



SS PHILIP & JAMES' CHURCH OF ENGLAND
VOLUNTARY AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL

Together we shine

Friday 20th October 2017

Dear parents and carers,

As we come to the end of what has been a busy but enjoyable half term, I want to thank you for your support. The governors and I have a clear development plan for the year which is focused on developing the curriculum and ensuring learning opportunities are fulfilling and offer our children challenge and enjoyment. We are on a journey and inevitably some changes will take longer to embed than others, however as we draw a close on the first half term, we are pleased with the progress made thus far.

House point certificate

One of the areas we are developing is how, as a school, we recognise the children's hard work and their contributions to our school community. Every child is in one of our four houses; Foxes, Herons, Kingfishers and Badgers. When a child earns a house point they are contributing to their own reward as well as to their house total. House points are awarded to the children for effort, daily reading, kindness to others and achievement.

Well done to Herons who finished this half term with the most house points 725. Herons have decided they would like their treat to be extra play which will take place on Friday 3rd November.

We would like to congratulate the following children who have been award 25 house points and their bronze certificate. **Blue 1:** Noah, **Blue 2:** Charlie, Hayoon, Noah, Hagen, Arnold, Joshua, Matthew, Stella, Hippolyte, Saoirse, Owen and Max. **Blue 3:** Freddie; Penelope; Millie; Issac; Josh; Yiwen; Luca; Oscar; Mary; Hannah; Gordan; Taimur; Jasper; Dennis; Leo; Milo; Maria; Benji; Sein; Zak. **Blue 4:** Dominic, **Lilac 1:** Zeph; Melody; Clara; Bjorn; Oliver; Mathilda; Jocelyn; Angus; Zoe; Aram; Akul; Sean, **Lilac 2:** Louise; Jago; Bernardo; Zoe; Oliver. **Lilac 3:** Saskia; Theo; Mimi; Aurelia; Sophie; Jeylan; Alex; Zach; Kiefer; Mumo; Amber; Adam; Tom. **Lilac 4:** Noah; Rosie; Malavika; Molly; Louis; Mila; Sasika; Jack; Sharday, Henry H, Tom.

Well done to Freddie in **Blue 3**, Hayoon in **Blue 2**, Zeph in **Lilac 1** and Noah in **Lilac 3** who have all been presented with silver awards for earning 50 house points.

Phonics information evening for Early Years Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 parents– Tuesday 14th November 6.30pm

We are holding a phonics information session aimed at the parents and carers of the youngest children in the school. Phonics is an important part of your child's learning and so we will be explaining how we teach phonics and exploring terms like phonemes, blending and sound buttons etc. We will also explore the part phonics plays in your child's early reading and writing development. Some of it will be a practical; we hope you will leave with an idea of what a phonics lesson is like for your child as well as practical ways you can support your child at home. To ensure we prepare enough resources, please let the office know if you will be attending.

Mrs Hilma Lindqvist – Key Stage 1 English leader



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Success for Henry Myers and Louis Griffiths

I am sure you will join me in congratulating Henry Myers and Louis Griffiths who represented Phil and Jim at the Abingdon Vale Biathlon time trial last weekend. They were entered by their parents and both performed brilliantly. Henry (3rd overall in under 11's, year 5 and 6) has qualified to represent Phil and Jim at the national schools Biathlon trials in Birmingham in November and will also be competing at the national individual trials at Crystal Palace in March 2018.

Staff changes

We are saying goodbye to three teaching assistants who have worked at Phil and Jim for a number of years. Mrs Helen Rallison is leaving us today to spend more time with her family. Mr Nacho Perez is leaving in early November to pursue a career in teaching, and Ms Aniko Toth is leaving in early November to pursue other career options. Mrs Wiles (part time teacher in Blue 4) has left to continue with her teaching career closer to home. We would like to thank them for their hard work and commitment to the school.

I would like to warmly welcome Miss Yasmin Matthews teaching assistant for Green Circle 1; Miss Kate Rendle teaching assistant in Blue 3 and Miss Rachel McCreadie teaching assistant in Pink 4. They have settled in very well and are a welcome addition to our school.

The Swan School consultation

The Swan School is a new comprehensive secondary school due to open for Year 7 pupils in 2019 at the Harlow Centre site in Marston. The River Learning Trust who are responsible for opening the new school, as well as having responsibility for a number of other schools including The Cherwell School, are having a consultation period about what The Swan School will be like, including the catchment area. The proposed draft catchment area overlaps totally with the current Cherwell School catchment area as well as having some additional areas and as such the school may be of interest to parents.

All consultation materials, including a questionnaire, are available via this link <http://theswanschool.org.uk/> and you can also sign up on the website for regular email updates. The consultation is running until Monday 27th November and there are public consultation events being held at New Marston Primary School 6-8pm on Wednesday 1st November and Tuesday 7th November.

Message from French Club

Every week a topic is done in class and given to the children to take home, and parents are encouraged to look at it. Really good progress has been done by all, and some songs have been learnt, well done. And bonnes vacances...
Christine Stewart jones.

PTA news

***Women of Phil & Jim: Get ready to spruce up your wardrobe in aid of our PTA!
We we be holding our first SWISHING (clothes-swap) event at school on Saturday 18
November from 7.30pm.***

New to swishing? IT IS SO MUCH FUN!!!



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Here is how it works: you bring pre-loved items from your wardrobe (in good condition that you'd be proud to pass on) and in turn, you will be able to choose some new-to-you items (brought by fellow party goers) to take home. Everything that everyone brings will be up for grabs - you don't need to swap with anyone in particular, just wander round with a glass of wine and nibbles and see what takes your fancy. Those tops of yours that no longer excite you might just be someone else's cup of tea, and vice versa!

There will be a £5 fee to participate in the swish, and a small fee to pay per item you wish to take away. Look for more details on ticket buying in the coming weeks!!

And for more info on swishing, please have a look at [this link](#), or ask Allison Hood or Maya Little - it really is exciting and fun!!

'New' clothes + supporting PTA = WIN WIN!!

Please note:

- Everyone who comes needs to bring at least one quality item of clothing, pair of shoes, accessory, or outerwear in good condition and worthy of a swap - no old, washed out t-shirts please.*
- We will not have capacity to do anything with items that are not taken, so punters should be prepared to take back home any of their unswished items at the end of the evening.*
- Note that his event is for women's quality attire only; no men's, children's, or home wares.*

Christmas Card project

If you were involved in making artwork for the Christmas Card Project, we have great news. The artworks have all been scanned by APFS and sent back to us today. We have delivered them to your children's teachers and they should be going home in book bags today. If you didn't get yours, please ask your child's teacher first or otherwise email Lisa - lisa@spinningfish.org.

*You now have until **midnight on 2 November** to order cards, gift tags, wrapping paper.*

The instructions for ordering are on the sticker on the back of the artwork.

Please go to the website www.apfsorders.co.uk

*Then you need to input the unique QR code which is on the sticker on the back of your artwork and your child's surname. **Note:** You should use the surname printed on the sticker, even if you don't want that printed on the card!*

After that, you can follow the instructions on the website to check orientation of artwork, check school name, complete the name or details you want on the back of the card, choose a greeting, preview card and proceed to payment or enter another card.

PLEASE NOTE: *When you preview your card, you may see a white line along one side which looks about 5 mm thick. I am advised by APFS that this line will not appear on the*



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printed cards. However, they are also working to ensure it does not appear on the online preview and it should be fixed by the end of today, 18 October. So if you want to wait to order your cards until tomorrow, you should then be able to preview card without the white line.

There has been huge support for the project this year with 161 artworks submitted, many more than previous years! It would be great if we could also raise funds for our school. Happy ordering!

After ordering is complete, the printed cards should be delivered to us by mid November.

| Autumn Term 2017 & INSET | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Half Term | Monday 23 rd October – Friday 27 th October |
| INSET (school closed) | Monday 30 th October |
| End of Autumn Term | Tuesday 19 th December <u>1.30pm</u> |
| <u>Start of Spring Term</u> | Thursday 4 th January 2018 |

| Dates for your diary | |
|---|---|
| Year 6 Maths Challenge at St Edwards | Tuesday 31 st October |
| Parents Evening | Wednesday 1 st November 3.30pm-5.30pm in school hall |
| Parents Evening | Thursday 2 nd November 5.00pm- 7.30pm in the school hall |
| Individual pupils photographs | Thursday 2 nd November |
| Year 5 trip – Cotswold Wildlife Trip | Friday 3 rd November |
| Year 4 Maths Challenge at Summer Fields | Tuesday 7 th November |
| Year 3-6 Cross Country Competition (details to follow) | Tuesday 7 th November |
| Year 6 Netball Match (details to follow) | Tuesday 7 th November |
| Year 6 Cinema Trip to Phoenix Pictures to see House | Thursday 9 th November |
| Anti-Bullying Week | Monday 13 th November – Friday 17 th November |
| Phonics Evening – EYFS and KS1 | Tuesday 14 th November – 6.30pm – 7.30pm |
| Children in Need (details to follow) | Friday 17 th November |
| Year 5 & 6 Anti Bullying Week Assembly for Parents | Friday 17 th November 9.00am in school hall |



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|---|---|
| PTA Swishing | Saturday 18 th November |
| Year 3 – Natural History Museum | Thursday 23 rd and 24 th November |
| Year 3 Violin Assembly for parents | Tuesday 28 th November |
| Flu Jabs – EYFS, Year 1,2,3,4 | Wednesday 29 th November |
| South Africa Day (details to follow) | Friday 1 st December from 2pm |
| Whole School visit to Oxford Playhouse -Panto (details to follow) | Monday 4 th December |
| Christingle service in church for children | Tuesday 5 th December |
| Year 5 – Wychwood School for MFL day (details to follow) | Wednesday 6 th December |
| Year 1 Nativity in Church | Tuesday 12 th December 6.00pm |
| Early Years Foundation Stage Nativity | Wednesday 13 th December 9.30am in the school hall |
| Year 2 Christmas carol concert | Tuesday 14 th December 2.30pm in school hall |
| KS2 carol service in church (details to follow) | Thursday 14 th December St Margaret's Church 6.30pm |
| PTA Christmas Bazaar | Friday 15 th December |

I would like to wish you all a restful half term and I look forward to welcoming you back Tuesday 31st October.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Awuye
Headteacher

Community news

Please find information that might be of interest to members of the school community.

CHRISTMAS BOX PROJECT

Penny & Sinclair Summertown are supporting Rotary's Christmas Box project this year, and could use your help!

This project sends boxes full of useful items and gifts to those less fortunate in Central and Eastern Europe at the holiday season.



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The Summertown branch of Penny & Sinclair has 300 empty boxes ready to fill. Drop in to pick one up; information with instructions and recommendations on what to fill it with will be provided.

Boxes need to be returned by 24th November so that they can reach recipients by Christmas.

For more info, visit: <http://www.rotaryshoebox.org/>. Please note that Rotary has no religious or political affiliation.