

Newsletter

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Friday 9th June 2017 Issue 34

Phonics tests and assessments

Next week it is assessment week for Y1, Y3, Y4 and Y5. It is also the statutory Y1 phonics tests. The results of all of these will be shared with you through your child's annual report at the beginning of July.

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

Acorns Class: Gracie Jlott

Chestnuts Class: Isabel Higgs

Sycamores Class: Louis Bray

Willows Class: Eden Galbraith

Oaks Class: Harry Belcher

Reading star of the week: Marley Cherry

Writing star of the week: Florence Pearce

Maths star of the week: Harley Harrison and Summer Harrison

PE star of the week: Hannah Pearce

Lunchtime award: Jonathan Denby

Smartest dressed: Millie Bryan

Growth mindset: Madison Panting

Role-model of the week: Emily Ridgway



Message from the Headteacher

I am now pleased to confirm the staffing arrangements for September and the number of children in each class which are as follows:

FS (21): Mrs Sophie Cox

Y1 (18): Miss Amy Reynolds (new appointment)

Y2 (26): Miss Emma Trafford

Y3 (25): Miss Hannah Smith

Y4/5 (27): Mrs Helena Rothwell

Y6 (22): Miss Alex Bingham

All the teachers are full-time.

We are delighted to be able to move from five to six classes for the next academic year and to have 139 children on roll – our best yet in the last 4 years! In addition, we are thrilled to be able to maintain our low class sizes for the forthcoming year.

It is also a good time to let you know that Mrs Katie Smith will be leaving the school in July after nine years. Mrs Smith began at the school as a Newly Qualified Teacher and has made a significant contribution to the life of the school over that time and particularly in recent years. She has been successful in securing a deputy headship at a large primary school in Witney. We will miss her but know that this is a positive and exciting next step for her in her career.

I am delighted to announce that in September, following on from internal interviews, Miss Bingham has been successful in taking on the maths subject leader role and will join the Senior Leadership Team, along with myself and Mrs Rothwell. In addition, Miss Smith has been successfully appointed to SENDCo. All the panel of senior leaders and governors involved in these appointments are confident that they will both make an excellent contribution to continue the very positive direction of our school. Further details regarding TA support will follow in a few weeks time, once all the final provision has been arranged and agreed.

Class assembly

If your child is in Willows class (Y3/4), don't forget that their class assembly is being held on Friday 16th June (next week!) at 9.05am in the school hall.

Refreshments will also be available afterwards. We look forward to welcoming you.

Forthcoming dates for Term 6

Week beginning 12th June: Y1 phonics tests and assessments for Y1, Y3, Y4 and Y5

Wednesday 14th June: Cricket tournament

Friday 16th June: Class assembly for Willows (9.05am); Cycling proficiency starts for Y5 Gp 2

Thursday 22nd June: PLT at conference (am); Choir at Dorchester Abbey (pm)

Friday 23rd June: Open morning for all parents 8.45-9.15am

Wednesday 28th June: Changeover morning for whole school and new FS parents' evening (6.30pm)

Sunday 2nd July: Fete (12-2pm)

Week beginning Monday 3rd July: Health and fitness week

Tuesday 4th July: Bake Off CNPS

Wednesday 5th and Thursday 6th July: KS2 at theatre (performances at 2pm and 6pm on Thursday 6th)

Friday 7th July: Sports day first choice

Friday 14th July: Sports day second choice (if wet on 7th July; if wet on both dates, the event will be cancelled).

Monday 17th July: Whole school Science day

Tuesday 18th July: FS/KS1 trip

Wednesday 19th July: KS2 trip

Thursday 20th July: Talent show and helper tea

Friday 21st July: Leavers' assembly and break up, 2pm

FS/KS1 and KS2 trips

The letters about these will be coming out next week. We have been considering our booking for Kidzania for KS2 very carefully and, after much liaising with the county, the police and Kidzania itself about the security and potential risks, have decided to change the nature of this trip, in light of the recent attacks in London. We hope this will reassure you as parents and show how vigilant we are about providing positive and safe experiences for all our children. Further details about both the FS/KS1 and the KS2 trip will follow next week.

Assembly update

On Monday our whole school assembly explored the General Election – what is involved in the voting process and who are the main parties to vote for. We hope to encourage our children to become interested and engaged voters by the time they are 18! We also had a minute's silence in assembly on Monday to reflect on those who lost their lives in last weekend's attacks in London. This term the value in assemblies will be 'Courage'

Railway visitor

Willows class (Y3/4) were delighted to welcome Vic Belcher (father of Harry and George) to their classroom yesterday to talk about his work as a manager for First Great Western, which links to the class topic on railways. Thank you, Mr Belcher!

Welcome to new pupil!

Welcome to Louis Bray who has joined our Y2 class this week. We hope you will really enjoy being part of our school community, Louis!

School crossing patrol

There will be no school crossing patrol on Thursday 15th June. Apologies for any inconvenience caused.

FOMBS update

We are looking forward to our big annual event, the school fete, on Sunday 2nd July between 12 and 2pm. We'll be looking for help to man the stands and the signing up list will go up shortly. Do please let school know if you can help for an hour or more. We are also looking for soft toys and teddies (with all the quality puzzles and board games (with all the pieces). Just a reminder that icecreams will now be on sale on Friday afternoons between 3 and 3.15pm for this half-term – whatever the weather!

Dragon's Den

It was rather nerve-racking in Oaks classroom on Tuesday morning as the Dragon's Den panel (Mrs Tailby and Ms Houghton, governor) were presented with ten different and enterprising business plans. The panel were extremely impressed with the quality of the presentations, the consideration of costings and the entrepreneurial spirit demonstrated throughout. Eat your heart out, Alan Sugar! Particular well done to the teams who created the SATs Hider, the Work Scanner and the Pull and Sleep products – fantastic!

Thank you too to Ms Houghton for giving up her time and expertise to come and judge.

KS2 production update

Rehearsals are now well underway for this exciting event on Thursday 6th July. If you haven't yet bought tickets for family, friends and neighbours, please call the theatre box office on 01608 642350. Tickets are available for both the afternoon and evening performances.

Please could you encourage your child to learn all their words and use the CD to practice the songs as much as possible. Thank you.

If your child's costume requirement is causing any problems, do let us know as soon as possible so that we can help out. Thank you.

A thank you from Archie Street!

'I would like to say a big thank you to all the families who supported me on my charity cycle ride from Ravensglass to South Shields (coast to coast) in four days. Overall, I managed to raise over £1300 so far for Coeliac UK.'

Well done, Archie, from us all!

Marathon update!

Well done to the following children for half marathons:

Olly H, Jamie, Archie Stewart, Lauren, Lizzie and Tash

One and a half marathons: Oscar B

Two marathons (!): Gabriel

Bake Off finalist!

We were delighted to welcome local baker, Deborah Bailey, back into school this afternoon to judge the second round of the Barton Bake Off. Three bakers, Harry B, Bella and Ella-Rose from Y5 this time baked and decorated cakes in school for judging. At the time of going to press, the result is still unknown...! Further information will follow in next week's newsletter!

Science day – Monday 17th July

If you are able to offer your expertise to join us for this day, please do contact Miss Trafford or leave a message via the office. We'd love to maximise the local expertise we have to benefit our children! Thank you.

PLT update

The PLT are speaking at an Oxfordshire Values Conference on Thursday 22nd June at Littlebury Hotel in Bicester. This is a great

opportunity for them to share their good leadership practice and hone their public speaking skills! They are each preparing a 10 minute speech on the work they have covered this year.

Also this half term, just whilst our Head Girl is absent, Grace is stepping up to the role and will be assisted by Jasmine as deputy.

Thanks go to them both.

Academies update

A big thank you on behalf of Mrs Tailby and the governing body to all of you who attended one of the two parent consultation meetings about academies yesterday. It was really helpful to have your input, thoughts and suggestions. If you were unable to attend but have specific comments you would like to make, please do not hesitate to put your query into writing and drop it into the office, marked for the attention of the governing body, or email academies@middle-barton.oxon.sch.uk before 3pm on Friday 30th June. Thank you!

Parent questionnaire results

These are in the process of being analysed and will soon be available on our school website. Overall we are pleased with the results, although we are never complacent and always looking to improve. Any areas for development will be built into next year's School Development Plan and discussed at the Vision/Curriculum evening at the start of September.