



Friday 22nd March 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a busy couple of weeks we have had since our last newsletter. Everybody has been working so hard and lots of brilliant learning has been taking place along with a lot of fun!

Team AK Shining Brightly:

Year 6 Cirencester Mock Trials

Well, yesterday I accompanied the Year 6 mock trial team to court in a trial against Northleach Primary school. There are 12 schools who enter the Cirencester Mock Trials every year and we are so lucky to be included as one of them. When I say how proud I am, I refer to the whole of Team 6, children and staff; both those at the trial and those in school who have all played an important part in preparing for the trial together as a team. Wow, the trial was incredible. Both teams from both schools gave their all and the children were so impressive with how they coped with the pressure and acted important roles so brilliantly; it was inspirational. I am delighted to let you know that our AKPS prosecution team managed to win the case and find the other team *GUILTY!* This was particularly impressive as the verdict is usually not guilty, but our team were so persistent and confident that they shone through and won. Miss Perring and I were beaming with pride for the team as were the parents and staff who accompanied us. We will let you know how we do in the overall judging for all schools but I feel we could not have performed any better than we did. Well done Team AK and Team 6!



Team AK Sporting news!

Team AK have been busy again in the world of sport, making us proud every time our pupils represent our school. Our 'A' Team netballers made it through to regional competition and were absolutely astounding and finished with silver medals! This is a brilliant achievement. Well done to them all and especially to Miss Igoe and Mr Tanner for their teaching and encouragement of these pupils' netball skills over the past few years and to the supportive parents on the sidelines at the games. Mrs Clark, Lucy's Mum in Year 6 commented: "Team AK did us proud again in the regional finals of the Netball Tournament held this Tuesday at Kingshill.

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They won all but one match in their pool and ended up meeting that team, St Marys from Tetbury, whose coach is also a Cirencester Netball coach, again in the final. Despite a valiant effort from the whole team and with Tom Macaulay scoring AKs only goal in the final, right in front of his extremely proud dad, we came in a very proud second taking home some shiny silver medals! When receiving their medals, the 6 adults that were supporting team AK won the 'most embarrassing parents' award as we cheered and whooped the loudest!"

This is a brilliant achievement for our school, regional runners up! Go Team AK! There have been many more sporting events to report on. Mr Tanner, Mrs Barrett and myself accompanied a group of pupils to the Cirencester College area Panatolon sports event today which we will share next time along with Tag Rugby and other event news.

Science Week

A HUGE thank you to the Science leaders and Mrs Serle for helping to organise the fun activities for each class during our annual AK Science week. We teach Science every single week in school but each year we have a special dedicated Science week, working with the BBC national Science week programme and ignite excitement in Science. The Science leaders came up with all the ideas and even tested some before asking the classes to do them. There will be more photos and information arriving shortly on our website but for now here is a taster from Year 6:

During science week, Class 6 explored gravity and air resistance - we experimented with different materials to discover if we could create a parachute that would drop an egg safely to the ground. To do this, we needed to work together to create our parachutes, thinking about which was the best material to create air resistance



Comic Relief- Thank you!

Thank you to all who donated to Comic Relief last week. The money raised will help change countless lives, both here in the UK and worldwide. Here is the thank you email from comic relief



we received. So far, Red Nose Day 2019 has raised an utterly incredible £63,548,668 and counting. As always, we're in awe of the amount of effort made and money raised by brilliant schools like yours, so we just wanted to say a massive THANK YOU!

Plea for used plastic bottles to recycle for an art project for Malvern Show

The children will be creating poppies from recycled bottles to feature in the garden. Please can you save and bring in any CLEAR plastic bottles (1 litre or 2 litre sized) that you may have used so that we can recycle them for this art project for Malvern show garden. Please bring in any bottles to the office. We will be doing the project on Friday 26th April. Any bottles which are not used will be properly recycled. We do not want to encourage the use of plastics but instead are finding a way to recycle through art, those that have already been used. Once the project is done, I will reveal the finished art work to you in one of my newsletters. Thank you so much!

Malvern Spring Show Garden Update

Many thanks to all our fantastic sponsors. Our school garden is progressing well. The plan for our garden 'A moment in Time' is well underway and the children are looking forward to a visit from 'The Skinny Gardener' next week. Each class will be contributing something towards the garden to ensure it is a true reflection of our school.

We still need your help. If there are any parents who can spare some time on either Thursday 2nd May or Sunday 5th May to help build the garden, please let Mr Jackson know. Many thanks.

Class R superstars

Class R have been busy this week learning about *people who help us*. We have found out all about dentists, doctors, opticians and nurses and enjoyed playing in our dentist role play area as well as using doctors and nurses kits to care for unwell toys! We are really looking forward to some visits next week from a nurse, a doctor and some firefighters.

North Wiltshire Music Festival - Thursday April 4th

Many thanks to all parents and staff for your contributions towards the choir's cake sale. Oh how Team AK love a cake sale! This particular cake sale was to raise money for the coach to take the choir to the festival and we are thrilled to say the choir raised enough for the coach to take them to the Oasis venue -yippee! Thank you to Mrs Crowley, Miss Boase and the choir for singing for us at the cake sale and to all who helped. Concert tickets are still available to buy from the office until Thursday 28th March. Final arrangements will be sent out next week.



Year 3 & 4's Red Riding Hood the Musical production is nearly here!

Class 3 & 4 production next week is Roald Dahl's 'Little Red Riding Hood and the Wolf'...with a twist! I have been so incredibly impressed with how the children have grasped this musical, written parts of additional script, performed their hearts out and embraced making scenery, props and tickets. The effort from both Team 3 and 4 pupils, staff and parents is incredible!

Engineering Awards Competition

Following on the back of our success with the engineering competition last year, we have sent new entries off this week, fingers crossed for a winner...there have been lots of fabulous entries and inventions by the whole school

Staffing update

On Friday 5th April, we sadly say goodbye to two members of Team AK. Mrs Tromans has been a brilliant member of the team as a TA here for the past 6 years in Reception, Year 1, 2 and Year 3 and she originally joined us as a volunteer trainee! She has been so instrumental in establishing mindfulness across the school. Mrs Tromans is looking forward to working with us again at some point in the future to do some further mindfulness training and development work with our school. Secondly, our wonderful Mrs Ray will also be leaving us. She has been a TA, senior MDSA and most recently a 1:1 TA and important part of the team for 12 years. We wish both ladies every success and happiness for the future and look forward to keeping in touch. Once Team AK, always Team AK!

Reminder- Class Photos next week- Wednesday 27th March

Please make sure your children have their best hairstyles and smart uniform for these class photos.

Have a wonderful weekend. I hope to see some of you at the launch of Window Wanderland at 5.30pm tonight outside the school- I have my active wear and trainers on ready for the sprightly walk/ run around the village tracking down the 50+ windows taking part! I have my map at the ready (for those of you as old as me, you might be thinking Anneka Rice and Treasure Hunt- but sadly without a helicopter as my school budget does not stretch to that!) With my kindest 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 2019 to help you plan ahead:

Date	Event
Friday 22 nd March	5.30 pm Winter Wonderland opening ceremony
Monday 25 th March	1.30pm Y3/4 production dress rehearsal
Tuesday 26 th March	Class 5 trip to Swindon Gurdwara 6pm Y3/4 production
Wednesday 27 th March	Vista class photographs The Skinny Gardener to visit 6pm Y3/4 production
Friday 29 th March	Mothers' Day pocket money stalls
Monday 1 st April	8.00am Breakfast Club Cooking session with Mel Tim
Wednesday 3 rd April	Zumba Morning Vintage afternoon with villagers
Thursday 4 th April	7.00pm Oasis concert, Swindon for choir members
Friday 5 th April	9am Heroes and Heroines End of Term 4
8 th -22 nd April	Easter holiday
Tuesday 23 rd April	8.50am Start of Term 5

ASHTON KEYNES

Church of England VC Primary School

SHINE BRIGHT ★ REACH FOR THE STARS



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