



Friday 14th June 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Team AK Shining Brightly:

Wow, we certainly hit the ground running in Term 6, straight back into our Global Awareness week and I was absolutely blown away by the response from our pupils! Year 5 are off on residential shortly to the Forest of Dean to camp, canoe, abseil and cave and hopefully sleep! We have sports week with an action packed week planned for all of our pupils ending with Sports Morning and our Year 4 overnight forest school camp out! A while after we have the RAF Fairford Air Tattoo trip for KS2 and a whole school theatre treat in the school hall towards the end of term. These are just a few of the amazing highlights upcoming this term, there are many more!

This week ends brilliantly. We had 3 very experienced visitors in for the past three days as part of our Challenge Partner Review. We were visited by a lead challenge reviewer who is a trained OFSTED inspector, a very experienced executive Headteacher and a vice principal from schools across the country. We were certainly put through our paces during the three day review (as I would hope) and I am absolutely delighted to let you know that we were judged as outstanding across all areas. Although this does not replace our OFSTED judgement, it is something we ask to do every year to ensure we are doing the very best we can in providing the best school experience for your wonderful children. I honestly could not be more proud of our school. I hope you feel super proud too and I look forward to sending you the report once I receive it. (They read it to the leadership team before they left and it made me cry). I love Team AK!

TEAM AK cook their way to GOLD!



Team AK Chefs take GOLD at Fairford Festival Interschool Cooking Competition

Our Team AK Chefs, represented by Chef Ben H ; Chef Niamh G and Chef Gilbert T, took part in their first ever interschool cooking competition at the Fairford Festival last Sunday 9th June and took home gold medals, beating Fairford Primary by just 1 point, with Ampney Crucis Primary taking the Bronze medal. Our team of chefs had to do a technical challenge cooking a Chicken

Chow Mein recipe from scratch using the ingredients and recipe provided at the competition. They were judged on cutting skills ; food prep including food hygiene ; cooking skills using heat and kitchen equipment ; execution of recipe and final presentation. The food was also judged on taste ; texture and smell. They were judged by Mayor Steve Bolton and Chef Lizzie Morris who own 7a Café in Fairford. Both judges were very impressed with our teams cutting skills and presentation and scored the team highly on the taste of the food.



Well Done Chefs! We are super proud of them and a massive thanks to Mrs Timm and the team for providing us with wonderful opportunities like these through her fantastic Kitchen Club.

Dog Parking

Dear Fury Friends of Ashton Keynes

My hoomans and I wanted to leave a little something behind as we will not be trotting to school much longer.

Team Clark would like to say thank you for all the very happy years we have spent at AK School and hope your hoomans will enjoy the new 'dog parking area'.

Stay safe!

Wags

Buster Clark and family



A huge thank you to the Clark family for this gift and it is great to see it already being put into action! This is a great idea as it gives the dogs an area to wait safely away from people while their owners take children onto the playground rather than being tied to the school gate. On a safety note, this area enables dogs to be safely tied back from the main walk way but please can you support our message in school for children to not go up to the dogs to avoid any potential problems and keep everyone happy and safe. We have been doing some guidance on dog safety and would like to continue to keep your children safe. Thank you!

Buildings in KS1

A little update- the new build plan has been submitted to planning. Once it is submitted online I will send the link to encourage as many of you as possible to support it as this will help. There is already a lot of hard work going on behind the scenes in school and the funding for the build will provide 3 new KS1 classrooms but it will not cover the cost of linking the school together and providing additional much needed group rooms and learning space for all of our children. This is what we need and by linking the school, we provide just one school building making the site safer to manage. Therefore, in order to achieve this, we are going to try and fundraise to build exactly what we need. None of the new build is to increase the capacity of the school but to provide better learning space and facilities for all of our children. The playground space which will be used for building will be reformed once the old buildings are demolished and create an even better play area for our pupils. We are going to start an active working party to formally organise fundraising. So if you have a particular skill or are passionate about fundraising then we need you! This is a one off opportunity for our school and more affordable if we can build it in one phase. If you are interested in being part of the working party, please contact our Governor Jon Hughes on bossakwh@gmail.com. We can't wait to hear from you!



Book Sale- Thursday 4th July 3.30-4.15pm HALF PRICE! ABSOLUTE BARGAIN!

We have the brilliant book sale in school again for one short after school sale with HALF PRICE books and stationery. As we are working to be a more sustainable school, we would encourage you to bring a travel mug from home as we will be selling refreshments! Please note we have a card machine for books and stationery but only cash for the refreshments. Thank you! Miss Harrold and the AK pupil library leaders!

Moderation

Last week we were visited by two moderators for Wiltshire to validate our KS2 writing results 2019. We were very much looking forward to this visit as we work hard every year to ensure we internally and externally moderate and validate our outcomes in writing and I am delighted to say that our judgements were 100% validated. We are really proud of the progress our children make in writing and of their excellent outcomes and it is excellent to feedback to you that external moderators can see this excellent progress and outcomes too.

AK school choir concert

On Saturday 8th June the school hall was filled with music from stage and screen. The school choir, whose members are from Yr2 - Yr 6, were joined by local singing groups The Siren Sisters and the AK 47s to sing songs from a variety of film and musical scores such as 'The Greatest Showman' and 'Wicked'. We were also treated to music played on guitars and ukuleles by children from the school.

A big thank you to all who gave up their time to organise and perform at this fantastic event. All money raised will go to the Friends of Ashton Keynes School - FoAKS - who are fundraising towards the new school buildings. A massive thank you to FOAKS for this event and especially Liz Nicholls and Mrs Crowley for their wonderful efforts behind all of this and thanks to the Siren Sisters!



The AK school choir



The AK school choir with the Siren Sisters and the AK 47s



Message from Liz, our FOAKS chair:

Thank you so much to everyone who supported the musical performances on the 8th. It was amazing to sing to 2 full audiences and I'm sure all will agree, the children were fantastic. Thanks to your support, we raised over £1400 for the school!

Awareness of the World Week

Wow, what an exciting week for both staff and children at AKPS! Previously known as World Awareness Week, our rebranded 'Aware of the World Week' was a great success. The idea was to inform and engage the children about global issues affecting the world's population now and in the future. It was a launch of our global advocacy initiative which we will be launching next year as a key area of our school improvement plan.

The week started with a launch assembly on sustainability led by one of our parents, who is Mum of Anna (Y5) and Toby (Y3) and Max (joining us in Class R September). Thank you for such an interesting assembly to launch our week, we look forward to working with the 17 goals of sustainability next year and beyond!

The issues dealt with during the week were wide ranging and included exploring disaster relief, learning about plastic pollution, understanding Fairtrade and making a reusable alternative to cling film to highlight the importance of recycling.

It was also a chance for children to get to know members of other classes, both staff and children, as they visited each class in a mixed age group. When asked to reflect on the first day, one of the children in Class R, who were mixed with children from Classes 1 and 2, said, "I've made two new friends". Not only were our children gaining a greater understanding of issues affecting the global community but they were also making connections and forming friendships in their own community.



Putting the design on the cloth for the beeswax wrap.

Reusing a T - shirt to make a bag.



Applying beeswax

Turning the Tide on Plastic Pollution was the focus in Class 4 for during Awareness of the World Week this year. After watching Planet Earth 2 and seeing the devastating impact single use plastic has on our world, oceans and people, we have been keen to make a difference! We investigated 'How long until it's gone?' and discussed the meaning of decomposing materials, explaining where items that are not recycled end up. We were shocked to see single use plastic bottles are used once but take up to 450 years to decompose! So all of the plastic ever made that has not been recycled is still out there in a landfill, and will not decompose for another 350 years.

Thanks to the incredibly generous donations of the school community, every single child in the school was able to make a T-shirt Bag for Life to help reduce the number of plastic bags in the world. We decorated them with powerful messages to show our support of reducing single use plastics. We also discussed the impact cling film has on the world, and made lots of promises to reduce our use of cling film. Keep us updated if your children feel empowered to make a difference, it all starts with one spark! 😊

Please see our website for more information from each of the classes.

Thank you to all the adults who helped us during the week especially Mrs Winson, Mrs Branscomb and Mel Timm and any others behind the scenes! Thanks to Dobbies and Travis Perkins for providing free materials for our bug house making project.

Holy Cross Church Fete and Cricket club family fun -this Sunday!

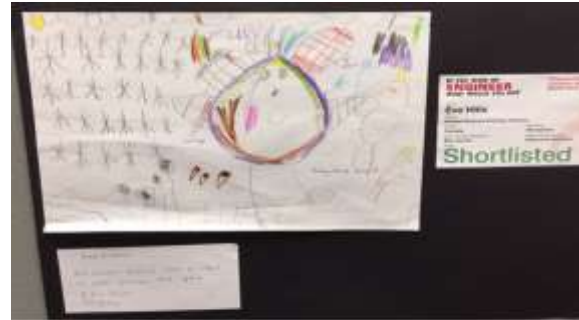
In the morning, from 10am, Ashton Keynes Cricket Club are holding a family fun day and in the afternoon from 3pm- 5pm it is the Holy Cross Church Fete on Church Walk! You can get fully involved- 3.30pm Dog Show, 4pm Boat Race and Pooh Sticks (children can make their own boats to bring along and race), Raffle 4.30pm. Posters for both events are around school.

Engineering Awards!

Once again this year we participated in the Primary Engineer Leaders Award Competition. All children had an opportunity to submit a design for an invention that could make a difference. In the south alone, there were a staggering 3,702 entries this year! We are proud that a couple of our younger pupils reached the shortlisting stage. Congratulations to Eve Hills,



in Reception, who received a distinction and also to Ivor Robinson, in class 2, whose design was highly commended. Only 77 of the shortlisted designs have been chosen for display and both Eve and Ivor's designs have been selected. Congratulations Eve and Ivor we are very proud of you both! Here is a photo of the Eve and Ivor's work at the national exhibition:



Sports Week- reminder and Sports Morning

The week of 24th June is our annual sports week. Mr Tanner and I are planning another action packed sports' week for your children ending with sports Morning for parents/carers to join us with on Friday 28th June. Children will need to wear PE/Sports kit (not football strips please) all week, make sure their drinks bottle is in school to be re-filled and bring sun hat and wear sun cream. So to update you: we have a very exciting timetable planned including new activities like: Yoga, Healthy wrap making (children will bring these home in their beeswax re-useable food wraps they made in World Week) visiting England/Super league netball players and I am super excited to tell you a skateboarding workshop for every class! So your children should be very active and experience a wide range of activities during this week. We look forward to seeing many of you at the sports morning on Friday 28th June. You are very welcome to bring a picnic lunch to eat with your children until 1.15pm after which they will return to class.

Year 4 Camp

28th June at the end of sports week is our year 4 camp out. I am starting to think about tent offers. If you have a tent to offer, please contact the office and we will form a list. We are so grateful for your offers as we do not have tents to house the children and we promise to look after them. If you can provide a tent, it would be wonderful if you could put it up after school/ during the afternoon and take down the next day to really help the staff team.

MDSA Vacancy

We have a vacancy for a midday supervisor to join our wonderful team. If you are interested in joining our school team and working with our fabulous pupils please contact the school office ASAP! I very much look forward to hearing from you. Please speak to any of our MDSA's (quite



a few are parents and grandparents) and I know they'd be delighted to tell you about the role or pop in and book in a chat with me.

Final amazing news (as if we can take anymore wonderfulness)

I have just this minute received a surprise certificate from the RHS to award Gardening Team of the Year 2019 for our Malvern Contribution! Wowsers!

I love this school!

We have so many lovely things happening this term, be sure to check the calendar on our website so that you don't miss anything!

Have a wonderful weekend,

Best wishes from your super proud Headteacher,

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
Tuesday 18 th June	9.00am Class 1 assembly
Wednesday 19 th June	Year 5 Residential trip to Viney Hill (to Friday 21 st) Classes 1 & 2 to Cotswold Wildlife Park
Monday 24 th - Fri 28 th June	Sports Week
Wednesday 26 th June	FoAKS Pamper evening
Friday 28 th June	9.15am Sports Morning (weather permitting) followed by picnic lunch 5.30pm Year 4 sleepover at school
Tuesday 2 nd July	Class 3 trip to Fresh Air Sculpture Quenington
Wednesday 3 rd July	Class 4 trip to Fresh Air Sculpture Quenington 9.00am Class R assembly Storyteller in school
Thursday 4 th July	3.30pm Half price book fair
Tuesday 9 th July	9.00am Class 2 assembly
Wednesday 10 th July	6.00pm Years 5/6 production
Thursday 11 th July	6.00pm Years 5/6 production (adults only)
Saturday 13 th July	Ashtonbury - FoAKS summer fete
Monday 15 th July	1.40pm Leavers church service - Year 6 parents only
Tuesday 16 th July	9.00am Class 3 assembly
Wednesday 17 th July	Moving up morning
Friday 19 th July	All KS2 to Air Tadoo Fairford
Tuesday 23 rd July	11.00am Leavers service - school hall 1.15pm Year 6 v parents rounders match
Wednesday 24 th July	9.00am Heroes and Heroines assembly
Thursday 25 th July	TD Day - SCHOOL CLOSED
Friday 26 th July	School Summer Holiday begins
Monday 2nd September	TD DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED
Tuesday 3rd September	8.45 School restarts for 2019/20 academic year trfr

ASHTON KEYNES

Church of England VC Primary School

SHINE BRIGHT ★ REACH FOR THE STARS



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INVESTORS IN PEOPLE



Healthy School

ASHTON KEYNES

Church of England VC Primary School

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