

Wootton St. Peter's CE Primary School Newsletter

14th June 2019

Our Vision: Unlocking hearts and minds to a love of learning and love for one another.

www.wootton-school.co.uk

Our School Values: Perseverance, Generosity and Compassion.



SCHOOL NEWS

Up Coming Dates:

- **Swimming Starts** – Weds 24th April – 3rd July.
- **IMPS Trip Yr 5&6 at Abingdon Hospital**- Thurs 27th June.
- **Yr 2, 3 and 4 trip to The Frank Chapman Outdoor Education Centre** - Mon 1st July.
- **Sports Day**- Fri 5th July
- **Reserve Sports Day**- Fri 12th July.
- **Yr 3 & 4 trip to The Ashmolean Museum** - Mon 8th July.
- **KS2 Performance**- Weds 10th July at 5.30pm & Thurs 11th July at 6.30pm.

After School Clubs and Contact Details

Tuesday - Street Dance for KS1 & 2, 3.00-4.00pm
Please contact the club provider for booking information. charlotteBarnard.dance@gmail.com

Wednesday - Football club 3.00-4.00pm, **Weds 24th April– Weds 17th July**, running for 12 weeks. Please contact Grass roots directly for any further information liam@grassroots-coaching.co.uk

Inspection

We have been notified of our church inspection this coming Thursday 20th June. Karen Surrall, the inspector, will be spending the day with us looking at what makes us distinctive as a church school. There will be a time lapse before we can share the outcome with you but hopefully it will be available before the end of term.

The Manor School

Year 3 have been invited to The Manor School for an athletics afternoon on Tuesday 25th June from 1.15pm-2.30pm. The Manor have very kindly offered to provide transport, snacks and drinks at no cost for the children. Hopefully the sun will be shining for what we know will be a lovely afternoon.

Steve Morton Memorial Golf Day

We would like to say thank you to the golfers who took part raising money for The Steve Morton Memorial fund, held on Bank holiday Monday. They have very kindly donated £150.00 to our school which they would like us to spend on an activity for the children.

Achievements



Little Gems- Noor for her fantastic hand writing and great Phonics. Good job Noor ☺

Opal- Imogen D for really pushing herself and her fantastic fractions work. Great job Imogen.

Jade- Woody for working independently and always looking out for others. Well done Woody ☺

Moonstone- Residential

KS2 Performance

Key stage two children will be performing the musical 'What a Knight!' On Weds 10th July at 5.30pm and Thursday 11th July at 6.30pm.

It lasts about an hour and is a humorous show. All Key stage 2 children are involved in the production.

Parents are invited. There will be tickets allocated to ensure that everyone has a chance to see it and there will be an opportunity to say which performance you are able to attend. Details of tickets will follow. 2 per family initially.

Reminders...

BSC/ASC

ASC/BSC forms for September Term 1. Please can we have these back with full payment as soon as possible. We have a meeting for our new reception children on Monday 15th July and it is possible some of them will want to book BSC/ASC. We have already had a lot of forms returned and at present there are not many spaces left for September.

School Dinners

Our school meal provider has asked us to inform any parents whose child may owe for school lunches that they **must be bought up to date immediately**. Any balances that are not cleared will I'm afraid lead to your child not being able to have a school lunch. If you are unsure if you owe or are having trouble clearing any balances please do pop into the school office to discuss payment plan options. Thank you.

Unauthorised Absence - A message from the Governing Board

The Governors' received a report on *unauthorised absence* at the Full Governing Board on Wednesday of this week. We were concerned to see that significant numbers of days were being lost due to parents and carers taking children out of school during the term. Whilst the Board is acutely conscious of the pressures and costs of holidays out of term-time, the Government requires that children are at school during the school term and that a very high level of attendance is required. As a result the school must take steps to ensure that levels of attendance are maintained. To that end the Full Governing Board requested that a

message be sent to parents regarding the potential consequences of taking children out of school during term-time and thus incurring an unauthorised absence.

The school year is taught in sequences with work coming to completion as the term ends. The removal of children at this time often means that they are unable to complete the work that they have undertaken during the rest of the term. This incomplete work cannot be undertaken at a later stage due to the time available and, essentially, those children simply miss finishing that element of the work or project. There is also the impact of unauthorised absence on the rest of the class. We happily operate with small class sizes but as a result the loss of one or two children in a class can have an impact on group work and participation. This affects the other children when they are called to work in smaller groups than the teacher had planned, making the teaching less enjoyable, less engaging and potentially less effective.

Finally there is the impact on other parents and carers who see unauthorised absence going without comment or sanction and are thus less concerned about removing children themselves during term-time.

As the Governing Board we strongly feel that it is imperative that high standards of absence are maintained. We agreed that Mrs Rose and the staff should follow the guidance on unauthorised absence provided by the Oxfordshire Schools Attendance team, issuing the necessary notices and penalties where repeat unauthorised absence occurs. We do not take this step lightly and are mindful of the potential impact this may have but the children only get a short period to equip themselves with the tools and skills necessary to enter secondary school and every day lost has a negative effect on that.

We would ask that we all work together to secure and maintain the high attendance levels expected by the Government, not for government, but to give our children the best opportunities their time at school can offer.

Thank you for taking the time to read this message.

Andrew Morgan
Chair of Governors
Wootton St Peter's C of E Primary School

Have a lovely weekend let's hope the sun shines for us!

Fiona Rose
Head Teacher

