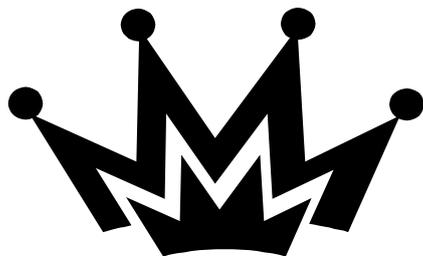


Kington St Michael CE Primary School



NEWSLETTER

January 2018

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Happy New Year to you all! I hope you had a very happy Christmas.

May we take this opportunity to thank you for all the lovely presents, cards and good wishes we received at the end of last term. You are very generous and thoughtful. We were especially touched by the lovely staff meal that we enjoyed.

The teachers have been working hard to plan a range of exciting and stimulating learning experiences for their classes. We hope that you have found the class newsletters and topic webs useful in order to see the activities and areas of the curriculum to be covered. These are also available on our website, as is a wealth of information on the curriculum, suggested websites and hints to support your child's learning at home.

We shall be working to update and improve the school website during the year and would value your input and thoughts. Please look out for our questionnaire next week.

Don't forget to check your child's individual learning targets (shared with you at Parent/Teacher Consultations), as these will be updated at the end of February after Assessment Week. Has your child achieved their targets yet?

This term, we shall be doing a whole school topic (as we do once a year), based on 'A Taste of the World'. This topic will involve each class focusing on a particular country and finding out about its geography, people and foods. Our 'Fairtrade Fortnight' in March will bring our learning together.

'Health Week'

Our first week of term was a fun week of activities focusing on health, hygiene, teeth and fitness. The children were able to experience a great range of activities from each teacher on our carousel day.

Parent Information

Parents of Year 6 children are invited to a SATs information session at 2.15pm on Monday 29th January. You will be able to see some sample papers, talk about how the tests are administered and ask any questions you may have. Revision materials will also be available.

Year 5 and Year 6 will have Sex Education next term. If parents wish to view the video used in these sessions prior to the children seeing it, we shall be showing it at 2.15pm on Monday 5th March.

'Pick and Mix' Homework

Homework across the school in Term 3 will be our 'Pick and Mix'. This was with the topic webs and class newsletters sent out last week and also on our website. This form of homework gives the children the opportunity to choose areas of the curriculum of particular interest to them and to be creative and imaginative.

Work should come in to school on Wednesday 7th February. The children will display their work in their classrooms and other classes will be able to visit to see their work during that morning. Parents are invited in to see work (in all classrooms) from 2pm - 3.30pm.

Staffing

We are pleased to welcome another student teacher from Gloucester University. Miss Morrish will be in Hawks class until the end of Term 4.

"Share My Journey" Session

Parents of children in Blackbirds are invited to a sharing session with their child on Wednesday 31st January from 2.30pm - 3.30pm. This will be an opportunity to spend some time with your child, looking through their Learning Journey. This is a detailed record of their learning journey since starting school and a lovely way to share in their development.

Governor News (Mrs Cavey - Staff Governor)

In September 2017, I was elected by the staff at KSM to be their Staff Link Governor for a term of 4 years. I have been teaching since 1992 and I have been teaching at KSM for 13 years. At KSM, I currently have responsibility for Early Years Foundation Stage and pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. I am also part of the Senior Leadership Team. I am looking forward to being a Link Staff Governor as a new, exciting challenge.

Being a Staff Governor

I see my role as a Link Staff Governor as developing a positive link between the staff of KSM and the Governing body and to facilitate an effective working relationship between staff and governors. My role is to act as a source of support to the school by being the staff's voice and to be a source of information for the Governing body. It will enable me to feed into Governor meetings the thoughts, feelings and opinions of colleagues, as well as sharing information with staff from the Governor meeting minutes. It will also enable me to raise the awareness of the role of the governors amongst colleagues.

Why have Staff Governors?

- As an employee, the Staff Governor has a clear insight into the activities of the school
- The Staff Governor can bring to the Governing Body an understanding of the school ethos and culture, as well as a close professional knowledge of its strengths and weaknesses
- The Staff Governor provides the voice for all staff, so they can contribute to the strategic development of the school
- The Staff Governor is a useful link between staff and the governing body
- The Staff Governor is a mechanism for all staff to be included in school evaluation and improvement
- To help keep the classroom and the children's learning at the heart of discussions by the governing body

How can the Staff Governor be a useful member of the Governing Body?

As Staff Governor, I am the representative for the staff and I can put forward their views and ideas reasonably and honestly. I can seek out colleagues' views and make them known to the Governing body. As the Staff Governor, I can contribute to discussions through several different ways including:

- Explaining the likely effect of any proposal on pupils' learning or well-being and draw attention to the likely effect on staff
- Help to develop mutual understanding by reporting back and explaining to staff the reasons for the governing body's decisions to colleagues, to develop their understanding of the role of the governing body
- Contribute up-to-date, regular information to broaden governors' understanding of the curriculum and pupil achievement and to highlight special achievements by individual members of staff
- Help staff and governors to get to know one another
- Help to support the governing body's monitoring and evaluation process by encouraging staff to share information about the schools progress, by encouraging the governing body to ask questions that enable it to measure progress
- To respond to governors' questions positively, honestly and constructively and relay information to colleagues
- To bring staff opinions to the governing body

I am really looking forward to my term as Staff Governor and hope I can contribute positively to the future success and achievements of our school community.

Carol Singing

Very well done to the children who sang so beautifully at Sainsbury's, just before Christmas. They raised a brilliant £313.78. Many thanks to the parents who gave up their time over a weekend to support this.

Congratulations

Very well done to Emily Dickie who has passed her Grade 2 Ballet exam with distinction and her Oboe Grade 3 exam with merit; George Hayes is now a yellow belt in judo and Flo Hayes was awarded 5 bronze and 2 silver medals for swimming in her club championship presentation; Oliver Tobin who has passed his guitar grade 1 exam with a distinction and got a 1st place in his gymnastics club competition and Abigail Tobin who has passed her Grade 1 and Bronze British Gymnastics awards and got a 1st place in her gymnastics club competition.

Wall of Fame

The children have obviously made New Year Resolutions to work very hard and produce their very best work.

Beautiful work in the Hall of Fame this month comes from:

Blackbirds - Victoria Cvetkova

Sparrows - Isabel Faroppa

Eagles - George Hayes

Kingfishers - James Ives

Hawks - Tia Harris

Supersonic Superstars

Well done to the following children, who have impressed their teachers at the beginning of the new term and have obviously made positive New Year's Resolutions!

Blackbirds - Bethany Wicks, Tina-Louise Murray

Sparrows - Amelie Taylor-Fall, Oscar Harford

Eagles - Gracie Robinson, Imogen Croffie

Kingfishers - Joseph Pym, Eryn Kirby

Hawks - Sophie Buck, Mia Shorland

Assembly Visitors

We have a member of the Clergy to lead assembly each week – usually on a Wednesday. If you would like to attend any of these, please feel free to do so. Assembly takes place from 12.40pm to 1pm.

Wednesday 24th January Rev Andrew Gubbins

Wednesday 7th February Trevor Ranger

Wednesday 21st February Rev Andrew Gubbins

Wednesday 28th February Jonathan Brain

Wednesday 7th March Trevor Ranger

Wednesday 14th March Rev Andrew Gubbins

Wednesday 21st March Jonathan Brain

Assembly Theme

Each term we focus on a different Christian Value. We discuss the meaning, use and benefits of the Value in assemblies and circle time and encourage its use around school. We look at what the word means, different words meaning the same and why it is important in our lives. Value Certificates are awarded to those who have demonstrated that particular value well.

Parents may find it useful to know which Value we are focusing on each term, in order to discuss at home. Don't forget that you can find out more about this term's value by looking on our website. Follow the link 'Our School' on the Homepage menu and then visit the 'School Council and Worship Council' page. You will find a link called "Home – School Value".

Our Value for Term 3 will be **Peace**.

DIARY DATES

Mon 22 nd Jan	Assessment Week
Thurs 25 th Jan	Year 5 visit to Sheldon Science Fair (1:15 – 2:45pm)
Fri 26 th Jan	Bikeability session
Mon 29 th Jan	SATs Information Meeting for Year 6 parents (2.15-3pm)
Wed 31 st Jan	Blackbirds Learning Journey sharing with parents (2.30-3.30pm)
Fri 2 nd Feb	Bikeability session
Mon 5 th Feb	Hawks Dance Festival at The Neeld
Wed 7 th Feb	Pick and Mix Homework in
	Pick and Mix displays open to parents (2-4pm)
Fri 9 th Feb	Bikeability session
	End of Term 3
Mon 19 th Feb	TD DAY
Tues 20 th Feb	Start of Term 4
Mon 26 th Feb	No Teacher-led clubs this week
Tues 27 th Feb	Parent / Teacher Consultations (3-6pm)
Thurs 1 st March	Parent / Teacher Consultations (3-6pm)
Mon 5 th March	Fairtrade Fortnight begins
	Sex Education video showing for Year 5 and Year 6 parents (2.15pm)
Wed 7 th March	Chippenham Children's Parliament
Thurs 8 th March	SEND Parent / Teacher Consultations (3-6pm)
Fri 9 th March	African Drumming Workshops for all classes
Wed 14 th March	Taste the World Day
Fri 16 th March	Sharing of Fairtrade work with parents (2pm)
Thurs 22 nd March	Class and Leavers' Photographs
Fri 23 rd March	Easter Experience for classes in Church
Thurs 29 th March	Easter Church Service (1.30pm)
	End of Term 4