



Friday 2nd October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had another couple of excellent weeks in school. Every day, the children are so settled and working so hard and despite whatever continues around us in the world, school is incredibly calm, settled and happy for your children.

Classes Shining Brightly:

I am aiming to do a video for you all to see the classes in action across the school and share what I see every day in our wonderful school. I shall look forward to doing this for you very soon. For now, here are a few pictures from classes.

Class R



Class R have had a brilliant start to their first full week of school. All the children are settling into their new routines and getting to know one another. We have been so lucky with the weather and have made full use of our outside area as well as being able to have lunches outside.

A highlight of the week was their first Forest school where they were hunting for autumnal treasures and exploring the school field. Mr. Jackson told them all about the bird boxes in the trees where the owls live; we discovered the willow tunnel and saw where the school pond is. Some of

us also spotted a chicken (decorative only) hiding in one of our garden areas!



Class 1



Class 1 have been super excited scientist exploring plants. We have also been doing daily dough disco! The class have been working so hard and really enjoying their learning!



Class 2



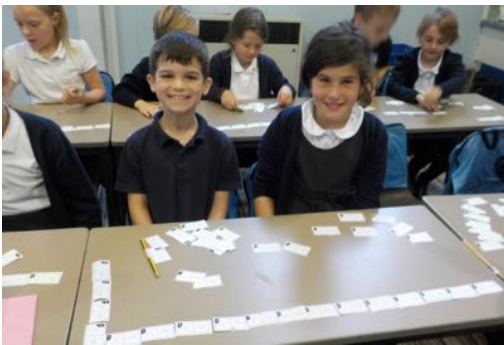
Forest school with Mr Jackson and Mrs. Willis was so much fun! The children made bug houses from things they found around the field, such as twigs and dry grass, to fill a plant pot. Mr. Jackson told them to make sure it was tightly packed and checked that they had done a good job by holding their bughouse upside down above their heads!



Class 3

We have been asking lots of questions as historians and thoroughly enjoyed our village walk! This week we are writing to local residents to ask for more historical information about the buildings in Ashton Keynes and we are really excited to receive some replies!

Class 3 were super mathematicians during our place value topic. They played a greater than/less than dominoes game and we were really impressed not only with their maths but also how well they worked in pairs.





Class 4

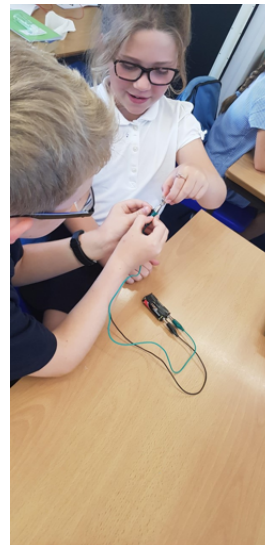


Class 4 enjoyed taking part in their first Forest School session of this year. They worked together in small groups to make a prototype for a den which they then went onto build in their teams. The children worked together carefully and developed their team building skills.



Class 5

Class 5 have had a fantastic start to the new school year. We have been investigating electrical circuits in Science, using wires, batteries and bulbs to create circuits in class! In Forest School, we built our own dens using only natural materials. We worked as teams to create the safest dens, some even had carpets! Also, on Saturday 26th September, many of Class 5 took part in the 24-hour fundraising run around the village. We all met on the Bradstone and ran a lap of the village to support the runners and help fundraise for our incredible new Learning Hub.





Class 6

Class 6 are working towards a national fencing award! All of the pupils in our school will get the opportunity to do this during year 6 as part of the unique opportunities they have on our AKPS journey. This is a very beneficial qualification as it develops: fitness, skill, resilience, perseverance, discipline and what a unique talking point for our children's future schooling careers in secondary and beyond! I am also hoping it might lead to some pupils taking up further qualifications in fencing outside school.



Whole school welcome back treat from Mrs. Saville- even more arranged for our wonderful children next week!

So next Friday we welcome Jamie Knight (top 10 in the world freestyle footballer) with his socially distanced tricks and workshops to inspire your children. I am arranging for him to sign a special freestyle ball for each class for them to keep for playtime in their bubbles. Equally as exciting on Thursday 8th, I've booked for M and M production Theatre company to bring a socially distanced production of the Wizard of Oz to our school! We sadly had to cancel our production in the Summer term so this is a special one for all classes spread out in different showings throughout the whole day! Our children benefit so much from theatre productions in terms of their confidence, speaking and listening and in developing their own performance skills and we could not let COVID 19 stop us from bringing this show to our wonderful children. It will be awesome and although involves one actor and a pre-recorded production, it is an interactive show to each of the class bubbles. I AM SO EXCITED to see the children's reaction to this! We have all worked super hard on our return to school- what better way to reward the children and staff for their efforts! Both of these events are free to families- there has been so much effort with fundraising and such a brilliant return to school, these are our way of saying thank you to you all!

Breakfast Club

We need you! Our numbers are low at the moment and in order to keep this very important provision running long term we need more children to attend. I fully appreciate things are different out there but sadly we cannot support the provision without an income from pupils attending. We previously had most days 30 children attending and currently have four on average which is not sustainable. Our Breakfast club is an incredible and very useful provision from 8am daily which we've run successfully for almost 6 years now. It would be an absolute shame for this provision to end. Thank you for your support.

After school club

The same as Breakfast club, Mighty Oaks really need numbers to keep their after school care running at our school. I am hoping things will pick up as it would be an incredible shame to lose this fantastic provision.

Both breakfast club and after school club will be sending out separate parent mails to try and support more children attending. We do appreciate this is an unusual time but both our breakfast and after school clubs are ready and staffed to receive more children.



Flu Immunisations – Nasal Spray

Virgin Care immunisation team will be in school to carry out the flu nasal spray on Monday 12th October. If you wish your child to receive this you must register using the following link:

<https://schoolimms.virgincare.co.uk/flu/2020/wilts>

Thank you all for your brilliant support of our school. Drop offs and pick-ups are working really well now and you have made that very difficult task possible so thank you ever so much!

I can't even work out where I can begin to say thank you for the fundraising efforts which have been taking place of which the 24- hour marathon was just one example but please know that we are incredibly grateful to everyone for their efforts and fabulous community spirit- your support is overwhelming!

With my very best wishes,

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

Date	Event
5 th October	School Council election speeches to class
7 th October	School Council announced
8 th October	M & M Production Theatre – Wizard of Oz
9 th October	World Freestyle footballer Jamie Knight
12 th October	Virgin Care – Flu immunization – nasal spray (registration necessary)
21 st October	TD Day – School is closed – half term holiday begins
2 nd November	Term 2 begins

ASHTON KEYNES

Church of England VC Primary School

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INVESTORS IN PEOPLE



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