



Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Team AK Shining Brightly:

Wow, we have been super busy here in Team AK over the past fortnight. We have been bouncing, fencing, learning our socks off, winning awards, bread baking, welcoming surprise arrivals, making string out of nettles among other exciting and engaging learning experiences!

### Boogie Bounce



The whole school were super excited to experience Boogie Bounce this week. We are always looking to provide fun and unusual ways to keep our children active and fit and provide them with such varied experiences. Boogie bounce provided exactly that! Every class got a slot where they performed routines on individual mini trampettes guided by the wonderful instructor Sally. I had such fantastic feedback and thanks from parents and children and Sally commented on how brilliant our children are and how lovely our school is!

The staff got a separate session after school as part of their staff meeting and it was really fun but wow did it give us a work out! I look forward to doing this again in the future. Boogie Bounce, along with Zumba, Massage and Yoga in school all contribute towards our 'Shine' curriculum and providing opportunities for experiencing life in all its fullness.

### Forest school

Our children always look forward to their forest school sessions. This year we have really been focussed on our local environment and becoming a more sustainable school. This has led the children to think about how we deal with waste within school and ways to improve our recycling. We have set up compost bins for fruit disposal to make compost which will then be used on the school grounds and planting. This week classes were making string out of nettles! Yes actual stinging nettles and they persevered and were amazed at the results!

### WIRE (Wider Inclusion in Religious Education) award

I am delighted to let you know that our school was awarded the WIRE award by Katy Staples from the Diocese this week. We are so proud to be an outstanding Church of England School and whilst we shine brightly already, we have been reaching for the stars again and have as a result received another award. Miss Thomas our RE leader was incredible in providing us all with wonderful training and organising trips to places of worship from other religions this year. The whole school took part in a very special Spirited Arts competition and all of this was collated as evidence by Miss Thomas for the 'Wider Inclusion in Religious Education Award (WIRE) which we achieved and were awarded. The Diocese were so impressed that they are using the children's Spirited art work in their presentations to other schools across the Diocese of Bristol! A massive thank you to my talented and passionate RE lead Miss Thomas and to the whole staff team for their commitment to this and to our wonderful pupils for their thoughtful responses and art work. Well done Team AK!





### Fencing

Years 5 and 6 have all been given a special 4 week course in fencing. We have welcomed Neil Bromley to the school in Sports Week in previous years but he had this special offer for four weeks of classes for our Year 5 and 6 pupils and I jumped at the chance. The children really enjoyed their first session on Monday and the fencing Teacher Neil Bromley was really pleased with our pupils: "It was a real pleasure teaching Year 5 and 6 yesterday – lots of engagement and physical activity when it came to fencing. They all did really well and can't wait to learn more next week." What a great experience for them and alongside the fencing they will also learn about healthy hearts.

### Harvest Bread baking in Class R

Class R were busy making bread this week! I was delighted to observe them using maths within their baking and seeing them all enjoy making their beautiful harvest loaf for Church. Thank you to Mel Tim and Rev Shirley for giving of their time to do this with the children. Here is a picture of the finished loaf, which is amazing!



### Generosity in Action

Our value in focus this term is Generosity and I have been delighted to see how the children are putting this into action. From children and staff nominating one another for kindness stars to offers of food for the food bank it really is so lovely to see. Ben Claridge ran a wonderful wooden toy sale where he donated beautiful handmade wooden toys to raise money for the school. The sale raised over £150 with the auction for the boat and the coach raising over £60 and we will be notifying the lucky winners by Parentmail next week. Thank you Ben and family for this generosity. I can think of so many ways in which children, staff, volunteers, Governors and parents are giving so generously of their time to our school and for this we are thankful.

### Surprise Visitor in Classes 3 and 4!

Children from both Classes 3 and 4 were rather excited to tell me all about a very unusual den that had been built in their classrooms and how they had a surprise visitor! They were using their Historical skills to deduce what era the visitor may have belong to from the evidence left for them. They have lots of rational ideas and are asking some very deep questions about our visitor who has been leaving them messages! I can't wait to see what happens next! Here is a picture of one of the mysterious dens that appeared!



### Building Update

Work on the three new infant classrooms will start on 23rd October and is scheduled to be completed by the end of May 2020. I will update you further in my final newsletter of this term including procedures that will be in place during the building work.

### New drop off/pick up procedures from November 4<sup>th</sup> 2019

As building works commence over half term, we are working hard on procedures for drop off/ pick up as the side entrance to school will be out of use to us and only used by contractor for safety reasons. Therefore we

2

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will have a new entrance to school. I will send out these procedures before half term via parentmail but I ask for patience, flexibility and a smile as I anticipate some frustration during this inconvenience but if we all understand that this is short term and for a fabulous long term gain then we can get through this period of transition calmly together! This new build is going to be awesome!

**Reminder: FOAKS Fireworks Evening- Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November- please save the date**

The annual AK fireworks evening organised by FOAKS will be on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November at Bradstone in Ashton Keynes. This is always an incredible evening and display and a key fundraiser for our school, providing much needed learning resources/ activities for our children such as the life education van, cooking workshops for all children, maths rockstars and Wiltshire learning interactive resources. Led by Liz Nicholls and her FOAKS team, we always need a team of wonderful volunteers from our parents and staff family. No matter how small your offer is, it really makes a difference. I know Liz will be in touch for helpers soon but please approach her and offer if you can. This is our annual biggest fundraiser of our school year and biggest event for the local and wider community. Thank you so much, my staff team and I really enjoy volunteering and have our annual favourite jobs we like to help with, mine is the bar and singing in the band when I can!

**Reminder: FOAKS new Xmas Fabios fun night out: Everyone welcome**

*Do you enjoy a 3 course Italian meal? We promise you won't go home hungry!*

*We invite you to join us on Tuesday 3rd December to start the celebrations of Xmas at Fabios Swindon £20 per person.*

*Use this as an evening to catch up with family, friends, work colleagues or meeting new families of the school. Every penny raised contributes to facilities and activities for our children.*

*7pm arrival, starters will be out at 7.15 don't miss this fun night out. Book your place now:*

*email: [nicolalouiseharris@icloud.com](mailto:nicolalouiseharris@icloud.com)*

*People will be seated in tables of 8*

*Raffle on the night. Please save the date. Nicola Harris (Class 1 parent, Foaks)*

*This sounds awesome! I hope lots of people take this up, Miss Perring says the food here is brilliant! I am going to go along (Mrs Saville).*

Thank you as always for your continued support and partnership; I feel blessed to be your Head teacher,  
*S.L.Saville*

Mrs Saville  
Head Teacher

Date	Event
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> October	11am Church Harvest Festival Holy Cross- all welcome 12.30 Harvest lunch school hall- all welcome
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> October & Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> October	Life Ed Van visits
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> October	Life Education Van Day 2 World Food Day Zumba with Meryl- for all classes FoAKS Disco
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> October	Yoga with Sharon in all classes



Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October	9am Heroes and Heroines Children's last day
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Teacher training day for staff- school closed to pupils End of Term 1
Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	*AKPS FOAKS Firework Evening at Bradstone- volunteers –please*
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	Term 2 Starts 8.50am bell on playground

All dates for the year are on the calendar on the school website on [www.akps.org.uk](http://www.akps.org.uk) to help you plan ahead

# ASHTON KEYNES

Church of England VC Primary School

SHINE BRIGHT ★ REACH FOR THE STARS



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