



14<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Shining Brightly:

Our children are amazing. I am always so proud as I walk around the school and watch them learning or showing excellent manners around the school. Recently, I lost my voice for a week and the whole school were incredible, they are so supportive, kind, caring and respectful, supporting whole school worship led in silence! I have particularly enjoyed watching them absolutely adore playing their new sport, Quidditch, it really is a big hit at AKPS!



### Cross country

It was so great to receive positive emails and comments from parents about the children who attended the recent local cross country event. It was lovely to read comments about how supportive our children were of one another, how brilliant their behaviour was. They all did really well and also achieved a 1<sup>st</sup> in the girls event and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the boys. Well done to all who took part, thank you for your team spirit.



### Girls' Football Team



Mr Hockaday, myself and a group of parents were so impressed with the AKPS girls football team who recently took part in a local tournament. The girls were brilliant, they really supported one another and all put in maximum effort with real respect for other players from other teams. They all played with a smile on their faces despite the cold weather! They won all of their tournament games with a clean sheet and then narrowly lost 1-0 in a very exciting final, which was an exceptional game and they almost won it! The save Imogen did as goalie in the final was incredible. She was

so focused and determined- I still don't know how she managed to save that goal! Every single one of them shone their socks off individually and together. What a super team effort and their behavior on and off the pitch made us super proud of you.

### Children's Mental Health and Wellbeing Week



Firstly, a huge thank you to the Wellbeing ambassadors, particularly Isabelle and Isla in Year 6 who helped plan and run this excellent week for the whole school. Each day was focused on one of the 5 ways to wellbeing and all based on Place2Be's theme 'Know yourself, Grow yourself'. I enjoyed visiting every class as part of 'connect' to deliver the MISP (Massage in schools peer programme). I was absolutely blown away by all classes but

especially Class R, they were so calm and just brilliant, really taking great care of one another and thoroughly enjoying the session. For 'Be active' the whole school





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thoroughly enjoyed a day of Quidditch. It really is a fabulous sport combining dodge ball, basketball, netball and some creative magic. For sports week we will make sure we get parents and carers involved with a Quidditch session led by our KS2 pupils. The week ended with a dress down day for 'Give' with an option to donate a small amount to Place2Be children's mental health charity, who provided most of the resources we used in classes throughout the week including 'know yourself' bingo. The wellbeing ambassadors worked hard to provide lunchtime activities every day linked to the theme of the day and these were really enjoyed by all classes. It was a great week.

### Magistrates Visit- Rule of Law in action

Every year we are fortunate to be able to be part of the Cirencester Mock trials competition and have a special educational visit for the class from two magistrates to teach them about the rule of Law. The children learnt about the differences between a crown court and a magistrates court and had the opportunity to ask questions. The children also worked in pairs to do some detective work involving spotting 20 crimes taking place in a street photo.

Every child in Year 6 gets to experience this opportunity and further take part in class-based trials. From this a small team go on to represent the school in the Cirencester mock trial competition. I look forward to updating you on how they do in the trials in March.

### Message from School Council

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have decided to do Red Nose day again this year after having a break for a while. We understand we are an affordable school but we think this is a great charity and our school will enjoy it. We have ordered red noses which will be on sale from 17<sup>th</sup> March at the retail price of £2 per nose. It is a collection of 'Best red noses from over the decades'. We will take the noses around the classes and once bought, they should be taken home and kept for use at home and named so that they can be worn on the dress down day. The dress down day for Comic relief will be Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March. Children can come dressed in their own clothes or wear red and can bring their noses if named to wear on that day. As we are selling noses we won't ask for a dress down donation to make it affordable. If you want to donate you can do this on the comic relief website.

Thank you

Imogen (Y6) and School Council

Note from Mrs Saville: we are trying to book the exciting return of marvel and Beano graphic artist Kev F Sutherland for Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March- so watch this space- he will do a whole school exciting assembly and then workshops with Upper KS2.

### Mighty Oaks Potential Vacancy for cover

Mighty Oaks may be recruiting for help with cover for their after-school provision at AKPS particularly for Fridays and any other days where staff are off. The person needs to be able to drive and have a car and willing to undertake safeguarding and food preparation training. We are very thankful to have the team from Mighty Oaks provide our after-school wrap around care so are keen to spread the word to help them fill any vacancies and keep the provision running every week day. If you are interested please contact Miles on [miles@acornscirencester.com](mailto:miles@acornscirencester.com)

### World Book Week March 3<sup>rd</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>



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We have recently sent you advanced notice about the exciting upcoming plans for World book week commencing Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March. We are very excited to be providing for all children two exciting musical theatre and dance workshops inspired by book and film. This will be really exciting and it is brilliant to be celebrating the importance of reading and our love of books through creativity. School council will be in touch about their exciting plans for red nose day, after half term.

School will be open as usual on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February.

May I take this opportunity, on behalf of the school, to wish you all a restful half term and thank you for your continued support. We look forward to welcoming you all back to school on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at 8.45am.

Best wishes,

*Mrs Saville*

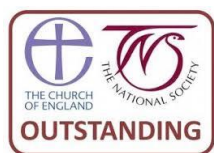
Mrs Saville

*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. All newsletters and annual overviews have been sent to parents and carers but can also be found on class pages of our website.*

# ASHTON KEYNES

Church of England VC Primary School

SHINE BRIGHT ★ REACH FOR THE STARS



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