



# Kington St Michael CE Primary School

## NEWSLETTER

### September 2018

~Learning together, aiming high~

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Welcome back to the new academic year. I hope you had an enjoyable summer and enjoyed the sunshine. I would particularly like to welcome our new staff and families to KSM. Miss Morrish (Sparrows) and Mrs Samuels (Hawks) are being well looked after by their class, as are our new TAs, Mrs Croffie (Blackbirds) and Mrs Price (Kingfishers). Our new children are settling in very well. The children have all settled back in to the routine of school very quickly and are already working hard and enthusiastically.

#### **School Focus**

Each year, following our monitoring and evaluation, we devise a School Development Plan which outlines the areas in which the school is trying to improve further. This document can be found attached and on our website.

Each year, we focus on two particular curriculum subjects. This follows a rotation so as to ensure all subjects have a turn. All subjects are covered during the year but, by having two as a focus (not including English and Maths); we can plan special events, activity weeks, etc. based around these subjects. Our main focus subject areas across the school this year will be Computing and Art.

With our great new pond and amphitheatre, we shall be further developing our outdoor learning, problem solving and team building activities.

We continue to support other schools, colleagues and students as a National Support School. We shall also continue to try to make every piece of work we do the best we can make it - "Only my Best is Good Enough". Our Wall of Fame and Supersonic Superstars will continue to reward those children trying really hard with this in all areas of the curriculum.

Children will continue to develop their skills in learning through our Building Learning Power strategy. The skills of resilience, resourcefulness, reciprocity, risk taking and reflectiveness are all developed and encouraged. More information on this strategy can be found attached and on our website.

You will all have received class newsletters and topic webs. We hope that you will find these useful to see what areas of the curriculum your child will be studying this term. These can also be found on our website.

#### **School Dinners**

Our school dinner provision continues to be very popular and the children are really enjoying the food. The quality of the food and portion size is very good. If we could urge you to continue to develop their skills in the use of a knife and fork, this would help them to enjoy the lunchtime experience more.

Please remember to order 3 weeks in advance and that both hot meals and packed lunches are available. Menus are sent out by email and will be on our website. Please note that ALL need to order - even if your child has a free dinner (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) - as we need to know what they would like. Elinor are unable to refund monies already paid if your child is off school on a day that you have ordered a meal. This is due to food being bought in response to orders made.

### **International School Award**

Kington St Michael CE Primary School in has been awarded the British Council's prestigious International School Award in recognition of its work to bring the world into the classroom.

The International School Award celebrates the achievements of schools that do exceptional work in international education. Fostering an international dimension in the curriculum is at the heart of the British Council's work with schools, so that young people gain the cultural understanding and skills they need for life work in today's world.

Kington St Michael CE Primary School's international work includes leading a whole school Global Week, Fair Trade Fortnight, Bastille Day and Chinese New Year celebrations and developing strong links with schools overseas.

Sir Ciarán Devane, CEO of the British Council, said: "The school's fantastic international work has rightfully earned it this prestigious award. The International School Award is a great chance for schools to demonstrate the important work they're doing to bring the world into their classrooms. Embedding an international dimension in children's education ensures that they are truly global citizens and helps prepare them for successful lives and careers in an increasingly global economy."

Many thanks and congratulations to Mrs Hussey, who has led this work in school.

### **School Bags**

May we remind you that children should have a book bag and a PE bag in school. The PE bag should be a small, draw string bag and not a backpack. We do not have room in the cloakrooms for large bags and they will not fit on the pegs. These large bags end up on the floor and become a trip hazard.

### **Reception Open Morning**

This will take place on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> October and is for parents of children starting school in September 2019. Our Reception classroom will be welcoming visitors from 9.30am to 11.30am.

### **Reception Information Meeting**

Mrs Wells and Mrs Cavey will be leading a meeting for parents of Reception children from 3pm on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> September. This will be to explain procedures, share information and answer any questions you may have.

### **Photographs**

The school photographer will be in school on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> October to take individual and sibling group photographs. These will be done during school time but there will also be an opportunity for preschool/older children to have their photograph taken in a group with brothers or sisters in this school. If you would like this for your children, the photographer will take these in the Hall from 8.30am to 9am.

Photographs are back in plenty of time for Christmas presents!

### **Parent Workshop**

We shall be running another of our popular information workshops for parents on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November from 5.30pm to 6.30pm. Our focus will be on Reading, how this is taught in school and how you can support your child at home. We shall be leading two sessions - one for Reception and KS1 parents and one for KS2 parents. Information regarding how certain maths concepts and operations are taught will be shared. We shall also be sharing resources that may help and pointing you towards things on our website. In order to encourage as many parents as possible to this event, we shall be running our Bedtime Stories at the same time for your children.

### **Citizenship Awards**

All children from Year 1 to Year 6 should have a Citizenship booklet in their bookbag. The aim of the citizenship award is to encourage children to become responsible, informed, active members of their local community and the wider world. The citizenship award is structured in three levels; Bronze, Silver and Gold. Each of these levels develops skills across six key areas of citizenship. The booklet contains a range of activities, vital skills and knowledge regarding democracy, health and wellbeing, global citizenship, economic wellbeing, local community and manners. To achieve successes, your child will need to develop these skills within the home, school and local groups which are part of their everyday lives. Some activities are covered in school but many can be done at home. Please keep the booklet in bookbags so that teachers are able to sign off achieved skills. Certificates and badges will be awarded in assembly when completed.

### **Children's Parliament**

Ben Harvey and Emily Dickie have been chosen to represent our school at the Chippenham Children's Parliament meetings this year. They will be working with children from the Chippenham town and village schools, meeting members of the Council and the Mayor and working to improve targeted issues for young people in Chippenham.

## **Residential Trip**

Our Year 5 and 6 children will be off to the Isle of Wight on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September for their week long residential trip. Miss Woods, Mrs Samuels and Miss Cornelius will be accompanying the children. Mrs Cavey will be 'in charge' during the week and holding the fort back at school.

## **Behaviour Policy**

Staff are ensuring that our behaviour policy is used consistently throughout the school and class sessions and assemblies are focusing on behaviour at this time of the school year so that all pupils are aware of expectations, rewards and sanctions.

In order to make our behaviour policy and strategies most effective, we need your support as parents. Please make sure that you are familiar with our policy (to be found attached and on our website).

We expect children to behave appropriately at all times in school. This includes the time when they are collected from school and allowed to play in the school grounds. Please ensure that your children are supervised, respect school property and behave appropriately. Any children seen to be not following our behaviour policy will be asked to leave the school grounds.

Please remember that the school grounds should be vacated by 3.20pm, unless children are at after school activities. If an after school club is taking place on the playground or field, please do not allow your children to disturb this. Children are expected to leave school immediately at 4pm, once clubs are finished.

Children should not be playing anywhere in the school grounds before school. If children are in school before 8.40am (when the doors are opened) they must be supervised and standing sensibly. This should not be a playtime, please. Please also ensure that bicycles/tricycles/scooters are not ridden anywhere in school grounds.

## **School Houses**

Our House system continues to be very popular with the children and they are very keen to earn House Points for their team.

Congratulations to our new House Captains - Rhiannon Seager and Harriet Whiting (Vikings), Alice Bennett and Grace Merrett (Saxons), Alice Dunn and Orla Gilham (Tudors), Emily Dickie and Ben Harvey (Romans).

Most children are wearing their House colour t-shirt for PE and this is really good for team games. If your child does not have a coloured t-shirt for PE, it would be much appreciated if you could provide one. These are available at Scholars with the House logo.

## **Bus Prefects**

In order to promote good behaviour on the bus Alice Bennett will be our Bus Prefect this year. They are excellent role models and encourage sensible behaviour. They will also ensure that any young children are cared for. Any unacceptable behaviour (silliness, bad language, bullying) will be reported to me and parents contacted immediately. We use a 'three strikes and you're out' policy for the bus. If a parent has had to be contacted three times in a year, that child will not be permitted to use the bus.

May we also remind you that children using the school bus must wear their bus bands so that we know if they are to be put on the bus or not.

## **Harvest**

For our harvest celebrations we alternate between a church service and an event in school. This year it is the turn of an event in school. We shall be celebrating Harvest Festival by inviting you in to a special harvest lunch with the children. This will take place on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October. Elinor will be providing a lovely Harvest Lunch that parents are invited to join us for:

*Homemade Harvest Vegetable Soup with croutons*

*Selection of cheeses to include Cheddar, Stilton and Brie with grapes, celery, pickle and chunky bread*

*Tossed mixed salad*

*Homemade fruit crumble with custard*

The normal price will apply for children (£2.40) and adults may order for £3.60.

Please use a separate form for your adult meal order. This order has been included in the next 3 week lunch menu that will be sent out and parents are asked to place their order and payment in advance with their child's order.

## **School Admissions**

Please remember that forms need to be completed and sent to Wiltshire Council by 31<sup>st</sup> October (Secondary) and 15<sup>th</sup> January (Primary) to ensure a place.

### **Parent/Teacher Consultations**

The teachers will be completing detailed assessments with all the children in order to ensure accurate and realistic individual targets are set and future learning needs are carefully planned for. These will be shared with you at our Parent/Teacher consultations meetings on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November (3-6pm) and Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> November (3-6pm). We hope that all parents will be able to attend these meetings, so as to find out how your child is settling in to their new year group and how you can support their progress at home.

Sign-up sheets for appointment times will be put up outside classrooms from Monday 15<sup>th</sup> October. If you are unable to come in to school to sign up, please contact the office and we will organise a convenient time for you.

### **Tuck Shop**

Remember that all Key Stage 2 children (Year 3, 4, 5 and 6) may bring money in to spend at our Healthy Tuck Shop. A range of snacks are available such as fruit juices, raisins and health bars. All items are 25p. KS2 children may also bring a piece of fruit in as a snack. Reception and Key Stage 1 are provided with a piece of fruit every morning. No other snacks from home should be sent in.

### **School Council**

The School Council enables children to take responsibility for themselves and others and gives the children 'a voice'. It encourages them to make a positive contribution to our school, its environment and ethos. The Council promotes a sense of community within school and is used to support and develop citizenship and democracy. It encourages teamwork and helps to improve speaking and listening skills. It encourages resilience, reciprocity, reflection and resourcefulness and allows us to hear the ideas of the children to make our school an even better place.

Congratulations to our Councillors for Term 1 and 2: Alfie Glover, Kristen Ramsay, Charlie Burnham, Charlotte Ives, Harriet Whiting, Adam Armstrong, Phoenix Rice-Chandler, Nancy Meehan.

### **Worship Council**

In the same way our School Council operates, the Worship Council enables the children to help to shape and improve our acts of worship in school. As a Church of England School we hope that all children will appreciate and enjoy our activities, events and displays.

Our Worship Councillors are: Izabella Rattos-Sales, Sebastian Birch, Alice Dunn, Emily Dickie, William Meehan, Orlando Duncombe, Evelyn Weston, Sophie Baker.

### **Parent Helpers**

We really appreciate the support we receive from parents, grandparents and members of the community. The children love to share their reading, computer work, art work and other achievements with our visitors.

If you would like to offer any of your time to us (either regularly or on more of an ad hoc basis), please fill in the Parent Helper Information Form at the office.

### **Governor News**

The governors will be continuing their input to our newsletters and will keep you informed of work they are doing for the school. Governors are often around school or on the playground at the end of the day and are always happy to have a chat.

### **Congratulations**

Very well done to Tabitha Goverd, who had a really important audition during the summer holidays. She auditioned for a place in XDance's competition crew and was successful! She had to choreograph her own piece and choose her own music. She will compete at the BDO Street Dance Championships at the Olympiad in Chippenham in December. Congratulations to Harriet Whiting who passed her Grade 4 Oboe exam with Distinction and Emily Dickie who passed her Grade 4 Oboe exam with a Merit.

### **Supersonic Superstars**

Well done to the following children who have impressed their teachers, so soon in the new school year:

Sparrows - Lilly Pickard, Jake Drew

Eagles - Eloise Eggleston, Maximus Tregaskis

Kingfishers - Phoenix Rice-Chandler, Eryn Kirby

Hawks - Grzegorz Szkudlarek, Louisa Niker

(Blackbirds will begin this in Term 2)

## Wall of Fame

The children remain 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.

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

Sparrows - Oscar Field

Eagles - Kit Harford

Kingfishers - Imogen Croffie

Hawks - Lisabelle Hall

(Blackbirds will begin this in Term 2)

## Car Park and Parking

Again, thank you for your support in allowing the bus to safely enter the school car park. By not using the car park until after the bus has arrived in the morning and at the end of the day is very helpful. May we also remind parents to be considerate to the safety of the children and to other road users and residents by remembering the following:

Please do not park across driveways in The Ridings

Please do not double park in the school car park

Please do not park in the staff parking area at any time

Please do not park around the school car park roundabout

If we are all vigilant and remember that children are always around the parking areas, we will stay safe.

## FOSMAA - Teddy Parachuting Day

FOSMAA would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who came along on Sunday. We had a great afternoon with a record 50 brave teddies making parachute jumps!

We raised a magnificent £485.00 towards installing a toilet and hospitality unit in the Church.

## 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.

12<sup>th</sup> September – Trevor Ranger

20<sup>th</sup> September – Jonathan Brain

26<sup>th</sup> September – Reverend Terry

10<sup>th</sup> October – Trevor Ranger

24<sup>th</sup> October – Jonathan Brain

7<sup>th</sup> November – Trevor Ranger

28<sup>th</sup> November – Jonathan Brain

19<sup>th</sup> December – Trevor Ranger

## 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 1 is **Thankfulness**

## DIARY DATES

17 <sup>th</sup> – 21 <sup>st</sup> Sept	Year 5/6 Residential Trip to Isle of Wight
Thurs 20 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Information session for Reception parents (3pm)
Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> Oct	Assessment Week
Tues 9 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Eagles, Kingfishers and Hawks trip to Stonehenge
Wed 10 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Reception Open Morning (for prospective parents)
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Individual Photographs
Thurs 18 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Harvest Lunch
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Harvest Experience in church for each class (children only)
Wed 24 <sup>th</sup> Oct	End of Term 1

Mon 5<sup>th</sup> Nov  
Mon 5<sup>th</sup> Nov

Tues 6<sup>th</sup> Nov  
Thurs 8<sup>th</sup> Nov  
Thurs 15<sup>th</sup> Nov  
Mon 19<sup>th</sup> Nov  
20<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> Nov  
Wed 21<sup>st</sup> Nov  
Mon 26<sup>th</sup> Nov  
Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec  
Tues 11<sup>th</sup> Dec  
Wed 12<sup>th</sup> Dec  
Thurs 13<sup>th</sup> Dec  
Wed 19<sup>th</sup> Dec  
Thurs 20<sup>th</sup> Dec  
Fri 21<sup>st</sup> Dec

Start of Term 2

**No Teacher Led Clubs This Week**

Parent / Teacher Consultations (3-6pm)  
Parent / Teacher Consultations (3-6pm)  
SEND Parent / Teacher Consultations  
Anti-Bullying Week  
Scholastic Book Fayre  
Bedtime Stories and Parent Workshop  
Nativity tickets available  
Post Box out  
Nativity Dress Rehearsal (10am)  
Nativity Performance (1.30pm)  
Nativity Performance (10am)  
Christmas Lunch  
Class Parties and Discos  
Christmas Church Service (1.30pm)  
End of Term 2

