



Phil & Jim

SS Philip and James' Church of England  
VA Primary School  
*With love we flourish*

Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Harvest service will be taking place in St Margaret's Church next **Thursday at 2.15pm** with the whole school taking part. Please do join us if you are able to. Mrs Cheang and Mrs Ponsonby would be grateful for parent volunteers to walk with EYFS, so if you are able to support, please email Mrs Cheang.

We are collecting items for The Gatehouse who support the homeless and vulnerably housed in Oxford City. If you would like to donate, Gatehouse would be grateful for the following items:

*Tuna (they are in desperate need of this), sweetcorn, hot chocolate, mayonnaise, salad cream, tomato Ketchup, baked beans, cake, coffee, tea, bottles of squash, sugar, crisps, individual chocolate bars/ packets of biscuits, individual cartons of juice.* Thank you for your support.

#### **Events next week:**

##### **Coffee morning for families of children with SEND**

On Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October, between 9.00am and 10.00am, you are invited to join us for a coffee and chat. This is an informal gathering and a chance to talk to other families about their experiences. I will also be there in case you have any general questions. Please do let me know if you will be joining us. My email is [senco@ss-philip-andjames.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:senco@ss-philip-andjames.oxon.sch.uk)

*Miss Mallon, SENDCO*

**Parent Forum with the Senior Leadership Team** takes place next week on Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> October 5.00pm-5.30pm and will be dedicated to discussing the requirement for all schools to provide a 32.5 hour week by September 2023. This change is part of government plans, unveiled in the white paper, to make sure every child can reach the full height of their potential.

Currently our week totals 31.25 hours, requiring us to increase our week by 1.25 hours and so we would like to seek the views of parents and carers as we move to agree our opening times for September 2023. If you are unable to attend but would like to share your thoughts, we will be sending all parents a short survey just after half term.

#### **Monster Phonics**

If you missed the last Monster Phonics "How to help your child with phonics" webinar, there is another on Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at 8pm.

Sign-up using the link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/parent-webinar-phonics-explained-how-to-help-your-child-with-phonics-tickets-392982480177?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

*Miss Coleman, Early Reading & Phonics Lead*



#### **Reminder: Open Classrooms**

Next week, classrooms will be open on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October 3.15 – 4.15pm, in advance of parents' evenings next half-term, if you wish to look at your child's books.



### **Black History Week**

This week, and in conjunction with Black History month, the children have been studying black pioneers in their English and History lessons, with a focus on their amazing achievements and accomplishments.

Year 1: Rosa Parks and Esther Mahlangu

Year 4: Martin Luther King and Barack Obama

Year 2: Jesse Owens and Marcus Rashford

Year 5: Bob Marley and Stormzy

Year 3: Nelson Mandela and Sam King

Year 6: Olaudah Equiano and Harriet Tubman

The children have been learning all about their lives, what they have accomplished, and the differences they have made in the world. This week, the children are writing reports and factfiles, and next week they will be looking at the contributions to music and poetry by black artists.

### **The first week back after half term: Science-fiction Project & Dress-up Day: Monday, 31<sup>st</sup> October**

Next half-term, we will be launching an exciting *new* whole school English project: Science-fiction, which will run for 4 weeks. As part of the project, the children will study a range of texts and authors (please see the list below), including, amongst others, well-regarded writers, HG Wells, Neil Gaiman and Madeleine L'Engle. In English, the project will focus on the conventions of the genre and explore audience and purpose. The project will also have cross-curricular links with Design & Technology, Computing, Science and Maths. We will hold weekly Key Stage 2 quizzes and run numerous competitions throughout the project for the children to enter. It promises to be a fun, exciting and challenging project for the children!



**Dress-up Day:** To launch the sci-fi project, we are inviting all children to dress-up as characters from science-fiction on **Monday, 31<sup>st</sup> October**. It can be anyone from sci-fi, e.g. Captain Kirk, Princess Leia, E.T, Iron Man...the possibilities are endless! *There will be prizes for the best-dressed!*

**Class Books:** (if you are purchasing a copy for your child, please note the abridged versions, where relevant)

- **EYFS: *The Way Back Home* by Oliver Jeffers**
- **Year 1: *The Man on the Moon* by Simon Bartram & *Beegu* by Alexis Deacon**
- **Year 2: *Fortunately, the Milk* by Neil Gaiman**
- **Year 3: *Journey to the Centre of the Earth* by Jules Verne (Usborne Young Reading)**
- **Year 4: *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea* by Jules Verne (Oxford Reading Tree TreeTops, Level 16)**
- **Year 5: *The Time Machine* by HG Wells (Real Reads)**
- **Year 6: *A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L'Engle**

### **Parent support**

We are looking to enrich this project with experts in the fields of science-fiction writing/authors, science or maths (with any relevant links to the books above). If you would be able to support us, please contact me by sending an email to [deputyhead@ss-philip-and-james.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:deputyhead@ss-philip-and-james.oxon.sch.uk)

If anyone has any science-fiction books they would like to donate to our school library, we will gladly accept them! Thank you,

*Miss Pape, Deputy Headteacher*



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### **Year 6 Girls: Rugby World Cup**

The girls in Year 6 had a brilliant time this week at the Wychwood Rugby 7s World Cup tournament. They quickly picked up the skills and rules of Rugby 7s with some training from Wasps coaches and then went on to play a tournament in mixed teams with children from other schools. Even though many of our girls had never played rugby before, they all got stuck in straight away and represented Phil & Jim brilliantly. They came away with rugby t-shirts, medals, and special mention to Ramona, who won a trophy - congratulations!



Following her wedding last weekend, Miss Sprague-Davies is now Mrs Hodgkiss. Congratulations from all at Phil & Jim!

## PTA news

### **Christmas cards**

Children will be bringing home templates in their bags before half term, ready to create their own designs for Christmas/holiday/thank you cards. Instructions will follow, and designs will need to be returned on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October (the first day back after half term) ready for scanning and turning into beautiful cards/wrap/gifts for parents and carers to order.

### **Christmas Bazaar**

This is one of the highlights of the P&J calendar - an opportunity for the children to enjoy doing a bit of Christmas shopping of their own in school. The PTA will need lots of little gifts which will be offered for sale at low cost at the Bazaar on Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December. Please keep hold of that bag of soaps, candles, doubles of books/toys/Lego sets ready to donate for this lovely festive event. Thank you!



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### ASC

We are delighted to announce that we will be running a choir club on Tuesdays for Years 3-6. This will run from November 1<sup>st</sup> until December 13<sup>th</sup> at a cost of £8 per session. It will be available to book via Magic Booking from this evening Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> October at 6pm. The club will be run by Miss Shaw who will be assisted by either Miss Bell or Miss Smith and will be in 6P. Collection at 4:15pm will be from 6P's door leading out to the car park.

*Mr. Prew, Extended Services Manager*

### Footsteps

Footsteps is a child pedestrian road safety scheme run by Oxfordshire County Council and aimed at parents and carers. The aim of the **Footsteps** programme is to encourage parents and carers to help prepare their child for the time they will be independent. The programme is simple for parents to use as it can be carried out in normal everyday situations such as walking to school or to the local shops. Please click on [this link](#) for further information and to download your copy of the Footsteps Guide.

### Lost Property reminder

All items remaining in the lost property box next Friday will be disposed of during the half term holiday. Please remember to check the box during the week if your child has any missing items.



### House Point Awards

Congratulations to this week's house cup winners: Herons

**Writers of the Week** - Every week, teachers nominate a Writer of the Week (for outstanding handwriting, creative outcomes or wonderful effort). Our writers of the week are presented with a certificate in celebration assembly each Friday and have their photo displayed on our Hall of Fame! Congratulations to all our writers!



**Y1- Sammy    Y4- Anna**  
**Y2- Yanqi    Y5- Oliver**  
**Y3- Ryaan    Y6- Joleen**

Yours sincerely,

Ms Sarah Awuye,  
Headteacher



| Academic year 2022/ 23 Term dates                |   |
|--|---|
| Start of Autumn Term                             | Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> September                           |
| Half term week                                   | Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> October – 28 <sup>th</sup> October  |
| End of Autumn Term                               | Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December <i>1.30pm finish</i>      |
| INSET (staff training- school closed for pupils) | Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2023                      |
| Start of Spring Term                             | Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2023                       |
| Half term week                                   | Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> February         |
| End of Spring Term                               | Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March <i>1.30pm finish</i>          |
| Start of Summer Term                             | Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> April                               |
| Early May Bank Holiday                           | Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> May                                  |
| Late May Bank Holiday                            | Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> May                                 |
| Half term week                                   | Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> June - Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June |
| INSET (staff training- school closed for pupils) | Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> June                                |
| INSET (staff training- school closed for pupils) | Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> July                                 |
| End of Summer Term                               | Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July <i>1.30pm finish</i>           |

| Autumn Term dates                              |   |
|--|---|
| SEND parent coffee morning                     | Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> October 9.00am-10.00am           |
| Parent Forum with SLT                          | Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> October 5.00pm – 5.30pm         |
| Harvest Festival in Church                     | Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> October <b>2.15pm start</b>     |
| Science-fiction Dress-up Day                   | Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> October                           |
| Science-fiction: English project (4 weeks)     | Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> October                           |
| Parent/teacher meetings                        | Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> November                          |
| Parent/teacher meetings                        | Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November                        |
| Scratch competition begins (details to follow) | Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> November                           |
| Year 6 visit to Kilvrough Manor                | Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> November |
| Anti-bullying week                             | Week beginning 14 <sup>th</sup> November                  |
| Maths Week                                     | Week beginning 14 <sup>th</sup> November                  |
| Childhood Flu Vaccination Programme            | Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> November                         |
| Prayer meeting for parents and staff           | Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> November 9.00am in school       |
| William Shakespeare: English project (2 weeks) | Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> December                           |
| EYFS Nativity                                  | Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> December 9.30am                 |
| Key Stage 1 Nativity                           | Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> December 9.30am                  |
| Christmas Jumper Day for pupils                | Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> December                           |
| Christmas Bazaar 2022                          | Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> December                           |
| Christmas school lunch                         | Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> December                           |
| Parent Forum with SLT                          | Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> December 3.00pm-3.45pm            |
| Key Stage 2 Carol Concert St Margaret's Church | Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December 6.00pm-7.00pm           |
| School Pantomime Trip                          | Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December                       |



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