



Thursday 10th March 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

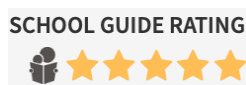
Since our return after half term we really have had a brilliant couple of weeks and been super busy in and out of school. We've been catching our children shining in their classrooms and celebrating this in many ways including time to shine. I've issued a few new forest school and sports stars and also a few children have persevered and earned their learning stars for excellent learning behaviours in school. Outside school we have had the chance to attend sporting events where we have done brilliantly and won at football and performed brilliantly in cross country too! As always we are proud of how our children beautifully represent our school but being so supportive of one another, polite and respectful.

It has been incredible to be able to return to being together for daily worship and celebration, the school needs this time together as a family. During this time, key interventions happen across the whole school to support learning and so it is excellent to have this time back again to further support the learning of our pupils. We have loved performing our iSing pop songs together to start the day in such an uplifting way, it is truly brilliant.

iSing pop concert

It was fantastic to have the opportunity to perform the new worship songs we've learnt with iSing Pop at our outdoor concert last month. The atmosphere was amazing – even the rain didn't stop us! In fact, it brightened up and stopped raining for both concerts- just as we deserved. I was massively impressed with the dancing and singing from the parents and visitors who came! All of the children shone so very brightly and I know the concert moved so many of you, as it did us. It was much needed and worth every single bit of effort in making it happen.

We now have a new set of seven beautifully thoughtful and uplifting songs with all of the moves which we will continue to use in our daily worship and so if you weren't able to join us for our concert, do not worry, we will find a chance to perform some of them for you again- maybe at the AK music festival this Summer?



PROUD TO BE A
MUSIC MARK
SCHOOL

Ashton Keynes C of E Primary, Gosditch, Ashton Keynes, Swindon, Wiltshire SN6 6NZ

Head Teacher: Mrs. S. Saville

Tel: 01285 861436 email: office@ashtonkeynes.wilts.sch.uk website: www.akps.org.uk

Lower Key Stage 2 Performance

This term, Years 3 and 4 are busy rehearsing for their performance of 'Cinderella'. This musical version of Cinderella is based on one of the poems from Roald Dahl's 'Revolting Rhymes' and promises to deliver many comedy lines! The children have all been thoroughly enjoying learning the songs, practicing their acting skills and are very much looking forward to performing to their parents and carers. Tickets will be available soon and FOAKS are offering exciting refreshments for sale at the events too!

World Book Day

March saw the 25th anniversary of World Book Day and what a celebration it was at AK! Staff and children dressed up as favourite characters from books and shared their book recommendations. What an inspiring day!



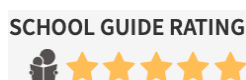
'Beanology'

As part of our mental health and wellbeing provision, all year groups took part in a second 'Beanology' workshop with Lizzie Bean, focussing on our uniqueness and individuality. Each child (and adult) made a sock puppet as part of the workshop. We then all gathered outside to celebrate our uniqueness with our sock puppets and sang 'This is Me' from the Greatest Showman. It was a really uplifting and powerful experience for all involved.



Year 2 art exhibition in the new AK Telephone Art Gallery

We love being part of this community and were delighted to be asked to be part of the new telephone box community art gallery by Kathryn Gray. Year 2 have been learning about London and so have created the first exhibition for the telephone gallery entitled "Icons of London" in the Telephone Gallery on the High Road, Ashton Keynes. The children, who are 6 and 7 years old, made some London themed lino prints which are being displayed in the new community telephone art gallery. We hope you enjoy our exhibition and look forward to other classes exhibiting at some point too. We think this is an amazing idea and are so happy to be part of it. The gallery represents just what a creative and musical village and community this is. Here is the parent mail invitation I have sent out about the gallery opening tomorrow (Saturday)



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Dear Parents/Carers,

Class 2 are delighted to announce the opening of their exhibition "Icons of London" in the Telephone Gallery on the High Road, Ashton Keynes. The gallery will be officially opened by the Parish Council and David Hartland, owner of the Cotswold Sculpture Park at 12 noon on Saturday 12th March. I do hope you'll be at the Grand Opening!

The school is so honoured to be selected to have an exhibition there and we look forward to future opportunities to have exhibitions there.

For more information, take a look at the website [The Telephone Gallery](#)

Best wishes, Mrs Saville

Information about the community gallery is also in the Wilts and Glos newspaper on this link:

[Art gallery housed within Cotswold phone box to open this weekend | Wilts and Gloucestershire Standard \(wiltsglosstandard.co.uk\)](#)

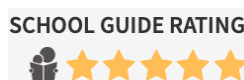
Everyone is so busy in school, there is some fabulous learning taking place indoors and outdoors through forest school and sports and children are enjoying accessing our broad and rich bespoke 'Shine Curriculum'. We have a full range of diverse and rich texts at the heart of our curriculum across all subjects to inspire our learning and support our love of reading. You can see our curriculum offer on our website and examples of the children's work in class pages at www.akps.org.uk

Cosy Cabin

You might have heard your children talking about this- we are delighted to have developed a new area which utilises at lunch times the mobile classroom which we use for our after school club by providing a special activity on Monday, Wednesday and Fridays called the cosy cabin. This is set up and run by two of our trained ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant) staff members. They open the cabin as a space for children to access mindful activities, have some calm cosy time but also have access to ELSAs to talk should they have any worries or need some advice at lunchtimes. Day one was very popular and they had 52 visitors to the cabin enjoying the array of calming mindful activities. A few children have really benefitted by having this additional time to talk with an adult too. The children are helping develop the space and we are developing wellbeing pupil ambassadors to support with this and there is a unique orange star badge available for children who take up these roles.

AK stars

You may notice your child coming home with new coloured star pin badges which they have earned. In addition to our special learning stars (red, gold, silver or pink) which are earned for achieving their 10 learning behaviour challenges, children can now earn blue stars for sports and green stars for forest school, each with specific 5 point criteria they need to display regularly. The criteria are shared with the children but also on our website under forest school and PE. Children are proud to be ambassadors for the school and wear their stars with pride. Our next star is the orange wellbeing star for pupils who work across the school to actively support with our work with wellbeing and mental health- I will be launching these soon with the children. We do in addition have special stars arriving for those pupils who contribute to our pupil councils:



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school and worship/Global advocacy councils. Our pupil councils are very active in school and again information on these can be found on our website.

Parent Consultation Evenings

Please be reminded that parent and carer consultation evenings will be taking place next week for all classes except class 3 who are the week after as Mrs Smith is away. The sign up system went live this week on Monday.

Tomorrow, if you have a child in Years 1-6, you will receive a mid- year report to give you a clear indication of how your children are performing in core subjects and the effort and attitudes they are displaying in these subjects. All classes receive a full annual report at the end of the Summer term.

At the consultation you will be given targets which your child is working on so that you are aware and can support at home too. It will be brilliant that you can see the children's work in books as we have missed you seeing this. At parents evening, staff will refer to attendance as they will have the figures with them to ensure you are informed about how that is looking. We look forward to seeing you next week. We will call you if we notice you have not signed up as these are the designated evenings to discuss your child's progress and it is really important you attend.

Vacancies at AKPS

We are always on the lookout for additional people to join our great MDSA team during the lunch hour 12.15-1.15 daily. If you are/ know anyone who could be interested in the Midday Supervisor role in the school, please contact the school office for more information. All appointments at AKPS are subject to safeguarding checks and child protection training is provided by the school.

Thank you for your continued support in working with us to provide the very best we can for your children.

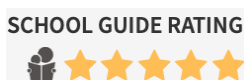
With my very best wishes,

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 ahead

Date	Event
Friday 11 th March	Mid-year reports sent home with child
Saturday 12 th March	Community Telephone gallery opening 12 noon
Monday 14 th March	Yr 5 Play leadership workshop (wear PE kit)
Tuesday 15 th March	Parents consultation evening
Wednesday 16 th March	Parents consultation evening



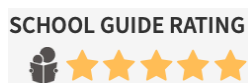
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Wednesday 16 th March	School photographer – Whole class photos
Thursday 17 th March	Parents consultation evening
Friday 18 th March	Red Nose Day – Dress down, wear something red 50p voluntary donation
Monday 21 st March	Reception class – Hearing & vision check with school nurse
Friday 25 th March	Pocket money stalls – Mother’s day
Tuesday 29 th March	Yrs 3 & 4 performance ‘Cinderella’
Wednesday 30 th March	Yrs 3 & 4 performance ‘Cinderella’
Wednesday 6 th April	Yrs 1 & 2 trip to ‘We the curious’
Friday 8 th April	Heroes & Heroines 2:30 pm playground Last day of term
Monday 25 th April	Start of term 5



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