

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week's newsletter focuses on a range of events for you to participate in, both in and out of school. The new Parent Carer Forum for Oxfordshire will be launched on the 8th November, an event run by the Oxfordshire Family Support Network entitled 'Better Together Event'. The forum has been set up by a group of parents with children who have special education needs and disabilities (SEND) to work with Oxfordshire County Council and the local NHS to help improve services for SEND children. As members of the National Network of Parent Carer Forum's, they will support the development of parent carer participation, a process in which parents work together with professionals to make improvements to local services.

Julia Stackhouse, Co-Chair of the Oxfordshire Parent Carer forum has told me, 'Our vision is to be a well-informed, connected and empowered community of families of children with disabilities or additional needs. I want to build links with as many informal and formal groups both those of parents and professionals so that me and my team can work in partnership with health, education and social care to create quality services that meet the needs of all parent carers and their children'.

Stephanie Harrison, Co-Chair of the Oxfordshire Parent Carer Forum added 'If anyone has parental responsibility for a child or young person with additional needs or a disability, who is aged between birth and 25 years old and lives in Oxfordshire, please join us and share your experiences so that we can strive to improve services in Oxfordshire'.

For further information, please contact Julia or Stephanie via the following:

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I am also pleased to share with you some important dates for events in school between now and the end of term. Further details will be circulated to you via Parent Mail in the coming weeks.

7.11.18 Royal Albert Hall Concert (contact the school office for ticket details)

22.11.18 Osprey and Red Kite Class Assembly

3.12.18 Christmas Carol Concert at St. Edwards School Chapel

18.12.18 Christmas Production

Our next **INSET day is Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November**. This means school will not be open to pupils and the taxis have been cancelled. The staff will spend the morning completing First Aid training and the afternoon will involve a presentation on how to use a piece of software called Clicker 7. This well-known resource is an excellent way of improving writing in pupils who struggle to put their ideas down on paper.

With best wishes,



Jonathan Willis

Headteacher



### **Wren Class: (Mrs Silk):**

Wren class have been getting in the Halloween spirit this week and enjoyed creating their own potions. In Literacy they wrote out the list of ingredients they needed and thought carefully about what their potion would do if someone drank it. This followed on in Numeracy where they had to identify which coins they needed to pay for the ingredients. We then enjoyed making the potions in Science and thinking about how certain chemical reactions occurred.

### **The Nest (Miss Youngman)**

The Nest started their week with a PSHCE lesson talking about values and what values we think would be good for our school. We were given the opportunity to vote on those we think are most important. Our numeracy unit this week is measurement and we have been learning all about length. We know the different units that are used and the equipment that we could use to measure the length or width of an object. Some of us have been using decimal representations of length. For our literacy topic we have started a new unit on Spooky Stories. We are creating our own haunted houses and using them to help stimulate us during our independent writing task on the description of a setting.

### **Chaffinch Class (Mrs McClimont):**

Chaffinch ended the term with a trip to Cutteslowe Park. We went to the butterfly enclosure and enjoyed admiring these beautiful creatures. Everyone was so polite and well behaved that we have been invited back with the offer to get some of the other mini beasts out for us. I hope we can take up this kind offer soon. We finished our text based on The Eye of The Wolf. We then watched an animation of the story, in French! We compared the two and discussed which version we liked best. In Maths our focus has been on reading the time and solving word problems. Please encourage your children to continue to read the time at home. Our new topic for this term is Scream Machine - looking at Forces.

### **Osprey Class (Mr Moar):**

In Literacy we have been looking at different countries around the world and how they compare and contrast with the United Kingdom. In maths we have been looking at doubling and halving numbers by partitioning as well as looking at sorting Data into Venn diagrams. In our topic work we have been looking at nutrition and food groups as well as looking at the different types of skeletons.

### **Red Kite Class (Miss Morgan):**

Red Kite have been learning about animals' migration, and trying to answer the Big Question: which animal has the toughest migration? In numeracy we have been learning how to round to 10, 100, 1000 and placing 4-digit numbers on a number line. In Topic, we have started an exciting project, where we are designing our own theme park in small groups. We have begun to work out which rides we can include to stay within budget and are designing our own thrill seeker rides!

### **Falcon Class (Mrs Rolfe):**

Falcon would like to welcome you back from half term. We had a busy term coming up we will be learning how to keep ourselves healthy in science and PE lessons. In topic we will continue to learn about mountains. Also, Falcon Class are organising events for children in need including a cake sale (donations welcome).

### **Kingfisher Class (Mrs Burns):**

Kingfisher class have started working on a new story in literacy—an audio book called 'The Ghost Thief'. All the children listened well to the first episode and they made some great story maps to show the main events. In maths we have focused on 3D shapes. We worked as a class to sort 3D shapes onto Venn diagrams. We have been learning about maps in geography, looking at the points on a compass, grid references and OS symbols. The children came up with some brilliant ideas for their own OS symbols for a rugby stadium, library, cinema and park. This half term we will be swimming on a Wednesday morning and will have PE on a Friday.

### **Robin Class (Miss Davies):**

Robin are beginning to settle in their new class. We have started looking at our new topic 'Scream Machine'. We designed theme park rides and created them out of lego. In science we are discovering different forces, we carried out an investigation. Our question was "why don't riders fall out of a roller coaster at the top of a loop?". Robin class enjoyed watching our guest student spinning around with a bucket of water. We discovered the pull of gravity was much stronger which enabled the water to stay inside the bucket.

### **Woodpecker Class (Mr Jeffries):**

Woodpeckers have been using a range of research skills to find out about different animals' migration and then recording and sharing their findings. We have been learning about where different food types come from and found potatoes in the school garden, which we will be using to make chips! The children did some fantastic maths investigations to do with perimeter and area. We have used the formula for area to create their own shapes and answered questions regarding comparisons of regular shapes.

### **Eagle Class (Mrs Bishop):**

This term we will be looking at non-fiction writing and poetry linked to our fairground topic. Science will be linked to our topic too with 'forces' being our focus. We played a game of apple bobbing and talked about the origins of Halloween, wrote firework poems and produced some firework art. Next week, we will be learning about Remembrance Day and the poppy, to celebrate 100 years since the end of the First World War.