



Friday 15th November 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Team AK Shining Brightly:

Well we have all been very excited here at Team AK with the arrival of the diggers and to see some real progress happening outside as part of the build! Back in the classrooms our children have been working their socks off and we have also had our parent/ carer consultation evenings!

Soroptimist Writing Competition Success!

We take part every year in this writing competition for Years 1-6 and I am delighted to learn that we have 9 children who have won awards this year; I think this could be the most we have ever had! Considering there are up to 10 schools entering and only a possible 27 winners (800 entries) I think we have done extremely well by achieving a third of those from our lovely school. This is really special too as we are particularly proud of our achievement in writing across the school.

Congratulations go to:

Rosie Bell
Lizzie Clifford
Edith Cook
Timon Kama
Arthur Keville
Dylan Morse
Eva Musgrove
Evangeline Senior
Evie Smith

There is a special presentation evening tonight and I am looking forward to watching our pupils be presented with their awards. Well done to all of our pupils for taking part. We are really proud of our writing and awards evenings like this are a chance go shone with our writing among other schools.

Fencing

Following the success of the four week free fencing lessons for Years 5 and 6, I have booked a 6 week fencing course for Year 6 to complete after Easter and aim to do this annually so our Year 6 pupils leave TEAM AK with a fencing qualification too! I am also looking at the chance to give every class a free fencing workshop in the New Year.

Wiltshire Air Ambulance Life Saving Skills Day for TEAM AK

We were very lucky to have the Wiltshire Air Ambulance visit to give us a very important life skills day. The day started with an assembly from Paramedic Simon for the whole school. Following from this KS1 had a very short talk about 999 calls but will have a designated longer class session in part 2 of the visit in December. All KS2 had an hour workshop where they learned about calling 999 and giving CPR which was brilliant. Simon is returning on Thursday 19th December to do a workshop with each of the infant classes and then to give further skill training with Upper KS2 on choking, recovery position and AED training. I would like to present a cheque to Simon for £218 with the £1 contribution raised from every child. If you would like to donate more to this worthy cause, please do so. Please can





all contributions be in before 19th December if you have not done so already, I think £1 is brilliant value for the life-saving skills the children are learning.



Remembrance Day

After creating our beautiful poppies for remembrance day, Class 4 planted them along the pathway into the school. We had a moment of silence to remember our fallen heroes before planting our poppies, thinking about each individual life the poppies represented. It has been a beautiful week of remembrance and such a lovely craft activity to complete. Thank you all so much for your donations!

Messy Church Pupil Leaders

After school last Wednesday, two of our pupils from Y6, Rebecca Clifford and William Fry ran a Messy Church session in the hall from 3.15pm until 4.15pm. I am super proud of them both for planning and organising this for the school working with Holy Cross Church. Will and Rebecca organised and led lots of activities including cookie decorating, tug of water game, a creative creation story session. Their aim was to be creative around the Creation story. Reverend Shirley and the Holy Cross team were there to support the children, we are proud of our partnership with Holy Cross Church. The event was really well attended so thank you to all who came.

Children in Need

Pupils and parents have rallied around again. Friday 15th November was Children in Need. To support this brilliant charity, the children came into school wearing something spotty or yellow. They also donated generously and showed their support with face paint, fluffy jumpers or sparkly tights. We were even lucky enough, on Tuesday, to receive a visit from Pudsey himself. Pudsey met all the children in assembly to raise awareness for this fantastic charity. Our school council will soon announce the total raised by Team AK!



New School Building Update

Well, the work has certainly started and it was lovely to be met by so many smiles on the first morning as people came into school and saw the diggers in action! Full steam ahead. The Rigg team, led by site manager Andy have been great so far and we are looking forward to seeing progress. The children were brilliant as well as they only have a small space to play so were really thoughtful about this. Everyone is being so flexible and remembering that short term pain for long term gain! School council have been set the challenge of



being Team AK's roaming news reporters and producing a Tuesday 'weekly update' on the build for us which will go onto our website.

We are very grateful to three local businesses who are supporting our school building project by providing the following free materials, saving us lots of money that we can put towards equipping our new classrooms: **Cullimore's** are giving us sand, gravel and concrete. **Aggregate Industries** are providing a substantial discount on our building blocks and stone cladding and **BMI Redland** are giving us all of our roofing materials. The School council are about to write special thank you letters to all of these generous donors.

Here are the School council AK Roaming reporters first two instalments:

Tuesday 5th November 2019

School Council Team AK Roaming Reporters

When we got back to school after half term, the whole playground had been dug up ready for the new buildings. It is really exciting! To get into the school has changed completely as we cannot go through the usual gate. Instead, everyone now walks through the staff car park, around Year 5 and 6 classrooms and the back of the hall onto the playground. There is a temporary path leading the way to the remaining playground for you to follow.

So far, the playground has been dug up and the safety fence put all around to keep us all safe. We are so excited to monitor the progress every week and report back to Mrs Saville.

To make sure we are all safe, we had a fire drill on Tuesday morning. Everyone was calm and sensible when walking the new route to the fire evacuation point on the playground. We are all confident we will be safe in any situation.



Tuesday 12th November 2019

School Council Team AK Roaming Reporters

This week has been action packed for our school build!

The diggers and other machines have been working their tyres off as they prepare the foundations for our new building and classrooms. The playground has been completely demolished with lots of big holes full of water and rubble from the diggers.



As School Council, we interviewed lots of different members of the staff team to find out what they think about the building:

Ted asked Mrs Timbrell, "How do you feel about the new school building?" Mrs Timbrell responded, "I feel very excited about the new school buildings."

Rebecca asked Mrs Smith, "Is it going to be worth it in the end?" Mrs Smith answers that she is very excited that all of the school will be linked together and that the younger children won't have to walk outside in the cold in the winter!

Zoe asked Mrs Marsh, "What are you most excited about?" Mrs Marsh said, "New beginnings!"

Livvy asked Mr Watson, "How do you feel about having a smaller playground?" Mr Watson said he finds it tricky teaching P.E but all of the staff said, "Short term pain for long term gain!" ☺

FOAKS Fireworks Evening THANK YOU!

WOWSERS, the weather didn't stop us! AKPS fireworks evening was awesome. I cannot express how grateful I am on behalf of the school for the contribution of all volunteers who helped plan, organise and run this event. I always come away from our fireworks evening with such pride and thanks and hope people realise how grateful we are for what they do. The set up was incredible and a lot of hard work, the printing of signs and posters so professional, the fireworks team were fabulous again, all of the helpers on the day preparing electrics, marquees, cooking, ordering and then on stalls and on the gates/ marshalling etc. Also the opportunity to use Bradstone and the Millenium green. The fabulous AKsionals for entertaining us with their wonderful music and allowing me to sing with them (which I absolutely LOVED) and to the FOAKS team, led by our new chair Liz Nichols and her committee team who organised the evening so well and did so with a smile. The word PERSEVERANCE shone through the night; the rain did not stop the event, nor did it dampen spirits, people were up and dancing under umbrellas and in wellies in our very own mini Glastonbury! The fireworks display was again incredible. If I have not listed you here then please know I am grateful, thank you everyone who made this evening possible, you are all brilliant!

Book Fair

There will be a book fair held in the school hall after school on Monday 25th November. Please come and get some early Christmas presents – all profits go to the school.

Flu spray

Don't forget to sign up online for your child to receive the flu spray on Wednesday 4th December. The link is <https://schoolimms.virginicare.co.uk/flu/2019/wilts>

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



People will be seated in tables of 8

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

We have so much to look forward to this year and this term, the term of glitter is no exception. Events include: Whole School Pantomime trip, Nativity, AK's Got Talent Christmas Special, progress of the new build, Heroes and Heroines Church Christmas Special, Christmas lunch, Christingle among many other wonderful things!

Have a lovely weekend and thanks as always for your continued support, especially during the building works!

S.L.Saville

Mrs Saville

Head Teacher

All dates for the year are on the calendar on the school website on www.akps.org.uk to help you plan ahead

Date	Event	
Tuesday 19 th November	9.00am 1.30pm	Class 5 assembly for parents Senior Citizen afternoon
Monday 25 th November	3.30pm	Book fair in school hall
Sunday 1 st December	4.00pm 5.30pm	Christingle in church Tree lighting at pub – choir to sing
Tuesday 3 rd December	9.00am	Class 4 assembly for parents
Wednesday 4 th December		Flu spray for pupils
Tuesday 10 th December	11.30am-4.00pm	Whole school pantomime
Wednesday 11 th December	1.45-2.45pm	KS1 nativity performance – all welcome
Thursday 12 th December	9.30-10.30am 6.00-7.00pm	KS1 nativity performance – all welcome KS1 nativity performance – adults and older Siblings only please
Friday 13 th December		Christmas Jumper Day – 50p per pupil for Save the Children please AK's Got Talent – pupils only
Wednesday 18 th December		Christmas lunch – make sure you order online by Wed 11 th Dec.
Friday 20 th December	AM 1.40pm	Pocket money stalls Christmas service in Holy Cross Church including Heroes and Heroines End of Term 2
Monday 6 th January 2020	8.50am	Start of Term 3

ASHTON KEYNES

Church of England VC Primary School

SHINE BRIGHT ★ REACH FOR THE STARS



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