



Monday 24th July 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Shining Brightly:

We are reaching the end of another busy year! This term has been action packed with Sports Week, residentials, visiting musicians, RIAT 2023 and Shine Fest. We are always making the most of every minute at AKPS and giving the children exciting opportunities to shine very brightly. In this final newsletter for the year, we will share highlights from each of the classes and some ways in which the school have shone brightly too!

Class R

What a fantastic year Class R have had! As we start to welcome our new September starters with induction visits we reflect on the wonderful year our current class have had and all that they have achieved. It is always the last two terms where we see all aspects of the children's learning come together and the children successes can be celebrated.



It's been a couple of terms of 'firsts' with our first Class Assembly, our first Class Trip and our first Sports Week to name but a few. Making healthy smoothies on Mel Tim's smoothie bike was a firm favourite during Sports Week and we loved the chance to create them, mix them and, of course, drink them!



Always willing to dress up and get into character, we had a great time becoming pirates and mermaids for the day. Walking the plank became a little risky although, fortunately, no one actually got eaten by a shark! Basing our learning this term on the books 'The Snail and the Whale' and 'The Pirates next door', has inspired so much fantastic writing including stories, lists and information. We have learnt so many interesting new words and phrases that have really enhanced our knowledge and understanding of life in and under the sea.

It has been a fabulous year and we are so proud of all the children and the fantastic start they have had to their AK school journey. A big thank you must also go to the parents and carers of this class who have been so supportive and played such an important role in the superb progress the children have made.





Class 1

As we come to the end of this final term, we find ourselves looking back on all the fabulous things we have achieved as a class. This term is always a jam packed one and the one that the children seem to enjoy the most and also the one in which we see the children grow the most! We have had our Class Assembly, Sports Week, a school trip just to name a few and all have been thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.



Our topic on deserts and the 'Emperor's Egg saw us heading out on a school trip to Cotswold Wildlife park, a place a lot of the children had been to before and absolutely loved it with us too.

The children loved exploring the park and seeing all the amazing animals. The children were excited to see some of the animals they had been learning about including camels and meerkats. Unfortunately, one of the children dropped their sun hat into the

meerkat enclosure, luckily it was soon retrieved!

We have been getting creative in Class 1 and tried our hands at sewing. We were so impressed with the children's perseverance and excitement to try something new. Everyone worked so hard to produce their very own hand puppet. This perseverance and enthusiasm is something we have seen in all of the children every single day; they have produced some beautiful pieces of writing, tackled some tricky maths and investigated in science and history.



Sports Week was brilliant and was topped off with a superb sports morning. We were so proud of how the children celebrated everyone throughout and gave encouragement to their friends. The highlight of the week was definitely the inflatable obstacle course, so much fun was had clambering through and racing each other to the end!

It has been a truly fantastic year and we are so proud of each and every one of you. The journey is only just beginning and we cannot wait to see how far you can reach and brightly you can shine. A big thank you must also go out to the parents and carers, your support throughout the year and has been greatly appreciated and is reflected in the progress all the children have made.





Class 2 had a lovely trip to Cotswold Wildlife Park in term 5. The children loved seeing all the animals. Amongst the highlights were the penguin feeding session, visiting the lemur enclosure where there were some gorgeous baby lemurs and of course the train ride! A great day was had by all.



conversations, setting descriptions and inner monologues. Most recently they have designed their own covers for the book and written super 'blurbs' to encourage people to read the story. Here are some examples by Alfie & Daisy



THE SECRET OF THE BLACK ROCK

Ella is a young girl that lives in a fishing town about 40 miles away from the secret of black rock...





Class 3

What a year Class 3 have had! They've been on trips, produced some wonderful pieces of work, grown as individuals, and most

recently, had their camp out at school. We had such a fantastic time with them: they were so wonderfully behaved – playing with one another, lovely manners at the dinner table and they did well with regards to sleeping too (thank goodness!) Not only have we had our camp out, but also Sports Week, ending with Sports Day on the Friday, which was a huge success. They supported one another, showed excellent teamwork and ultimately proved (not that there was any doubt!) what a really wonderful class they are.

Though it's the end of the year and there are lots of lovely things going on, we are still working hard, especially on our Maths and English. The children have been focusing on time and shape this term and are showing an excellent understanding. In writing, we've been using figurative language and are now creating stories based on our class book. The children are relishing the challenge of using high level vocabulary alongside similes, metaphors and personification.



We're so proud of you and the year you've had, Year 3, and we'll be so sad to see you go! We hope you

you



have the most wonderful Summer – all absolutely deserve it!





Class 4

The final terms in Year 4 have been an absolute delight. The children have grown so much and I can hardly believe it is already time to send them on their journey to the upper juniors (though they are all definitely ready for this!).

Sports Week was a particular highlight for the children and they demonstrated strength, resilience, perseverance and fantastic team work skills! They particularly enjoyed the scooting lessons and enjoyed watching the tricks that were demonstrated before giving some of them a go.

In Art, the children have learned about minimalism and used this knowledge to create some minimalistic sculptures. They had a fantastic time getting

creative and producing these and the results were very striking!



The children also loved having the WOMAD visitors in, teaching them some African drumming on Djembe drums! They learned to play some 'listen and repeat' tunes as well as trialing a little bit of improvisation. The team also got them up on their feet and moving to the fantastic beats of the drums.

In science, we have been learning about the digestive system and the children got stuck in and got their hands dirty running an experiment that showed the journey our food goes on – you can tell from their faces how they enjoyed this one!

In their English lessons, the focus has been around the book '*Leon and the Place Between*' where they described settings, characters, imagined new places Leon could have been sent and then finally wrote their very own stories using inspiration from the plot of the book. Their writing has progressed fantastically this year and I am

so proud of every single one of them for the time, care and effort they put in to these stories.



INVESTORS IN PEOPLE



keeping a close eye on how much they continue to

<p>with an adult. I can write a writing description to describe my emotions and my current state.</p> <p>I can write two paragraphs.</p> <p>I can include at least one example of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sensory Metaphor Personification <p>I can use capital letters and full stop punctuation.</p>	<p>writing description to describe my emotions and my current state.</p> <p>I can write two paragraphs.</p> <p>I can include at least two examples of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sensory Metaphor Personification Alliteration Onomatopoeia <p>I can use bracketed adverbs.</p> <p>I can include a semi-colon.</p>	<p>to describe my emotions and my current state.</p> <p>I can write two paragraphs.</p> <p>I can include at least two examples of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sensory Metaphor Personification Alliteration Onomatopoeia <p>I can use bracketed adverbs.</p> <p>I can include at least one semi-colon and a Oxide sentence.</p> <p>I can use 3+ vocabulary choices.</p>
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[illegible]

<p>with an aside. I can write with an aside to describe the employees and its current status.</p> <p>I can write two paragraphs.</p> <p>I can include at least one example of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simple • Metaphor • Personification • Alliteration <p>I can use capital letters and full stops accordingly.</p>	<p>writing paragraphs to describe the employees and its current status.</p> <p>I can write two paragraphs.</p> <p>I can include at least two examples of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simple • Metaphor • Personification • Alliteration • Onomatopoeia <p>I can use frused adverbials.</p> <p>I can include a semi-colon.</p>	<p>to describe the employees and its current status.</p> <p>I can write two paragraphs.</p> <p>I can include at least two examples of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simple • Metaphor • Personification • Alliteration • Onomatopoeia <p>I can use frused adverbials.</p> <p>I can include at least one semi-colon and a Duple sentence.</p> <p>I can use two complex clauses.</p>
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 **OUTSTANDING**



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residential

building activities including
involved climbing a very tall,
swinging
overcame
challenging
back
everything
loved every

to Viney Hill and took part in lots of fun team
canoeing, caving and the leap of faith – which
wobbling tower and then jumping onto a
bar! Children and staff
fears to conquer these
activities. They all came
buzzing about
they had done and
minute!



Class 6

Year 6 has been a busy year filled with some amazing events from creating a school rap song, to listening to Zangi, having a comic cartoon artist teach us comic writing skills, winning trophies in the Mock Trials, National Maths Competitions and of course our school residential in London. All of these have enriched our learning and understanding of the world.



INVESTORS IN PEOPLE



Healthy School



We have been very busy in the last few weeks of term. **★ REACH FOR THE STARS**

finishing off our time here at AKPS. In English we looked at the Lady of Shalott poem and picked apart its adventurous language. We produced a mini play for our Leavers' assembly which we loved getting ready for; the children dressed as pensioner versions of themselves, entertaining parents and carers with their fond memories of our school. It was brilliant and well received. We played rounders against the parents (who won- only just!).



We are now getting ready to move onto new secondary schools (Kings hill, Deer Park, Farmors, Kings, Rendcomb, Westonbirt, The Crypt, Ribston Hall, Malmesbury, Marling, Stroud High, Bradon Forest) and looking forward to our future adventures in education.



Year 6 Mathematicians made it to national final!

Jemima, Nate, Ruben and Tristan competed as a team in the Quiz Club National Inter-School

Championships in Oxford. They competed against 599 other teams in the area heats and 167 other schools in the semi-finals to gain a place in the Grand Final at Oxford University.

Cheered on by their parents, Mrs Saville and Miss Redman they came 11th out of 40 teams. The questions were mind bogglingly difficult and we are incredibly proud of their fantastic achievement.



Year 6 London Residential

After completing their SATs, Y6 had a much-deserved trip to London. They took in all the sights, including climbing to the very top of Saint Paul's Cathedral, a ride on the London Eye, experiencing the thrills of Shrek Adventures and enjoying the enthralling West End Show, The Lion King. They even got to go white water rafting in the Olympic rafting centre in Lee Valley which they were thrilled to do! All children and staff had a brilliant time and have made memories they will cherish.





Year 6 SATs

★ REACH FOR THE STARS

We are so proud of our Year 6 and they have secured well above national outcomes in all areas of their KS2 SATs tests 2023 with a staggering 94% achieving the expectation across Reading, Writing and Maths. They have made such stunning progress from when the class



started with us, every single pupil has thrived, we are delighted! We are always proud of the exceptional level our Year 6 pupils leave us at. Whatever their starting point, the progress is phenomenal and the high-quality teaching and learning, together with the



rich bespoke Shine Curriculum, ensures that pupils have the best opportunities and experiences enabling them to thrive here and to be more than ready for their next steps in education.

Sports Week and Sports morning

Mr Tanner organised another exciting Sports Week for AKPS. All children got to participate in a wide range of sports including Archery, Cricket, Rugby, Scooting and Martial Arts. Mel Tim brought in the smoothie bike so children could make a healthy and nutritious drink whilst exercising at the same time! We organised



professional scooting teachers to come in and work with the children to teach them about scooting safely and responsibly and how to do safe tricks.

The sun shone brightly for AK Sports Day and families were able to enjoy watching their children compete in various sporting challenges including javelin, jumping, seated throw and of course the track races. This year there were two KS1 winning teams: Jupiter and Saturn. The KS2 winning house was Jupiter. We were supported by the Sports Leaders from Kingshill and ex-pupils who did a sterling job helping run the events. They all enjoyed time on our large



inflatable assault course too! A great week was had by all and a diverse range of sports experienced and links made with local clubs. All finished with an ice pop for every child from the school as a well-done treat!

Womad Musicians African Drumming Workshop

We were so lucky to be joined by **Jamo Jamo Arts**, inspirational and talented West African musicians, dancers and singers based in the UK, for an African drumming experience. The whole school experienced





them first in an assembly and then

classes 3 and 4 ★ REACH FOR THE STARS

had workshops using the djembe drums which

they loved. They were talented and inspired us all.

We also sang an iSing pop song for them which they loved.

Disco

Thank you to the FOAKS team and volunteers for providing the children with an end of year disco. The children really loved it and there was a great array of glitter, temporary tattoos and glow jewellery on offer too and some yummy food. Year 6 impressed me massively as they hit the dance floor for the entire time and loved every second of dancing together in their final few days at school; I loved boogying along with them! It was great, thank you very much.



Shine Fest

We were delighted to organise and hold a special music festival for the community to celebrate our incredible Ofsted Inspection Report and to celebrate our love of music. Current and past pupils performed beautifully for us on instruments and in the choir. Even with power cuts and heavy rain, they still sang on through. We were delighted to be joined by the Village choir, Siren Sisters and the Aksionals who helped us party until the end. It was the perfect event and so much love and happiness could be seen throughout the evening. Thank you to all who contributed and came.

Reflecting back on this year, it has been another brilliant one, packed full of incredible opportunities for our pupils and I am very proud to be Headteacher of this amazing school, at the end of my ninth year! Time certainly does fly! We all look forward to welcoming everyone back safe and well after the Summer Holidays and to welcoming our full class of new Reception children as they join the school family. Have a lovely Summer and we will see you back at 8.45am prompt on Friday 1st September for another amazing year together!

Your proud Headteacher,
Mrs. Saville x

Please see the calendar on www.akps.org.uk for full dates of events.

