

# Newsletter

Middle Barton Primary School,  
27 Church Lane,  
Middle Barton,  
Chipping Norton,  
Oxon. OX7 7BX.  
01869 340522  
office.2151@middle-  
barton.oxon.sch.uk  
www.middlebartonschool.co.uk



Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2017 Issue 13

## Family Focus activity session

It was great to see lots of families at this event on Tuesday this week. Modge said, 'We played games with balls - some were heavy and some were light.' Thank you Miss Trafford and Mrs Henderson for organising this fun event.

## Farewell to Reverend Arthur!

Today we invited Reverend and Mrs Arthur into assembly to present them with a thank you card and gifts for their ongoing and supportive contribution to our school. Although they don't technically finish until the middle of January, we wanted to take this opportunity to show our appreciation for their valued input into school life.

## **WELL DONE!** to the following pupils who received awards this week:

**Acorns Class Values Star:** Nate Barrow-Grint

**Chestnuts Class Values Star:** Harry Cruickshank

**Sycamores Class Values Star:** Honey Harris

**Maples Class Values Star:** Aaron Fraser

**Willows Class Values Star:** Eden Galbraith

**Oaks Class Values Star:** Tegan Cox

**Reading star:** Tom Harris

**Writing star:** Jonathan Denby

**Maths star:** Jasper Furlong

**PE star:** Taylor Hogan

**Lunchtime star:** Evie Gilleberg

**Best class attendance:** Chestnuts (99.44%)

**Role-model of the week:** Emily Ridgway



## Message from the Headteacher

I hope that parents' evening this week gave you a good opportunity to find out about your child's strengths and areas for development, as well as their attainment and progress.

Yesterday morning we had a Health and Safety inspection in school and received an impressive 100%! Huge thanks to Mrs Pangu who leads and co-ordinates much of this work. We are delighted with the result. Next Thursday (14<sup>th</sup>) it is Christmas dinner in school – there is no need to book in advance but if your child does not normally have lunch on Thursdays, please send in an extra £2.20 in advance. Please do encourage your child to bring a cracker into school to enjoy this festive occasion. Thank you. (To avoid two roast dinners in succession, Wednesday next week will be a pasta day instead).

Please can all the KS2 children bring a Santa hat into school next week for Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> to Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December next week for Carol Service rehearsals and performances – all will be revealed! Also, can all children playing an instrument (recorders, clarinet), please have their instrument in school Wednesday to Friday too? A final practice of songwords for all KS2 children would also be appreciated over the weekend. Thank you. Please could anyone driving to the church for Friday's Carol Service (1.45pm) avoid Church Lane there and back, as the children will be walking along it. We are sad that our Home School Link worker, Becky Bishop, will be finishing with us at Christmas and are therefore interested in appointing a new person to the role. Please see the accompanying details of the post which is also being advertised through Oxfordshire County Council and do ask in the office if you would like to talk through the role with myself or Miss Smith, prior to applying. Please can any panto reply slips/monies be handed in by Monday – thank you. Please remember 50p for a cake next Friday! The Daily Mile has now finished for the term and will recommence in January.. Finally, a reminder that the deadline for primary school applications is 15<sup>th</sup> January.

### Patrol crossing

There will be no patrol crossing on Monday morning or afternoon – apologies for any inconvenience caused.

### Able, gifted and talented mathematician

Well done to Florence in Y6 who planned and led a practical maths session for Willows class this week – a natural teacher in the making!

### Nativity performances and arrangements

The children are looking forward to presenting their nativity, 'A King is born' on Tuesday evening and Wednesday afternoon next week (as well as a performance on Monday afternoon for KS2 pupils). Please could the FS and KS1 children return to the two classrooms in the older building, ready to get changed into costumes, between 5.30pm and 5.40pm on Tuesday evening. Thank you.

### Global Learning assembly

In addition to our values-themed assemblies, each term we incorporate a Global Learning assembly into our schedule. On Monday this marked International Day of disability (which was last Sunday) and we were pleased to welcome governor, Richard Brown, to share his expertise in this area.

### Christmas parties

On Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December each class will be having a party in the afternoon and on that day the children are welcome to come to school in their party clothes (although sensible footwear for playtimes is helpful). In addition, a small donation of the following food will be gratefully received for a party tea (lunches will run as usual):

**Acorns:** Chopped up fruit

**Chestnuts:** Squash, juices (no fizzy drinks please)

**Sycamores:** Savoury snacks

**Maples:** Biscuits

**Willows:** Savoury snacks

**Oaks:** Pack of paper plates or cups

Please can we all ensure that none of the above products contain nuts. Thank you in advance. We will also ensure that all dietary requirements are catered for.

### Choir update

Well done to the choir for a lovely performance at Sunday's Christingle service. On Tuesday afternoon this week our choir sang a couple of Christmas songs which will be broadcast on Radio Oxford on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 7.45am and 8.45am. Don't forget to tune in! Also, just a reminder that the Young Voices trip is on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January – please make sure your children listen to the music over and over, during the Christmas holidays!

### Santa Sleigh

Just a reminder that we are hoping Santa will be making an appearance on his sleigh through the village on Sunday evening between 5pm and 8pm, starting at The Fox and ending at school. Please give generously – all profits will be split between school and preschool.

### Sickness

If your child has a sickness bug, we recommend that he/she is off school for 24 hours but are happy for you to use your discretion on their readiness to return to school. Thank you.

### Christmas Jumper day

It was lovely to see the children wearing all sorts of varied Christmas jumpers, along with their school uniform today. As well as looking and feeling Christmassy, we also managed to raise £101.60 for Spinal Muscular Atrophy, a charity close to our hearts.

## OUR YEAR 6 RESIDENTIAL

Welcome to our special edition of the newsletter!

Oak Class went to Woodlands, in Glasbury - located in Wales - last week for four nights.

Read all about what we got up to!

*Don't forget to check out the pictures on the school website too!*

**Caving**  
**'Caving is such an exciting yet nerve-racking experience which isn't something you do everyday. Our class were split into 2 groups and visited two different caves. One cave was home to many bats and the other had a river running through it!'**

**Caving continued...**  
**'For some people, it was something they felt comfortable with but others found it quite challenging. When we were in the cave, we not only walked but had to crawl, or even slide to fit through various spaces and gaps.'**

**Written by Emily, Rosa, Tyler and Charlie**

**'I enjoyed having the opportunity to do something really different' - Faith**



Group 1 caving



Group 2 Climbing

**Duties**  
During our week at Woodlands, we had a range of duties to carry out which included: hoovering, sweeping and cleaning (YES...really!).  
During the evening, we slept in dormitories with our friends. The rooms were named after various towns and slept from 2-8 people!  
**Written by Abi, Faith, Tash and Ellie**

## Food

There was a variety of scrumptious food on offer every evening. Meals included fish and chips (yummy!), steamed pudding; which was absolutely amazing, jam tart, chilli and nachos, and many more! We had to make sure we ate a lot because we were incredibly busy all day!

***"I loved the food, especially the puddings" - Sophie Jones***

**Written by Abi, Faith, Tash and Ellie**





### High Ropes

'At Glasbury there was a high ropes course, which was located high up in different trees on site. Firstly, we had to climb up a net to get to the first platform. Each tree had a different platform to connect various obstacles.

These obstacles ranged from a zip

wire from one tree to another

(it was so fun!)

### Canoeing

'On Thursday, a morning filled with snow flurries- the whole class went canoeing together. We canoed along a man-made canal which we learnt had transported equipment, such as coal, during the 1700s. It housed some angry ducks and many bridges. The scenery was amazing during the journey down the canal. We worked as a pair to steer down the canal. Halfway through the journey, our groups crossed paths - well, canals!'

Written by Harry H, Ella-Rose and Tegan

### High ropes continued...

'Don't worry, we were very safe though! We wore very helmets and also wore harnesses which were attached to the ropes - we had to clip ourselves to different sections of the course. We relied on an 'expert' who was positioned at each platform along the course.



### Climbing Wall and Zip wire

'We went on a climbing wall - 49 planks high. We were all a little bit scared but we managed to tackle this fear and some of us even made it to the top! We also went on a zip wire, it felt like we were flying because there weren't any seats! Throughout the session, most people conquered their fears and would love to do it again!'

Written by Sophie, Florence, Erin and Johnny  
"The fact that you'd accomplished the climb was amazing" - Harry H

"It was a really memorable week, I will never forget it" - Faith

"IT WAS THE BEST WEEK OF MY LIFE, SO FAR, DESPITE WORRYING BEFORE I WENT!" - JESS

"I will cherish these memories forever" - Emily

"What a fantastic week! The children were brilliant and definitely made my experiences memorable" - Miss Bingham

"It was an amazing experience and I would definitely recommend it to others"

"By the end, it felt like I could manage anything!" - Florence  
- Rosa

**"When I came back, I had no regrets about my decisions" - Natasha**

"It was enjoyable!" - Johnny