



### **Dear parents,**

What a wonderful time of year—I hope you have enjoyed the smoothness of a conker fresh out of its shell, kicking piles of leaves and the blue sky between the rainy days. Taking time to notice the awesomeness around us is a great way to spend time—the children are brilliant at it. At school, many are taking time to notice at lunchtime using the magnifying glasses and binoculars. Class 2 have started their Forest School sessions too so we're making the most of the season.

### **Ashmolean Educational Visit**

Children in Class 3, 4 and 5 had a wonderful time finding out more about the Ancient Egyptians during their visits to the Ashmolean. They asked brilliant questions and engaged really positively with the staff, workshops and exhibits.

Some thoughts from the children:

Lola: I loved the big tower of hieroglyphs. It was interesting and a good thing to learn about.

Rio: I enjoyed looking at the fascinating pictures of Egyptian people and life. They taught me a lot.

Ruby, Red, Florence and Jessica: We learned that if you were a special person, like a king or queen, you had your name written on a cartouche.

George and Millie: we learned that there were many layers and lids on the coffin.

Lily: I knew the scarab beetle was used as a lucky charm and learned they were buried with people to help them have a good afterlife.

Perin & Sam: I learned the coffins had faces painted on them. We saw x-rays of a mummified cat, bird and crocodile too. It was amazing!

Scarlett: I enjoyed working out the names of the people by reading the hieroglyphics—the staff there already knew though!

Myla: It was a weird and strange thought that it was a real person inside a mummy.

### **Harvest**

What a wonderful celebration—the church was full to bursting! The children delighted us with their singing and poetry. Special thanks go to Class 5 for leading the celebration so well and speaking so confidently. It was a lovely time for the school community to come together to give thanks for all we have and remember others. The local food bank were amazed with the fantastic total of **724KG** of food donated by Eastington School. Thank you to everyone who contributed so generously to the harvest food collection.

### **Sport Leader**

Mrs Childs will be leaving us at the end of this term as Sport Leader. She has done a wonderful job of leading this area to give the children great opportunities to increase activity in school. We all wish her well as she continues her journey working with children with higher needs at St Roses.

We are delighted that Mrs Rome will be taking up the post of sports leader in January 2020—those of you who know Mrs Rome know her passion for sport and running in particular. It is great the positive improvements made in school will be continued.

At present we are waiting to hear whether the funding that all schools receive for sport will continue—this is being reviewed by DfE in April 2020. This decision will clearly impact on us and all schools. We will keep you advised of the outcome of this decision when we are informed.

### **School Website and text service**

Thank you for your feedback on the parents survey last year. One of the issues that was raised by several of you was improving communication.

You will be pleased to hear the texting service is now in operation to enable us to share short messages and reminders with you when needed. We will try to strike a balance of sharing enough but not too much. Please do let us know if your mobile number changes so we can update our records. In addition, if you haven't completed your text service form then please do so and return to Mrs Birch.

The school has developed a new website too. We hope that the layout is clearer and easier to use. We have included a calendar which we hope will help with planning events. More will be added to the website over the year. We extend sincere thanks to Mrs Spencer and Mr Curtis for their help in setting the new website up.

## Parent Evening

It was lovely to see so many of you at parent evening. Thank you for sharing information and supporting. The more we work together, the more your children will achieve. Also we raised valuable funds from the bookfair - each class will select and order books to restock their class libraries. Many thanks to Mrs Yorke, Mrs Williams, Mrs Birch and all the wonderful TA team for running the fair.

## Halloween Disco and PA

The PA organised a fantastic Halloween Disco at the Owen Harris Memorial Ground at the end of term. The children loved dressing up and dancing to party classics! The 'yucky' dip game—which involved putting your hand in spaghetti slime to win a treat—was great fun. A wonderful time was had by all. Huge thanks go to Mrs Walton and Mrs Hayward for organising the event so well and to all the team who helped in making it a success.

On another note, it is with real sadness that the PA share they will not have a PA Christmas Fair this year—they are lacking someone to coordinate the event. The teachers have decided we will make Christmas items and hold a short sale at the end of the day in the final week so children can enjoy making something for the season.

## Flu Immunisation

The flu immunisation programme has been widened to all pupils in schools this year—it is felt delivering the programme through schools is the best way to ensure the maximum number of children are protected. It is administered as a nasal spray by the local health team within the school day. Our school has been allocated the 3rd December. Consent forms have been sent, please complete and return as soon as possible. For more information please go to: <https://www.glos-care.nhs.uk/our-services/children-young-people/immunisation>.

## Christmas Performances

The teachers in each Key Stage have started to organise Christmas performances for this year. For parents new to the school, we hold a KS1 nativity and a KS2 performance in December. Families will be allocated tickets which allow us to work within the H&S guidelines for our building. We ask parents to return any unwanted tickets to the office if they know they are not going to be used so they can be reallocated. Letters with more detailed information will follow nearer the time. We hope you can join us—watching the children perform is always a real treat.

## 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. Individual class teachers and sports coaches will inform you of other activities including educational visits that are planned for their children.

### 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)
- Wed 27th - PC Weedon (local BEAT Officer) : Role of the police assembly for all children
- Fri 29th - C3 assembly—parents welcome 10am
- Tag Rugby Festival Y5/Y6 TBC Mr Meloscia will inform those involved

#### December

- Fri 6th - School Council enter Christmas Tree Festival in St Michael and All Angels church
- Thurs 12th - KS1 Nativity 2pm and 6pm
- Mon 16th - Christmas Dinner—children welcome to wear Christmas jumpers-£1 donation to PA welcomed.
- 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 /drama 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**

