



Friday 12th January 2018

Whole School News

Welcome back to a new term, we hope everybody had a good Christmas and New Year.

Census day menu change – Thursday 18th January will be fish fingers or omelette and Friday 19th January will be sausage plait or teriyaki Quorn.

If the school gate is closed please press the buzzer to be let in or out if the office staff are not aware. The buzzers are located on the silver key pad (left of the gate as you enter) and (right of gate as you leave, lower down). Please be patient as pushing or pulling will not open the gate and can cause damage to the motor, call out charges are £125 each time, we have had two already this term due to people trying to force the gate.

Car parking – Please DO NOT park on the yellow zigzag lines when dropping off and picking up your child/ren. These have now been repainted. Parking on corners is also dangerous.

Please can all children have the correct PE kit in school and supportive footwear e.g trainers.

Clubs

These will be starting next week: Monday High 5 netball, Tuesday Drama, Wednesday Dance, Thursday Drama and Fridays Sports hall athletics. We still have spaces on all clubs.

Cherwell Class (Foundation Stage) News

First of all I would like to say a huge thank you for all of my Christmas gifts from you all. I am always overwhelmed by your generosity and appreciate the gifts I got.

Welcome back to a new term in Foundation. The children have come back after the Christmas break full of wonderful stories about their time off and I have been hearing how lucky they have all been to.

Our topic this term is dinosaurs and the children are really keen to learn all about them. I have planned a trip in for Tuesday the 30th of January to the Oxfordshire museum in Woodstock and you should've received a letter about this. Thanks for all of the permission slips so far, if you can't find your letter please come and see me as I have spare ones.

PE this term will continue to take place on a Tuesday and the children will need shorts/ joggers, a t shirt, spare socks and most importantly trainers or plimsolls for PE. Also children with long hair should have it tied back on Tuesdays. Please make sure that everything is labelled so that we can return missing items to children.

Forest school has swapped again this term and the children have already had their first session which they thoroughly enjoyed.

At the end of last term we said a fond farewell to Mrs Williams as our class TA, she has taken on a new venture in running our After school club and is still continuing with our Forest school sessions. We were sad to see her go but we welcome Mrs Plasvic as she now joins us for 4 days a week.

As always if you have any questions please don't hesitate to come and see me. Many thanks, Kayleigh Ballard.

Evenlode Class (Year 1) News

This week we have started our new topic for the Spring Terms-Australia. We will be learning about where Australia is in the world, comparing lots of features with the UK, including animals and weather, and much more! We are using the story *Wombat goes Walkabout* by *Michael Morpurgo* for our text in English and we have already started to describe some of the animals that we have met in the story so far.

In maths, we have been focusing on naming and ordering the days of the week and the months of the year. We have also practised using non-standard units such as cubes and counters to measure length, height and capacity.

Our PE days are now a Monday and a Friday. Miss Jackson will be working on physical literacy skills with the class (such as throwing, catching, balance, co-ordination) on a Monday and our session on a Friday will be focusing on Gymnastics.

We have now completed our Forest School sessions, thank you to Miss Williams and all of the parent helpers who supported the children's learning in these sessions.

Cole Class (Year 2) News

Welcome back after the holidays! Your children have settled back into routine really well and have worked very hard this week.

In English we have been working on a lovely new book "The Crow's Tale", which is based on a Native American folk story. With rhyming text and watercolour pictures, it explains how crow got his black feathers. The story starts in winter, when the animals are famished and freezing. Wise Owl explains that one animal will have to go to the sun to ask for some heat, and crow volunteers. So, we've spent some time looking at how the season change with time lapse videos, and talked about how animals cope with the cold weather. Then we've worked on generating interesting vocabulary, building them together into sentences. We've also spent some time exploring the language and looking at the author's vocabulary choices and use of rhythm and rhyme. We'll be continuing with this next week.

In maths we've been introducing times tables through counting in 2s, 5s and 10s, to round off our current work on multiplication. We've played games, counted and used resources such as blocks and 100 squares to find missing numbers and answer multiplication calculations. All of our work on equal groups has led to the children understanding that 3×5 means "3 equal groups of 5" and then they can calculate that in a variety of ways, including counting and arrays. We've also looked at the commutative law (which means that $3 \times 5 = 5 \times 3$) so children know that instead of calculating 9 groups of 4, they could do 4 groups of 9 instead (which may or may not be easier!). Next week we'll be starting to look at different types of graph.

In our PSHE and class collective worship times we have been talking about love and trust. The children have talked about why love is important to them, and I was really impressed with how thoughtful the children were. We've linked this to our current focus on our "Mindful Magpie" animal attitude, which links to empathy. We've started thinking about what this means and how we can develop our empathy skills to increase our kindness and understanding.

In science we have started a new topic, looking at materials. This week we enjoyed handling and describing different materials, including developing the vocabulary in this area. We'll be continuing this next week with developing the skills to sort materials based on different criteria.

The children have PE outside on a Monday with Miss Jackson, and the PE that I teach on a Friday will sometimes be outside. The children need to have a suitable PE kit for this please, as on Monday many children didn't have jumpers and were rather chilly! Please check that everything is named (biro in labels is fine) as you would not believe how many children can't recognise their own things!

Mrs B

Three things to ask your child this week:

- 1: Why is the crow the best choice to ask the sun for heat?
- 2: What does "x" mean in 3×4 ?
- 3: What does trust mean to you?

Windrush Class (Year 3) News

Firstly, I would like to say happy New Year and that I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas. It's lovely seeing the class back and rested after the holidays.

This week we started exploring our new topics in Literacy and have begun investigating our Geography focus, Italy. We have started reading our new book 'Olivia goes to Venice'. We discussed what she had packed and what we would pack if we were going on holiday. We then used commas in a list to write our own postcards.

In maths we have started learning how to find fractions of amounts, we started by using blocks and counters and moved on to learning to divide by the denominator and multiplying by the numerator. We also discussed how to show our workings using an array method.

I have slightly adjusted the homework hand-in times, as the feedback from parents evening was that the spelling test on a Tuesday was a bit tricky. Moving forward, if I could have the homework in on Thursday then we will have the weekly spelling test on Friday afternoons. The children also have the opportunity to practise their spellings in the mornings after they've done their corrections and morning jobs. Any problems, or confusion, please feel free to grab me at the end of the day.

Glyme Class (Year 4) News

Year 4 have had a good start to the new term. We have begun our new topic of Brazil which has involved lots of exciting discoveries. Did you know that the language spoken in Brazil is Portuguese? Or that the climate in the majority of Brazil is tropical?

We have been focusing on short multiplication this week and have made great steps towards using the method independently and answering word problems. On Tuesday we independently created successful electrical circuits including buzzers to protect a special one million pound box! We practised how to draw circuits scientifically and used our prior knowledge and understanding in the construction of our circuits.

Ock Class (Year 5) News

Happy New Year!

We hope that everyone had a restful and enjoyable holiday, and would like to thank you for all the kind and generous gifts and messages that we received over Christmas. We have had a great start to the new term in Ock Class: lots of children clearly made great listening and a positive attitude towards learning their resolutions for 2018! Let's keep it up all year!

We had an exciting start to the term with our 'trip to California' last week, which launched this term's topic based around the US state of California. Remember to check our class page on the website for photos of this trip and also for news on other areas of our learning.

There are a few changes to our timetable this term. We already had our first **swimming session on Wednesday** morning: Mrs Bungay and Mrs Bayliss were very pleased with the Ock Class' good behaviour and excellent swimming. Our other **PE session will still be on a Monday** afternoon with Miss Jackson. **Homework will continue to be set on a Wednesday** to be returned the following Monday. Our **spelling day will now change to also be a Wednesday**: children will continue to bring home a daily practise sheet but this will now come home on a Wednesday and be tested the following Wednesday.

It has been a pleasure welcoming Mrs Griffiths back to Ock Class this term; we are very excited about all the learning we have planned! We are also pleased to announce that Mr Woods will be doing an eight week teaching practice placement with us starting next week; we are sure that the children will be thrilled to have him leading more of their lessons throughout the term. Finally, Ms McElhatton has been in touch to send her best wishes to all of the children and families in Ock Class - I'm sure you will be pleased to hear that she is settling in well to her new school.

Thames Class (Year 6) News

Please see the letter that went home with your children today.

The school office will also be sending out a parent mail

Sports News

Friends of Appleton School News

Quiz Night (Parents social) - TOMORROW EVENING 7:30 Doors Open 8PM Start - We still have a few tables left for Tomorrow evening, even if you don't have a team come along and we can add you to a team. Team Tickets are £10.00 per Team, individual Tickets are £2.50. You will be able to purchase Dominoes Pizza, Beer, Wine and Soft Drinks. Plus we have a Raffle. Please let me know if you would like any quiz tickets ... jo@ikhaya.com

Christmas Craft Fair:

Thank you to everyone that helped make the craft fair possible in the end, it was a lovely way to end the term, and I know all the children had lots of fun... we will let you know how much was raised shortly.

If you were one of the lucky ones to get a silent auction prize and you have not yet collected it, your prize is in the office waiting to be collecting. If you haven't yet paid for your prize, please leave your money in reception.

My Child's Art: Thank you to everyone that purchased any artwork from My Childs Art Work, you helped Raise £191.28

Dates for your Diaries

National Festival Circus - Saturday 12th May 2018. Tickets on Sale from 2nd April 2018. Show times - 1pm, 2:30pm & 4pm

Community News

Quiz Night, Appleton School, Saturday 13 January, 7.30pm

A great opportunity to banish those January blues and pit your wits against your fellow parents! The Friends will be holding a quiz night on 13 January with questions on a range of topics from last night's TV to things you last thought about at school. Team tickets are £10 for a team of up to 5 people or £2.50 per individual (we will allocate you to a team on arrival). Tickets will go on sale proper from 4 January, but you can pre-book your tickets before then via email; please contact Lucy Read on lucyrebeccagraham@hotmail.com. Pizza will also be on sale on the night and there will be a bar selling wine, beer, and soft drinks.



Parish Council Meeting

The parish council will be holding an extraordinary meeting to discuss planning application P17/V3032/FUL: a development of surplus land to the rear of The Plough Inn, Appleton to provide two detached homes. As part of the same works, the pubs outdated WC block will be demolished to make way for a larger garden. The pub will also have a small extension to accommodate new internal WC's and an extended kitchen.

The meeting will be on Saturday 13th January at 10am in the village hall if you would like to attend