



Packington

Church of England Primary School

June 2017

Newsletter

DEAR ALL,

We are now racing towards the end of another school year and the last few weeks have been full of activity with pupils involved in a variety of visits as well as sporting and musical activities. I have tried to pack as much news as possible into my letter but there are more photographs on our website and Twitter. So please do enjoy reading our news.

Holiday and Term Date Consultation

Over recent years Packington has followed the pattern of term and holiday dates agreed by the Ashby Learning Community. Originally the dates were changed because those set by the local authority did not provide balanced half terms and would have resulted in pupils starting school before a bank holiday and then having a 3 day weekend off. Heads have discussed the issues and benefits of adapting the dates. We have already agreed our dates for the academic year 2017/18 and you will find these published on our website. Please be aware that they are different to the Local Authority dates. However, we would now like to consult parents on the term dates for 2018/19. These are attached to this letter and can be found on the website. I have now been informed by Ivanhoe, Ashby School and Willesley (who produce our school dinners), as well as a number of other local primary schools that they view these dates to be of benefit to their pupils and that they have formally agreed to follow the 'Ashby holiday' pattern for 2018/19. Governors at Packington now need to decide on which holiday pattern to adopt and wish to consult parents before making a decision. **The consultation period opens with receipt of this letter and will close at 4pm on Friday 10th July 2017.** Should you wish to express a view please write to the governors, marking the envelope FAO The Governing Body and then hand it in at the office.

SPORTING SUCCESS



What a successful summer of sport we have had in 2017. It began with a great morning for our sports day. The weather was perfect and everybody put their hearts and souls into all the events to support their House Team. The Sports Leaders from Ivanhoe also came along once again to help and support pupils. Their words of encouragement definitely spurred the pupils on.



Then both our Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 teams got through to the NWLSSP Hockey Finals. Both played extremely well. Year 3/ 4 came 3rd and our Year 5/ 6 team took 2nd place. So well done to all those who took part! Next came two new events, the NWLSSP Year 5/ 6 Go-Ride Cycling competition and Quad Kids. We sent two teams to the cycling and managed a respectable 5th and 9th place. There was more success in the Quad kids with Packington coming 3rd in the team event and Georgie Lewis taking third place in the individual competition. The best news was that Packington were awarded with the Spirit of the Games Award for **teamwork, determination, passion, self-belief, honesty and respect.**



Finally, we sent a large contingent to the KS2 Area Athletics at Saffron Lane. Congratulations to Layla and Georgie who came 1st and 2nd in their individual races as well as the Year 4 girls who won their relay.

NEWS HEADLINES

***TREE OF REFLECTION** ~ Over the last few weeks' pupils have had the opportunity to think about a question that they would like to ask God and what the Holy Spirit means to them. They have recorded their questions and thoughts on a new shiny CD and we are in the process of hanging them on our Tree of Reflection to replace the old CD's. It's lovely to see the tree sparkling in the sunshine once again.

***TESCO THANK YOU** ~ If you weren't aware we came second in the Tesco Bags for Help Scheme. Can we thank you for all your fantastic support. We are pleased to say we have now received a cheque for £2000 which will help pay for the climbing frame.

***PASTOR SAM HELPS THE OWLS LEARN ABOUT THE REFORMATION** ~ We were delighted to welcome Pastor Sam Dunn from the Ashby Baptist church into school. He gave a presentation to the Owls as part of their topic work on the Tudors. During the session he talked about the Reformation, how this led to the development of the Baptist Church and the difference between an Anglican Church and the Baptist Church.

***UNITY PRESENTATION NIGHT** – It was a successful night at the Unity Presentation evening at Ivanhoe School with Packington pupils receiving awards for cross country and swimming. Our Samba drummers also performed at the event which celebrated the joint work, the talents and achievement of the pupils across our network of small schools.

***ROSLISTON VISIT** ~ Year 6 will visit Rosliston Forestry Centre with Mrs Clark and Mr Emery to celebrate the end of their time at Packington. We wish them well and we hope that the sun shines.

YEAR 2 CAMP OUT

The Year 2's had a super night camping under the stars on the school grounds. I hear everybody got a good night's sleep. The pupils really look forward to this event that marks the end of their time as a Key Stage 1 pupil. We would like to thank all the parents who provided tents and helped to supervise the children with Mrs Fryer and Mrs Johnston.



TOGETHER WE CAN ACHIEVE MORE – with Jesus as our guiding light!

Funding Formula - UPDATE

Following the election there have been no further updates on school funding. We will keep you informed of any further news.

GOD OF LIGHT PRAYER STATIONS

Our Year 6 pupils visited the God of Light Prayer Stations in Holy Rood Church as part of our work to provide pupils with more spiritual experiences and to help them to develop a better understanding of the Holy Spirit.



Pupil Led Worship

This term Mrs Mugglestone has worked with several groups of pupils to support them in planning and delivering their own worship in school. These are particularly popular and much enjoyed by everyone and it's great to see pupils showing the confidence to reflect and lead on the different elements that make up collective worship. This week the pupils told the story of Jesus healing Jairus' daughter.



SEA LIFE VISIT

"I really liked the turtles the best."

The FS/KS1 visit to the Sea Life Centre was a resounding success and inspired the pupils; they were very keen to tell everybody about their experiences on their return. The visit supported the pupils' topic on Ocean explorers and stimulated a range of writing, role play and artwork.



Solar Farm Adventure

The Owls had a fabulous day when they visited the Solar Park. They spent time learning about the issues of using solar power and also how biodiversity is being supported and encouraged on the land around the solar panels.



Happy Retirement Mrs Rooms

Mrs Rooms has decided to take early retirement and we would like to wish her well in her new ventures. She has worked at the school for 12 years and we have valued her commitment to the school and particularly her artistic skills. Have a very happy retirement Mrs Rooms! Her role in the Blackbirds will be covered by Miss Twigg and Mrs Walshaw.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

29th June ~ Unity Celebration Evening
30th June ~ Clarinet Performance
5th July ~ Rev' Vivien visit
6th/ 7th July ~ Ivanhoe / Ibstock taster Days
11th July ~ Pupil led Collective Worship
12th July ~ Year 6 visit to Rosliston
14th July ~ Leavers Service END OF TERM
29th August ~ The New Academic Year 2017/18 begins

Governor Corner

A Full Governing Body meeting took place at the start of June where governors agreed the budget for the financial year. They also took the opportunity to review the impact of school improvement work and plan the timetable for meetings for the new academic year. In addition, governors have visited school to monitor a range of subjects including, Art, R.E, Maths, French and provision for more-able and SEN pupils as well as behaviour. Reports will be shared at the next Monitoring and Curriculum meeting where strengths and weaknesses will be discussed and action points for improvement will be identified.

Governors can be contacted via the office e mail.

Sharing Our Musical Skills

Over the last few weeks we have marvelled at the musical talent we have at Packington. Our flute players showcased some of the pieces that they have been learning in their lessons during a Growing and Glowing time. The clarinet players have performed at a morning concert for parents and our piano players will have the opportunity to play in a collective worship before the end of term.



Science Fayre

Congratulations to our pupils, who Took part in the KS2 Science Fayre. The hard work and effort was clear to see. Congratulations to the six pupils who were selected to represent the school at the Ashby Science Fayre on Tuesday 20th June. A special well done goes to Meren and Sofia who took third place.



Our New APP

Our Packington School App is now available. Just go to the App store and search Packington CofE PS and you can download it for free. It will make it much easier to view our website on your phone or tablet and you will be able to sign up for alerts when new content or messages are posted on the website. (The website can be accessed via the tab marked Links). Do have a peek at all the photos in the gallery.



We Welcomed our New Starters

It was great to meet all the children who will start in Reception at the end of August. It didn't take long before they were exploring the classroom and making new friends. The home corner, the sand tray and an enormous box were particular favourites. The children will make two more visits to school as part of their induction.



LEAVERS SERVICE

**Friday 14th July
2pm Holy Rood Church**

Please join us as we say a fond farewell to our Year 6 pupils and celebrate the end of yet another successful year.

Please remember we have an open door policy so should you have any concerns please contact your child's class teacher or myself. You can contact us either in school, by phone (01530 412425) or e-mail (headteacher@packington.leics.sch.uk). Remember if you are coming into school please report to the school office.