have worked so hard towards their Year 3 and 4 production, which was brilliant, taken part in engineering robotic challenges which really made them work as a team and challenged their DT and problem solving skills and produced lots of fabulous pieces of writing across a range of subjects. We are so pleased to award them their 'K' on the TEAM AK reward chart and look forward to deciding on a treat for next term. Well done Team 4, more photographs will be put onto the class page on the website.





Class 5:

Year 5 loved Science Week!

We used latex and vinegar to make rubber balls. Liquid latex is made of tiny particles of rubber that are suspended in water. Ammonia is



added to liquid latex as a preservative to keep it from going solid. When vinegar, which is an acid, is added, the vinegar reacts with the ammonia and neutralizes it. Then the rubber coagulates into a solid shape. A REALLY bouncy ball!



Once we made the balls, we held a bounce off!



We looked at chemical reactions in science and discussed how making casein out of warm milk and vinegar was an irreversible change while making 'obleck' out of water and corn flour was a reversible change - a physical reaction.



We've loved learning about myths and legends in English

especially the story of Beowulf.

We have now created our own

myths and have written them in best as our own books!



The Danceathon
Year 5 loved the Danceathon! We kept dancing for a full half an hour and we still had energy to spare.





Class 6:

Science week

Science week was absolutely amazing. Mrs Serle, our Science Leader, and her pupil science leaders organised a fantastic week for our children. On the week commencing 12th March, each class has taken part in some really exciting experiments, ranging from electronics to investigating liquid density. Children have created their own experiments, used fair testing, made predictions and have drawn conclusions; this has yet again raised the profile and enjoyment of Science. Our week ended with a special visitor (Professor Neutron) who delivered an inspiring and fun workshop to every class.

In the Danceathon last Friday, our children took part in amazing dance sessions throughout the morning. The children demonstrated their funky moves in group sessions led by Mr Tanner (who sported a rather fetching dance outfit!)



Mock Trials

I could not be prouder of all of Year 6 pupils. They have all been working with Cirencester Magistrates to prepare for the Mock Trial competition which took place last Thursday. The class were supportive of one another and those performing did so brilliantly, we could not ask for any more from them. Thank you to the staff and parent helpers who transported the children to the event to avoid transportation costs. We would also like to thank all the parents who came and saw their

children shine!

Magistrate, Jennie Goodrich, kindly sent this message: *"The children did amazingly well and the scores reflected this. I was as proud as I could have been of them as I know you were.*

Well done to Ruby for the second place in the artist competition. I would like to thank them all for their participation."





Rotary club quiz

Well done to the team who represented TEAM AK beautifully. I heard from another Headteacher who was at the quiz that they were so impressed that our children were overheard saying...“Let's do our best, that is all we need to do and be proud”. I loved hearing this.



RHS Malvern Spring Festival - 10th - 13th May 2018

Preparations for our Malvern show garden are in full swing. This year the theme is; someone or something that makes Britain great. The children chose to base our garden around Isambard Kingdom Brunel. Year Four have been busy creating garden designs and we plan to include a steam train, the Box tunnel, the SS Great Britain and even the Clifton Suspension bridge made from willow. If you visit the Malvern Spring show please come and see us and our garden in the school's garden exhibition. We are so excited to be putting a garden in again this year and once again putting AKPS on the map in the world of gardening! We have been so lucky to secure sponsors for this project to make it possible, some from businesses, parents and the local community too. We have no school money for these events so kind sponsors are greatly appreciated. We are so lucky to be working with GWR on this and they have come into school to support with this project and teach our children about railway safety through workshops. We are looking forward to watching the project develop and in advance, I thank everyone involved and determined to make this a success for the school.

Menu change for Monday 23rd April only for St George's Day:

Message from Edwards and Ward caterers: *Please note a change of menu for this day only- Main - Roast beef and roast potatoes Vegetarian - vegetable sausage toad in the hole with roast potatoes. Pudding is Jam sponge and custard. Thank you.*

Royal Tatroo Air Show update

As you may be aware, we have been so fortunate and succesful in our applciation, over the past 2 years to be able to get free tickets for the air show and last year we took the whole of KS2. This year it is a 100 year anniversary so unfortunately we have not been able to secure tickets for our school this year but I am quite sure we should be able to secure tickets next year when it is not an anniversary year and therefore less demand for tickets. I have been on the waiting list since the decision and have just been informed today that I can take one class to the airshow with 6 accompanying staff members . After very careful consideration, I have chosen Year 6 as is will be their last year and other year groups will be able to attend in coming years. I am sure you will all understand and appreciate my deicision. So year 6 parents, a letter will be out soon with specific details, but for now, save the date: Friday 13th July. We



are very lucky to have this opportunity and should never take for granted the ability to get free tickets. Every year I apply in hope and I am confident that next year, when it is a non-anniversary year, we will again be able to take KS2. This is a very valuable experiential learning day for our pupils.

Thank you! Thank you to our wonderful children for working hard every day and embracing their learning and to my brilliant staff team who give everything to ensure that we are all the best we can be! Thank you to all parents and carers for your continued support and for being proud of our school.

Wishing you all a peaceful and hopefully sunnier Easter holiday and I look forward to welcoming you all back on Monday 16th April as we embark on another very exciting term, starting with iSing pop! (concerts on Fri 20th April in Holy Cross church 2pm and 6pm, tickets from the office - all proceeds fund the project and include a free refreshment).

With my warmest 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
Wednesday 18 th April	Years 3 & 4 trip to Ashmolean museum
Friday 20 th April	Class photos 2pm & 6pm Ising Pop concerts in Holy Cross Church
Tuesday 1 st May	Special Breakfast Club event with Mel Tim
Wednesday 2 nd May	6.30 - 9.00am BBC Wiltshire Breakfast show with AK School
Friday 4 th May	TD Day - School closed
Monday 7 th May	Bank Holiday - school closed
Thurs 10 th - Sunday 13 th May	Malvern Show with AK School entry
Mon 14 th - Thurs 17 th May	KS2 SATS week