

Kington St Michael CE Primary School



NEWSLETTER

May 2017

«Learning together, aiming high»

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Residential Trip

The recent residential trip with Year 3 and Year 4 to the Forest of Dean was a delight. The children were polite, helpful, thoughtful, well organised, independent and up for a challenge. We were very proud of them all and how they managed away from home - many for the very first time.

Open Morning

Our popular annual Open Morning will be on Wednesday 7th June from 9.15am to 11.30am. Classes will run as normal and activities will continue as normal. Visitors are invited to come in to school to see the school in action and to work alongside the children. This is available for existing parents, prospective parents and members of the community. Visitors are encouraged to visit all classes, rather than just where their own child may be.

Annual School Review

Thank you to those who have already returned their questionnaire. Please take a few moments to complete our questionnaire and return to school by the end of today. We really appreciate your comments and suggestions and they play a significant role in our discussions at our School Development TD Day.

SATs Week

The whole school has been a hive of activity and brain power this week! All children should be congratulated as they have all tried their best, shown resilience and demonstrated a great attitude to learning and challenge. Year 6 pupils should be particularly proud of themselves as it has been obvious that they have all tried their very best each day.

These assessments form an important part of their education and allow us to plan and target effectively for each child. Results and future learning needs will be included in their annual report and can be discussed with us, if required.

Eels in the Classroom Project

I am sure that the children have told you about this exciting project that we are currently involved in. We are looking after 100 elvers for the duration of this term as part of a conservation project with the Severn River Trust. These elvers have travelled all the way from the Sargasso Sea and have become an endangered species in this country. The children have been fascinated to learn about them and to look after them. We shall be releasing them so that they can make their way back to the river on Wednesday 24th May in Castle Combe. It would be lovely if as many children as possible could come and see this being done. We would, therefore, like to invite you to join us at 4.30pm on The Street (at the bottom of the village).

There is Free parking available at the top of the village near to the B4039 which is a bit of a walk, we are not sure there are better places and it's a nice walk anyway!



Sports Day

This will take place on Thursday 22nd June at 11am. We hope that this start time will allow any overnight dew to dry out and for us all to avoid the main heat of the day (assuming the weather will be kind to us!) Our successful format of traditional sports day races will continue. We shall then ask parents to stay with us for our whole school picnic in the school grounds. This always makes a very nice family event and we hope that you can join us.

If you will be at the picnic, please bring your child's lunch in with you rather than sending it in in the morning. If you are not able to join us, maybe your child could have a little something special in their lunchbox. Children may go home with parents after the picnic.

Our Sports Day is a House team event, so all children need to be wearing a t-shirt in their House colour. House t-shirts with the House logo are available at Scholars.

Governor Update (Chris Ives – Chair of Governors)

SATs - Standard Assessment Tests

We have all heard about them. But what are they? They are comparison tests between the children, assessing them against the average attainments and expectations for their age group. Years 2 and 6 have just completed them. Some people think they are the most awful of ideas, some love the principle. Some children embrace them as a chance to shine and show what has been learnt, some pupils have a sense of dread and fear when approaching them. We cannot avoid these tests, so we all have to try to create an atmosphere for our children that enables them to perform the best they can for these tests. For parents, teachers and children this means different things. The results allow the teachers to see where the pupils are in relation to others in the year group. At KSM, we know where the pupils are in relation to where we think they should be as we are constantly assessing them and working on areas that need improving on an individual basis. That's part of the normal 'Outstanding School' process that we do. What the tests do is allow us to see where we are against other schools and peer groups with the new curriculum and that will be beneficial.

However, I think that the best we can do as a school, which I think the staff do an excellent job of, is to set an environment where the pupils understand that they are being tested and that the tests are important, but manage the process in a way that causes as little stress as possible and gives the children the chance to perform as well as they can. The whole approach from the school is balanced and planned. This gives the pupils the best chance as it is important that they learn how to tackle these sorts of tests. After all, throughout their life, they will be doing plenty of similar style tests.

Well done to the pupils, well done to the teachers and well done to the parents.

Wall of Fame

The children continue to be very keen to feature in our Wall of Fame display in the main entrance. They are all working hard to produce their best work at all times and concentrate on the presentation of every piece of work. Showcased on the Wall of Fame this month are:

Blackbirds - Lex Tu

Sparrows - Gracie - May Robinson

Eagles - Adam Armstrong

Kingfishers - Lewis Davies-Lane

Hawks - Aliya Sanders

Supersonic Superstars

Well done to the following children who particularly impressed their teachers at the end of last term:

Blackbirds - Jack Fenwick, Isaac Wheadon, Kit Harford, Syrena Scott, Harper Jewitt, Joshua Crump

Sparrows - Evie Marland, Charlie Burnham, Alfie Stephens, Jefferson Lamming, George Hayes, Isabel Faroppa

Eagles - Callum Dennis, Adam Armstrong, Tabitha Sidaway, Sophie Maxwell, Lisabelle Hall, Louisa Niker

Kingfishers - Orla Gillham, Daniel Harris, George Kirby, William Vickery

Hawks - Elysia Durrant, Tia Harris, Isabelle Armstrong, Joshua Maxwell, Emma Holtby, Georgia Ives

Congratulations

Very well done to Imogen Drew for winning a bronze medal in the martial arts hand drill category in the South West Championships; Louisa Niker came 1st in the Girls under 9 category and Amelia Niker came 3rd in the under 11 category of the May Mile 2017; Sophie Maxwell won the May Half Mile under 7 overall and was 1st girl and Harry Maxwell won the May Mile under 11 race and was 1st boy.

50/50 Club

The 50/50 Club winners for May 2017 are:

£25 C Blake

£15 P Martin

Vouchers

Thank you for collecting Sainsbury's vouchers. If you have any more lurking in bags or purses, please bring them in before the end of this term (Friday 26th May).

Warm Weather Reminders

Now that we are seeing the sunshine, please ensure that your child has a water bottle and a soft-brimmed hat in school every day.

Sex and Relationships Education

All Year 5 and 6 pupils will be watching the sex education video and discussing issues on the afternoon of Thursday 25th May and the morning of Friday 26th May.

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 May – Jonathan Brain

Wednesday 7th June – Trevor Ranger

Wednesday 24th May – Jonathan Brain

Wednesday 21st June – Jonathan Brain

Wednesday 28th June – Katherine Bloomer

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 5 is **Service**.

DIARY DATES

Mon 22 nd May	Year 6 Leavers' photograph with Gazette and Herald
Wed 24 th May	Elver release (4.30pm)
Fri 26 th May	End of Term 5
Mon 5 th June	Start of Term 6
Wed 7 th June	School Open Morning
Thurs 8 th June	Year 5 Taster Day at Hardenhuish
Fri 9 th June	'Pick and Mix' homework sent out
Fri 9 th June	Non uniform day for Summer Fete - raffle donations
12 th – 16 th June	Year 1 Phonics testing
13 th June	Year 1 and Year 2 visit to Lower Moor Farm
Thurs 15 th June	Worship Council Cluster Meeting (1.30pm - Christian Malford)
Wed 21 st June	Reception Intake Information Evening (6.30pm)
Thurs 22 nd June	Sports Day and Picnic (11am)
Fri 23 rd June	TD DAY
Mon 26 th June	TD DAY
Sat 1 st July	School Fete
Fri 7 th July	Annual Reports out to Parents
Mon 10 th July	KS2 Production Dress Rehearsal (9.15am)
Tues 11 th July	KS2 Production Performance (6pm)
Wed 12 th July	KS2 Production Performance (1.15pm)
Thurs 13 th July	'Pick and Mix' homework in – open to parents from 2pm
Tues 18 th July	Parent/Teacher Consultations (3-5pm)
Thurs 20 th	Class swap-up
Fri 21 st July	Leavers' Church Service (1.30pm)
	End of Term 6