



Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for all of your warm wishes; it is just so lovely to be back in school. I have missed everybody so, so much! I am very much looking forward to our future together. We have lots of exciting things on the horizon which I look forward to sharing with you.

**Team AK Shining Brightly:**

Everybody has been working extremely hard in school and making the most of every single minute since returning from half term. I have been in every classroom and have been so impressed by what I have been seeing.

**Online safety talks from Wiltshire Police**

Last week we were visited by 2 representatives from Wiltshire police who worked with Years 5 and 6 to discuss social media and online safety. Following the talk, the children then had a discussion with their class teachers to further develop points raised in the talk.



Here is a link to some online safety things to do with apps that might be useful for parents and carers.  
[www.nationalonlinesafety.com/resources](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com/resources)



[Online Safety Resources for Schools | National Online Safety](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com/resources)

National Online Safety's suite of learning materials, classroom resources and lesson plans help teachers educate children about how to stay safe online.

[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com)





### Excitement- Class R's pancakes and unidentifiable eggs!

Class R celebrated Shrove Tuesday in style with a delicious pancake each. They had traditional toppings of lemon and sugar which they loved. It made snack time the highlight of the day!

On Wednesday, a very special delivery arrived for class R. A box of unidentifiable eggs have arrived for them to take care of. So far, they have decided they need to be kept warm and carefully monitored.



### Another inspiring Engineering Talk from our parents

We are so lucky to have parents who volunteer to come and talk with the children about their jobs in order to inspire them and to make them understand how relevant their education is at primary school in order to help them in future employment.

This time it was the return of Mr Edmonds (Daisy and Evie's Dad) who worked with and inspired all classes. Mr Edmonds visited us a couple of years ago and was delighted to come back again and we were thrilled to have him. Mr. Edmonds really tailored the talks to the pupils and made the sessions meaningful and inspiring. He explored the use of wind turbines and discussed a number of roles within the industry. Children across the school asked some amazingly thought-provoking questions. It was really insightful and the staff and children really enjoyed the experience. Why don't you ask your child about the visit? I am sure they would be keen to tell you what they have learned.



We have been so lucky to be visited by some wonderful parents and family members over the past few years and we welcome more to come in and share with our children. This can be in the form of a short whole school assembly, which I am very happy to support you with or small talks/ workshops in classes.





Just contact me if you would like to come in, I'd be absolutely delighted to hear from you. I can't wait to hear who would like to visit us next.



### Team AK Netball Shining Superstars!

Amazing 'shiny' news: this week we entered an 'A' and 'B' team into the Netball tournaments at Kingshill school. Both teams were unbeaten and our 'A' team have qualified for the regional competition later in the month. Well done everyone involved! Here is a great photo of our proud 'B' team netballers.



### Roald Dahl Themed World Book Day

Yesterday was World Book Day and our school took part by dressing as characters from the books by Roald Dahl. Oh my goodness, the children and staff all looked incredible! It was wonderful in 'Time to shine' assembly to see everyone in their creative costumes; inspired by Dahl's characters. We then spent the day celebrating books and reading with a range of exciting activities. Here are just a couple of photographs from the day. We will put more onto our website.

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### Choir Rehearsals

Our choir have been for their first cluster rehearsal for the North Wiltshire Cluster school's choir concert. They were brilliant and worked hard on their parts. We cannot wait to see it all come together with all 12 schools in the cluster.

We're delighted to announce that *Window Wanderland* is back again and the school is inviting all the local community to take part in a very special non-profit making event... The *Ashton Keynes Window Wanderland*, a magical walking trail to light up our village. **This exciting event will take place on Friday 22nd March to Sunday 24th March from 5.30 pm to 8.30 pm every evening.**

Kathryn Gray, the community artist who is co-ordinating the event again for the school, came to talk to the children in assembly on Tuesday and they all left buzzing with excitement about taking part in *Window Wanderland*.

### How to take part:

Sign up on the Ashton Keynes event page on [windowwanderland.com](http://windowwanderland.com) and mark your house on the map. After registering, you will receive confirmation within the day that you have registered successfully. If you have any difficulties signing up to *Window Wanderland*, email [AKwindowwanderland@gmail.com](mailto:AKwindowwanderland@gmail.com) with your address and Kathryn Gray, the co-ordinator, can add you.

Then make a display in a window visible from the road or in your garden or even your car. Your display could be a silhouette of your dog in the window, a disco ball, your Liverpool football scarf, or daffodils from your garden... If you still have your display from two years ago, re-use that as they were all so lovely or just put up some fairy lights. Your child/ren can also offer to make a display for people in the village. A good number of children at the school don't live in the village and we would like them to take part by helping make lanterns to display around the village and to help their friends in the village to make displays. Kathryn Gray is currently decorating the community lanterns at lunchtime with the children.





As well as magical windows and lanterns to admire, there'll be special illuminated mini displays too that the Scouts, Cubs and Beavers are making which can be attached to a gate. Please encourage your neighbours and friends to add their name to the list kept on the window ledge in the Village Shop or on Tuesday morning in the Village Hall for a lantern or a box to be made for them to display.

#### Not sure what to do?

Look at [windowwanderland.com](http://windowwanderland.com) and the *Window Wanderland* Facebook page for inspiration and ask your neighbours what they're planning on doing. Come to the Village Hall between 10 and 12 on Tuesdays and chat to Kathryn Gray about your ideas, look at some simple ideas for displays, make a display there or collect free materials to make something at home. Take a look too at Kathryn Gray's Facebook page [www.facebook.com/KathrynGrayArt/](http://www.facebook.com/KathrynGrayArt/) as she's posting there easy and quick display ideas.

Dates for your diary:

There are three drop-in display making/lantern workshops this month:

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March** and **Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March – 9.30am to 12.30pm** – in the Ashton and Keynes Rooms in the Village Hall. All are welcome, but children must be accompanied by a parent/carer.

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March at 3.15 pm in the School Hall.** All are welcome, but children must be accompanied by a parent/carer.

**NB There won't be a workshop as previously advertised on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March.**

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> and Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March** collect free display making materials in the playground after school and also from the Village Hall on Tuesdays (10-12).

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup>** – Opening Ceremony at the school.

We hope you're as excited as we are about this free event that is easy to do, fun to participate in and open to EVERYONE. Please help our school shine in the community by taking part. It will be a really special event. We can't wait to see your displays and hopefully bump into you on the wander around the windows!

Have a wonderful weekend. I hope the Spring sunshine continues for us as it certainly lifts our spirits.

*S.L.Saville*

Mrs Saville

Head Teacher





The school calendar on the website

SHINE BRIGHT ★ REACH FOR THE STARS

[www.akps.org.uk](http://www.akps.org.uk) is loaded with dates up  
you plan ahead:

until the end of this academic year 2019 to help

Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	Science Week
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	3:30-7:00 Parents' Evening
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	3:30-6:00 Parents' Evening
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Messy Church in school hall
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Mock Trials Y6, New Baptist Hall, Cirencester
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Class 2 trip to Cheltenham 5.30 pm Winter Wonderland opening ceremony
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	1.30pm Y3/4 production dress rehearsal
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	Class 5 trip to Swindon Gurdwara 6pm Y3/4 production
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Vista class photographs 6pm Y3/4 production
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	8.00am Breakfast Club Cooking session with Mel Tim
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	Zumba Morning Vintage afternoon with villagers
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	7.00pm Oasis concert, Swindon for choir members
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> April	9am Heroes and Heroines End of Term 4
8 <sup>th</sup> -22 <sup>nd</sup> April	Easter holiday
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	8.50am Start of Term 5

