



Dear parents,

School feels really positive and children are learning well. It has been wonderful to see our new reception children settle so well and enjoy whole days with us. What a great start to their journey with us.

School values

It has been great to see so many children taking on our school values. Katie has been developing the value of being ambitious at home by challenging herself to be healthier—she now runs around her garden and does extra bounces on the trampoline each day. Last week we explored being kind in assembly and in class PSHCE lessons. Many children are holding doors open for adults & children and are smiling at our new reception children so they feel like they belong. It was great to spot Delilah showing great kindness to Beatrix too—giving her a little cuddle when Beatrix hurt her knee. Well done Katie and Delilah.

Big Friends, Little Friends

The children in Class 1 and Class 5 have been paired by our teaching team into their Big Friend, Little Friend partnership. This supportive friendship is an opportunity for our older children to take on board a leadership and nurturing responsibility. It also supports our younger children in feeling safe and happy within school. This year the children have already enjoyed sharing books together and I have seen many children playing happily during break times. You're doing a great job Class 5—it's wonderful to see you being kind and leading in such a positive way.

Life Education Workshops

We were delighted to invite the Life Education team back to school again this week. The workshops they run support developing physical & mental wellbeing. Every class has had the opportunity to undertake a workshop geared to their age and needs: Class 1 All about me, Class 2 My wonderful body, Class 3 Meet the brain, Class 4 Friendships, Class 5 Decisions. The children have loved their time with Anita and Harold the giraffe in the tent. She commented on how well the children contributed, shared and behaved. Huge thanks go to the Pinching Trust for part funding this opportunity for our children.



Parent Information Evening

It was wonderful that so many parents joined us for the Reception, Y1 and Y2 Parent Information Evening on reading and spelling. The evening shared the expectations and program of work for Reception, Y1 and Y2 children. The staff were impressed with how you (the parents) joined in with the activities and with the questions you asked. Feedback from parents was 100% positive with the most common request being for more information on maths. Thanks to our wonderful staff team for giving their time and sharing their expertise and for our brilliant parents for joining in.

Harvest

Our celebration for the harvest will be on Thursday 24th October at 2pm at St Michael and All Angels church. All our fantastic classes have been working hard and will share at the harvest celebration while our oldest children will lead the service. We would welcome dried and tinned produce from Monday 21st for display—please see the list. (The local foodbank has said they are unable to accept fresh food goods.) Donations will be distributed to the local foodbank for people in our community facing difficult situations. Do come and enjoy a celebration of harvest with us.

HARVEST 2019 SHOPPING LIST

Tinned Tomatoes
Biscuits
Tinned Vegetables
Pasta Sauce
Dried Pasta
Tinned Pulses
Deodorant
Jam/Marmite
Small bag of Sugar
Carrier Bag

No Baked Beans Please

STROUD DISTRICT FOODBANK
Reg Charity Eng & Wales (1176306)

Parent Association

At the AGM/first meeting of our Parent Association staff shared their sincere thanks on behalf of the school team for the amazing array of resources and opportunities offered to the children because of the funds raised over last year. Highlighted were the end of year theatre treat, percussion lessons for all KS2 children and African drumming sessions for all classes. We thank the PA for continuing to fund Athletics for every child too. Thanks go to all those who have worked hard to lead events, bake cakes, count money and move tables to make events happen. This year Mrs Hills will remain as chair of the PA to organise meetings. Many events for this year already have parent leaders but we are still looking for someone to organise the Christmas Bazaar. Please think carefully if you could give time to do this—if so please contact Mrs Hills or Ms Avastu.

Class 5 Creative Dance

Class 5 children worked hard to devise and perform a fantastic dance on their theme of Egypt. It was great to see how Mrs Shaw, advanced skilled dance teacher, worked with the children to ensure they had ownership of the dance. It was certainly a real treat for the children in other classes and the parents who came to watch.

The children enjoyed their special day and said:

Hero: I liked the different ideas we had to create the dance.

Flossie and Jasmine: We learned about Egyptian moves and dance. Some of the moves were different to us.

Toby C: I enjoyed being an explorer and finding the hieroglyphics.

Lexie: I learned the pyramids were white!

Finley: The dance helped explain the Egyptian lifestyle.

Scarlett: I enjoyed creating the pyramid shape.

Dates for your diary

We have listed below some of the key dates for your diary. In addition we have included the focus of our assemblies so you can think about these values with your children—sometimes I will be asking them to talk to you and report back so be prepared! Individual class teachers will inform you of other activities including educational visits that are planned for terms 1 and 2.

Autumn Term 1

October

- Mon 7th - Value for learning and life: Be resilient
- Thurs 10th - Life Education: C5 decisions, C2 My Wonderful Body, C3 Meet the Brain
- Fri 11th - Life Education: 8.50 parent session (max 20—please give your name to Mrs Birch if you want to join in the fun), C4 Friends, C1 All about me
- Mon 14th - Book week commences in the hall
- Value for learning and life: Be ambitious
- Tues 15th - Parents consultation evenings - share expectations and pupil targets
- Thurs 17th - Parents consultation evenings - share expectations and pupil targets
- Mon 21st - Value for learning and life: Be responsible
- Wed 23rd - C3 & C4 educational visit to Ashmolean Museum (Egypt focus)
- Thurs 24th - Final day of Autumn Term 1 for pupils**
- Harvest Celebration led by C5 (2.00pm St Michael and All Angels church - parents welcome)
- Fri 25th - Staff Inset—**No children today**
- PA Event—Halloween Disco at the OHMG 6-7.30pm—tickets on sale in the office

Autumn Term 2

November

- Mon 4th - First day of Autumn Term 2 for pupils
- Tues 5th - C5 educational visit to Ashmolean Museum (Egypt focus)
- Thurs 7th - Open afternoon for new parents 1:45-3:15pm (please phone Mrs Birch to arrange time)
- Tues 12th - School photographer (individuals and families - school hall)
- Fri 15th - C4 assembly—parents welcome 10am
- Tues 19th - Open morning for new parents 9:30-12:00 (please phone Mrs Birch to arrange time)
- Fri 29th - C3 assembly—parents welcome 10am

December

- Thurs 12th - KS1 Nativity 2pm and 6pm
- Weds 18th - KS2 performance 6pm
- Thurs 19th - KS2 performance 1:45pm and 6pm
- Fri 20th - Final day of Term 2

Spring Term 1 : 2020

January

- Mon 6th - INSET — For staff
- Tues 7th - First day of term for children**
- Fri 10th - C4 Creative dance day. Parents welcome for performance at 2.50pm
- Thurs 16th - Y3 and Y4 swimming weekly lessons commence

Thank you for your continued support,
Zoe Avastu

