

Newsletter



NEWSLETTER 5 2017-18

Friday 6th October 2017

“Amaze, Excite, Inspire”



Charlotte, Robert, Lizzie, Henry M, Finley and Fraser

School Values: Friendship, Family, Faith, Respect, Reflection

Next week our value in focus will be Reflection. We will be thinking about how our actions impact on other people.

Harvest Service

It was lovely to see so many parents at this service where we gave thanks for all that we have. The children's singing was amazing and each class stepped up and led part of the service – well done to all of them!

Where is Mrs Vousden next week?

Mrs Vousden will be in school on Monday, Thursday afternoon and Friday morning. She will be at Parents' Evening on Monday and Tuesday evenings, so feel free to make an appointment to see her if there is anything you would like to discuss. If you have not yet signed up for the Parents' Evenings, please ring Mrs Howe or pop in to sign up on the sheet. We hope that all children will be represented at this important event.

Hercules Cake Monday

Many thanks to all those people who made cakes for this sale. We made £71.22, which Hercules will be able to use to enhance their learning over the year.

Bag2School

Thank you also to everyone who brought a bag of old clothes in on Tuesday. We raised £76.00 for the PTA.

Medical information

We would like to ensure we have up to date contact and medication information for your child and will be sending home contact forms out next week so that you can check them before we update our systems. We ask that you include any medical needs/allergies etc including asthma so that we can understand your child's needs fully. Please return these by Friday 3 November – thanks!

Next week's learning will include:

	Maths	English
Hercules – Reception	Recognise and use coins in a pretend shop.	Listen to, and follow instructions to make porridge.
Hercules – Year 1	Recognise and use coins in a pretend shop. Using coins to find different ways of making the same total.	Read, follow and write instructions to make porridge.
Hercules – Letters & Sounds - Reception		Recognise & write s a t p i n m d g o c k
Hercules – Letters & Sounds - Year 1		Recognise, write, read & spell words with the sounds sh, th, ch, ng, ai, ee, oo, oa, ar, or igh
Pegasus	2D shapes and 3D solids.	Information texts about African animals.
Phoenix Years 3+4	Further multiplication skills.	Historical stories describing settings.
Chameleon Years 5 + Yr 6	Identifying the properties of 3D shapes and drawing them.	Senses Trail

Staff Training

This week the class teachers visited Lea and Garsdon CE Primary School to attend a joint training session where we looked at the assessment of Reading, Writing and Maths. We have had this planned for several weeks, but recently the government released updated information on the expectations for the end of KS1 (Year 2) and KS2 (Year 6). We were able to talk through the implications of these changes to our teaching and assessment. Lots of good ideas came out of the meeting, which we will be putting in place over the next few weeks, one of which is mentioned in the paragraph below.

Reading

Teaching the children to read is one of the most important things we do at school, and of course it is a team effort with parents. From Reception children are taught letters and sounds systematically, at a rapid pace. You will notice as the weeks go by that your child can sound out more words and can read more 'high frequency' words such as 'some', that do not follow phonetic patterns. As children move into year 1 and 2 they become more fluent, but will continue to be taught 'letters and sounds' daily until they have a secure grasp of all the 44 phonemes (sounds). As children get older, the teaching focuses more and more on explaining and understanding the text. This teaching takes place in English lessons and also in 'Guided Reading' sessions, where a group of children read with the teacher or the teaching assistant. This means that children in Reception and Year 1 will read to the teacher individually, but as they become more competent they will start to read with other children in a group.

We have agreed as a staff that children will read with a teacher (or teaching assistant where the class is large) once a week and that we will show this in the child's reading journal with a sticker, date, teacher's initials and the name of the book. The teacher will be keeping records in school about what the child can do and what they need to work on next.

To help your child get the most out of their reading they should be practising at home most nights by reading to an adult, or as they get older (Y5+6 ish) talking to an adult about what they have read independently. This practice is a bit like piano practice following a lesson and is key for a child's development. If you listen to your child read, or spend some time discussing their reading once they have read to themselves, we ask you to write in the reading diary/journal so we can see how they are doing.

We are in the process of checking and re-ordering the book bands to ensure that we are giving your child a book at the correct stage for them, but please do tell us if the book they are given is too hard or too easy.

Many thanks for all your help with this most important part of learning.

Safeguarding

Following the local authority guidance, we have recently updated our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy, and this has been attached for you to see. All staff will be receiving updated training on this in November. We really welcome volunteers in school, and if you have any spare time we encourage you to come forward to help in any way you can. All volunteers need to have a DBS check carried out before they start, however this is now a simple process which Mrs Howe can carry out with you and we usually get confirmation of the check back within a week.

School Nurse Details

We have had a visit from our school nurse, Jo Greatwich, and she was able to confirm that all nurse vacancies in the area have now been filled. This means that she is available to help if you need any and she can be contacted on 01249 456 462. The team are experts at supporting families with things like 'healthy eating', 'bed wetting' and sleep issues, so do feel free to call them if you think they can be of assistance to you.

Dinner Money

Please can dinner money be put in envelopes clearly marked with the child's name and the amount of money enclosed as this makes life a lot easier for Mrs Sawyer – thank you!

Children's Workshop & Show at the KL Village Hall on Sunday 15 October

Tall Tree Theatre are bringing their acclaimed puppet show, 'Shackleton' (about a dog, not the explorer!) to Kington Langley at the end of next week, to include a puppet making workshop. The workshop starts at 2pm and the show at 3.30 pm and our PTA will be providing refreshments in aid of school funds. Children's tickets are £5.00 for the workshop and show, or £3.50 for just the show, and are available from the School Office. Click this link for a review of the show

<http://thebathandwiltshireparent.co.uk/2017/10/review-shackleton-at-pound-arts-corsham/>

Paper Letters Sent Out This Week

- Individual Photos Letter

REMINDERS!

- **Hercules Parents** - please could you make sure ALL of their children's uniform is labelled with their names, as uniform has got muddled this week as the items didn't have names in them & they all look the same. Your child will be coming home with key words to learn (high frequency words) as part of their reading homework. They need to learn to recognise these words instantly without blending or sounding them out. This will help with their reading fluency.
- **Yr R Parents** - please look for a letter in your child's book bags/reading folder asking for parents contributions to their child's learning profile. This needs to be completed & returned to us by Monday 9th October.
- Mrs Howe has a lovely collection of cake tins and plates in the School Office – please can **Hercules parents** come and collect them – thanks!
- **Year 6 Parents** – if you have not yet sent in the £5 fee for your child's Bikeability course, please can you do so on Monday – thanks! If you have not been notified that your child is on next week's course, they will be doing Bikeability in November – dates to be confirmed.

Dates for the diary (new dates in red)

Mon 9 October	Individual School Photographs Influenza Vaccinations for Yrs R-4 Parents' Evening, 3.30-7.00 pm
Tue 10 October	Yr 6 Bikeability, Group 1 Day 1 Parents' Evening, 3.30-5.00 pm
Wed 11 October	Yr 6 Bikeability, Group 1, Day 2
Fri 13 October	Chameleon visiting Chippenham Library for an author event with Angie Sage, who wrote the Septimus Heap books Break up for Half Term
Mon 30 October	Back to School for Term 2
Mon 6 – Fri 10 November	Stackpole Week
Mon 13 November	Drama for All Workshop
Tue 14 November	Friendly Netball & Football Matches against Lea & Garsdon
Wed 15 November	Professional production of 'Beauty & the Beast' in school
Thu 16 November	PTA Film Night after School
Sat 18 November	PTA Music Quiz in aid of the First Access Violin Programme in School
Tue 21 November	Yr 6 Bikeability, Group 2 Day 1 – this may be subject to change
Wed 22 November	Yr 6 Bikeability, Group 2 Day 2 - this may be subject to change
Thu 23 November	Board of Governors' Meeting
Sat 2 December	School Choir performing at the Pit Stop Christmas Event
Mon 4 December	Chameleon Cake Monday
Wed 6 December	KS1 Nativity Performances at School
Wed 13 December	KS2 Christmas Production at the KL Village Hall
Mon 18 December	Christmas Service at St Peter's, 2.30 pm
Tue 19 December	Carols on the Common, outside School, 6.30 pm
Wed 20 December	Break Up for Christmas
Thu 4 January	Back to School for Term 3