



Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Team AK Shining Brightly:**

Ahead of the May half term, we wanted to share a few ways in which we have been shining in school and in the wider community. I am heading off to London with Year 6 so am writing this ahead of Friday so that you have my newsletter to read over half term!

**Year 6 shining in London**

As I write this we are busily preparing to take our Year 6 children to London, where they have an absolutely amazing action packed agenda with so many opportunities to learn and grow that bit more. I am sure by the time you receive this, we will be on our way back from London and I will have got loads of sleep and will still be buzzing with energy because they will have been brilliant and gone to bed on time (I can wish). I am very confident to say ahead of the trip that I know they will make us proud and will have the best time.

**Rugby Success- Team AK made it to the county finals!**

Team AK were represented brilliantly last week by children from Years 3-5 in the Wilts area tag rugby tournament. Not only did they all make us proud, but the Y5/6 team made up of Year 4 and 5 pupils, won 6/7 matches and then got to the final losing only by 1 try against a Year 6 team! For the first time, they have secured a place in the county finals which they play this week. Good luck team, we are super proud of you all.

**Malvern Show- AKPS garden**

Wow, wow, wow. We certainly shone brightly at Malvern. In my previous newsletter, I commented on how brilliantly the children, staff, volunteers and sponsors all worked to design, grow, create and build our show garden, giving so much of their time. The garden looked absolutely stunning, I can say this first hand as I had the privilege of visiting both Friday and Saturday!

A few Year 4 children met with the judges on Wednesday to be interviewed about their garden and Mrs Crowley, who accompanied them, said how wonderful they were. Then on Thursday Year 4 all visited the show ground and spoke confidently to the general public and radio about the garden and made our school proud. Then on Friday, Year 5, the staff and myself attended the show and year 5 were again brilliant, representing the school so well and receiving loads of



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compliments from the general public. On Saturday, it was lovely to see staff, a few families there and some children manning the garden. During this time we were visited by Valerie Singleton, Chris Collins and Carol Klein who all spent time with our children and remarked on our school so positively. Finally on Sunday, a wonderful team returned to man the garden, sell off the top hat pots and dismantle the garden to bring back to school.

We were delighted to achieve a silver 'commended', just closely missing a gold but also achieving a certificate of Excellence for project management! We are delighted and this award goes to absolutely everyone involved. As for next year, we are already reflecting and starting to think how our school and community can achieve a gold, reach for the stars!

There are so many people to thank and I NEVER want to miss anybody out so if your name is not



below and you helped with Malvern, thank you for being part of TEAM AK at Malvern.



A huge thanks

to Mark Whitman for transportation and support with creating the project again this year, incredible. Thanks to friends of the school, Barry Leyfield for the train and Paul

Gilpin for the ship, so generous of you and to Kathryn Gray for working with the children to create the wonderful mosaics. To Harry, our caretaker, for transportation and to our sponsors- Heritage Books, Wilmots Solicitors, Joan and Brian Frost.

Also to the staff and their families and to the parents/carers/friends of the school who gave so much of their time and energy to get the garden as it was - there are too many to mention for fear of missing anybody out, but you know who you are!

Finally, a special huge thank you to the AK forest school team Chris Powell, Lisa Willis and the wonderful Mr Jackson for yet again driving this Malvern Show initiative forward. Stuart is super proud of his Malvern team and we thank him for encouraging and enabling us to take part each year. Here's to next year- if you fancy getting involved, please do. The more the merrier! More photographs will appear on our website, for now here are just a few.

### **A huge thank you from Breakfast club**

We hope you enjoyed your breakfast baps on Monday at Heroes and Heroines. Thank you for supporting us, we raised £35 which will directly go towards resourcing the club. Thank you so much from Mrs Morton and the team.



### Street Dance Workshops Year R, 1, 2 and 6!

So far four classes have already experienced their special street dance workshops arranged for them to try and to encourage everyone to take part in dance. They are led by trained dance teacher, Abi Evans. Every single child will have the opportunity to take part in these workshops, funded by the school, before the end of term. So far the feedback has been excellent. I watched Year 6 in their workshop on Friday and they were all absolutely engaged and loving it. All of KS1 and Year 6 have had their workshops, ask your child about it! We will try and film the final routines and play them at the start of the final Heroes and Heroines assembly of this academic year on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> July.

### Well done Y6!

I honestly cannot put into words how proud we are of our Year 6 children. Last week they had their SATs test and in the words of Lennon in Year 6 (accompanied by a fist bump) "Mrs Saville, SATS are AMAZING!" The positive attitude and growth mindset of our pupils is just what we want. Every year our children experience these tests and we pride ourselves in knowing that our children are well taught during their time here and have such established learning behaviours. They see this as just another time to shine. They have all worked so hard and made such fantastic progress through their time here so we are proud of them! I will not know how they have done in their tests until July, but whatever the outcome, we know they have given their best and enjoyed themselves! I think the breakfast every morning certainly helped them! Well done Team 6, we look forward to our remaining few months together.

### Plea

Our school is incredibly grateful for the fundraising that FOAKS do. Not only have past and present teams provided legacy projects like the Smooga but they support so many crucial and ongoing school initiatives every year such as the life education van, the library, athletics for Years 1-6, vital interactive teaching resources and transport to the pantomime for every child, enabling all of our children to take part in events and avoiding charging for so many events which other schools have to charge for.

I do not write much about the situation of budgets for primary schools but I am sure you are aware, it is not easy to manage as funding gets smaller each year and I think you would agree that we run a very successful school here on a very limited budget. So now here is a little plea from me. If you can give up a little time to help at any FOAKS events like the fireworks in November or the upcoming AK fest on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June or the school discos, your help would be really appreciated. As well as supporting community events you would be helping to raise much needed funds for the school. Without the help of volunteers these events cannot happen and we cannot afford to fund the wonderful extra things we do for all of our children. So many of you who can help work incredibly hard but I know there is always room for more

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helpers and support, even if just for one event a year. This support benefits all of our children, please know that the school really appreciates it. If you can offer help, please contact chair of FOAKS Suus Paris (mum of Ettie and Freddie) who will be DELIGHTED to welcome you on board. Thank you!

I hope you all have a lovely May half term and I look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June where we will have passports at the ready as we set off from AK Airport on our adventures around 7 countries of the world, learning about culture, geography and art. For your information, we plan to visit: Germany, Jamaica, Sri Lanka, Ireland, Sweden, Peru and Costa Rica! Your child will also do a cooking workshop from one of the countries and bring home a meal to share with you, all kindly funded by our FOAKS fundraising and provided by Mel Tim and her Kitchen Club. Please remember to check the calendar at <http://www.akps.org.uk/> for much more including: sports week, visiting story teller and visiting author!

All the very best and thank you!

With my kindest regards,

*S.L.Saville*

Mrs. Saville

Head teacher

The school calendar on the website [www.akps.org.uk](http://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 5 <sup>th</sup> June	4.30pm Viney Hill (Year 5 residential) parents meeting
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	School discos
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	Pm Village fete - school choir to perform
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> June	Class R trip to Cotswold Farm Park
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	Pm Foaks pocket money stalls for Fathers' Day
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> June	3.00pm Messy Church in school hall
Mon 18 <sup>th</sup> June	10.45 visiting author Eamonn Rielly
Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> -Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Year 5 residential trip
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	9.00am Class 1 assembly
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> June	Am Sports morning (Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> July if wet)
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> June	Class 4 sleepover
Sat 30 <sup>th</sup> June	AK Fest- please see Sus Paris if you can help.