



Dear all,

After a busy end to the Autumn Term and 2016 as a whole, January tends to be somewhat quieter in school. However, in addition to tying up some loose ends and updates from before Christmas, I would also like to let you know what has already happened so far in 2017 and signpost a number of upcoming events in the Spring Term.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY : ACADEMIC YEAR 2016 – 2017 (see School Website for further dates)

#### SPECIFIC AUTUMN TERM DATES – SPRING TERM

#### 2017 Important dates

##### Term 3

Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> January	Apple Class Sharing Worship
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> January (5-8pm)	School Association Disco
Week beg. 6 <sup>th</sup> February	Internet Safety Week
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> February (am)	Oak Class Gymnastics Display



##### Term 4

Week beg. 27 <sup>th</sup> February	Book Week
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March (pm)	Book Day Sharing Assembly
Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup> / Sat 4 <sup>th</sup> March	Panto (Mother Goose)
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	Ash Class Sharing Worship
Weds 22 <sup>nd</sup> /Thurs 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Parents' Evenings
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Beech Class Sharing Worship
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	School Association Silent Auction
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> April (9.30am)	Easter Church Service
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> April	School Association Dress Down Day



##### Further ahead

Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	KS2 Year 6 SATs
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> June onwards	Year 1 Phonics screening check

- NB: 2017-18 Term dates, including INSET days, have now been finalised and are available on the school website.

#### BEECH BEATS THE BUGS

Attendance in 2016-17 is currently 96.7% which, although down on this point last year, is above the national average (96.1%). There have been a few nasty bugs floating around, but a large number of children have still managed to achieve 100% attendance (or very close to it).

**Remember: House Points are available for any children who achieve 100% attendance for the whole of Term 3 & 4.**

The top two classes for attendance in the Autumn Term were as follows:

Beech : 98.03%

Oak: 97.37%

Well done to Miss Jones and her resilient band in Beech Class who have earned some extra break time!

## Term Two House Attendance:

<b>Buckle: 98.8%</b>	<b>20 points (an amazing effort to have better attendance in Term 2 than Term 1!)</b>
<b>Jersey: 96.6%</b>	<b>15 points</b>
<b>Penrose: 96.4%</b>	<b>10 points</b>
<b>Squire: 96.0%</b>	<b>5 points</b>

## 100% Attendance:

There were 38 pupils who achieved 100% attendance for the whole of the Autumn Term including a whopping 15 pupils from Beech Class (well over half of the children).

**Remember: Even if you have already had a day off this year, you can still earn 100% attendance for the Spring and/or Summer Term.**

## HOUSE SYSTEM



The race for the Term 2 House Cup was certainly close with nearly 1000 points shared between the four houses. In the end, only 20 points separated **Jersey** from **Penrose**, as the yellows improved on their 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish in Term 1. **Penrose** captain Kirsty will be hoping that, having improved from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> in Term 2, the greens can make it to top spot next time around. Alex will be doing his best to ensure that **Squire's** fall from 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> is only a temporary blip, and they have already made a strong start to Term 3. Meanwhile, Charlotte's **Buckle** are on the up, helped by their excellent attendance and are closing in on the leaders.

The Term 2 leaderboard was:

- 1<sup>st</sup>: **Jersey (Jasmine Kirby/Ms Bailey) 278 points**
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: **Penrose (Kirsty Ellacott/Mrs Leonard) 258 points**
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: **Buckle (Charlotte Kavanagh/Mrs Salter) 246 points**
- 4<sup>th</sup>: **Squire (Alex Bell/Miss Gascoigne) 186 points.**

The current Term 3 leaderboard is:

- 1<sup>st</sup>: **Squire (Alex Bell/Miss Gascoigne) 79 points.**
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: **Buckle (Charlotte Kavanagh/Mrs Salter) 77 points**
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: **Penrose (Kirsty Ellacott/Mrs Leonard) 71 points**
- 4<sup>th</sup>: **Jersey (Jasmine Kirby/Ms Bailey) 69 points**

## AWESOME ACHIEVEMENTS

### Gold Certificates:

Our gold certificates, which are awarded for outstanding effort, are given out at the end of each term. Two children were chosen per class and received their certificates before Christmas. Each gold certificate winner earns 5 points for their house. Our chosen few in Term 2 were:

Maple Class: **Albie Floyd & Clemmie Watson**  
Beech Class: **Emily Fuller & Nat Brelsford**  
Ash Class: **Josh Cresswell & Beccy Ellacott**  
Apple Class: **Finn Gauld & Mathilde Porter**  
Oak Class: **Emily Atkins & Jack Evans**



### Headteacher's Awards:

Our ultimate certificate, which is awarded for: outstanding pieces of work; extraordinary effort over a period of time; other reasons where a pupil has performed significantly above expectations. These awards certainly don't come along too often. So far this academic year, three certificates have arrived in the post to the home of the lucky recipients.

Before Christmas, **Phoebe Hutt** (Apple Class) became the first recipient of a headteacher's award. Miss Regan and Miss Gascoigne selected Phoebe for "*being such a marvellous understudy at the Big Christmas Sing. Phoebe rose to the challenge and sang beautifully.*"



At the beginning of this term, I exercised my headteacher's prerogative and picked someone myself! **Zac Powell** (Oak Class) was chosen for being such an independent and reliable collective worship monitor. He always uses his common sense and initiative and never forgets to pass on a message or solve a problem.

Finally, just this week, another certificate has been posted so keep an eye out to see if it lands on your doormat!

## EXCELLING IN ENGLISH

### Amazing Authors

Writing has been celebrated again recently, with our latest Amazing Author certificates for December being awarded. Congratulations to **Elissa White, Oliver Couling, Luke Bowkett, Jessie Ward** and **Charlie Richings** for impressing your teachers with your writing last term. We will be presenting some more Amazing Author awards soon and we look forward to reading more fantastic writing. Look out for the display board in the school hall. (Mrs Salter)



### Regular Readers

Our enthusiastic reading has continued after a very prolific start to the year and six more Reading Raffle draws have been carried out during Friday celebration worship.

Remember: the more tickets, the more chances to win!

Winners since the last newsletter:

December	Manasvi Abhilash	Tyler Nix	Holly McLellan
January	Gus Floyd	Ted Thornton	Toby Richings



Each excited winner has been to my office to choose their prize of a book from the large selection on offer. Thank you to the School Association for funding this initiative.

## SAINSBURY'S ACTIVE KIDS VOUCHERS

If you (or any family or friends) do any of your shopping at Sainsbury's, please help the school by posting the vouchers into the box outside the office. Vouchers are being given out (1 for every £10 spent) until May 2<sup>nd</sup> so there is plenty of time for us to collect a healthy haul. Through this scheme, we will be able to order a wide range of sports and playground equipment; all of which helps to improve the quality of physical learning and release much needed funds within the school budget!

Sainsbury's



## FABULOUS FUNDRAISING

A big thank you to everyone who supported our Christmas jumper day on the last day of term. Through our staff and pupil contributions for wearing their colourful festive knitwear and our collection at church, we raised a fantastic total of £173 to support Save The Children.



Save the Children  
**CHRISTMAS  
JUMPER DAY**



Our school community's generosity was in evidence again at the start of this term, as the School Association encouraged us all to rally round in support of our friends at Bardwell School following the arson attack on their play equipment shed. Our school bakers were out in force, as were the cake lovers to purchase plenty of sweet treats! We raised £152 to be spent on some new equipment, which along with the many other donations of toys and money from the local community, should ensure that Bardwell's resources are even better than before.

Next Wednesday (1<sup>st</sup> February), Evie Thornton and some fellow Brownies will be out and about at the end of the day to raise some money for the British Heart Foundation. Five years ago exactly, Evie's younger brother Ted (Maple Class) required open-heart surgery at only a week old, hence the family wanting to support such a good cause. The fundraising also fits in nicely with the Brownies 'Healthy Heart' badge. Please keep an eye out for the girls and you can either buy a BHF wrist-band or spare some pennies to support their efforts.



## A TASTY JOB VACANCY?

The School Lunch Company are seeking to recruit a Chef Manager for Chesterton Primary School. This position is for Wednesdays only during term time only. The salary is £8.60 per hour for 4.5 hours per day.

Additional hours may be available, as required, in covering in other local schools (mileage paid if applicable).

Enthusiasm essential, experience desirable. Training will be provided. Subject to an enhanced DBS.

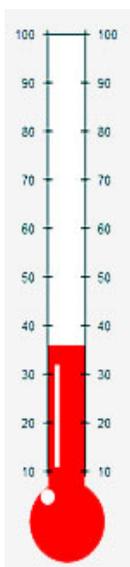
For more details, please contact: **Les Redhead 07825344437**



THE  
**SCHOOL LUNCH**  
COMPANY

## SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

As you can see from their totaliser below, the School Association have been extremely busy with their fundraising towards the goal of providing two more interactive panel screens for Ash and Apple Class. They also continue to fund some of the 'added extras' that the school budget doesn't provide, including subsidising educational visits and buying reading raffle book prizes.



Event	Amount Raised
Film Night	£403.00
Bags for School	£116.00
Christmas Fayre	£1139.99
Cauliflower Cards	£212.10
Andy Reading Fun Run Refreshments	£315.32
<b>Achieved</b>	<b>£2,186.41</b>
<b>Goal</b>	<b>£6,000.00</b>
<b>School Association Totaliser</b>	<b>36%</b>



*The School Association Committee would like to thank everyone for coming to this year's Christmas Fayre. We made a massive*

*£1139.99, which will be added to the Totaliser on the Notice Board next to the School Gate.*

*We would also like to thank the army of volunteers who helped set up, run the stalls on the day, and make mince pies, as without them the fayre would not have been the success it was.*

*We are all very excited about seeing the children at the School Disco this evening! If you haven't yet filled in your ticket request and your child would like to come along, Wednesday is the final deadline for numbers. We cannot accept any entries on the door on the night.*

*We have more exciting events planned so keep an eye out for emails, website updates, Facebook posts, and leaflets in book bags.*

## TRAVEL QUESTIONNAIRE

A huge thank you to everyone who has returned the travel questionnaire. 74% of families have responded which is fantastic. We are particularly grateful to those of you who have provided extra explanation for any of your answers and I can assure you that these are all being read and considered individually. The overall results will be included in the School Travel Plan that needs to form part of the proposals for the expansion of the school.

In the meantime, we will continue to work alongside Thames Valley Police and the Parish Council to mitigate congestion and parking issues at the beginning and end of the school day. However, I was pleased to read that a large number of parents have no issues with arriving at school by car, with many commenting that arriving slightly earlier or parking slightly further away can help make the process a lot smoother.

Please continue to park considerately in the streets surrounding the school, particularly in relation to residents' driveways, white no-parking lines and the yellow zig zags.



## PE & SCHOOL SPORT

You'd be forgiven for thinking that our sportsmen and women would have been in hibernation over the winter, but I can assure you that there has still been plenty going on. Have a look at the table on the next page to see a run-down of the events.

### Silver School Games mark

Back in November, Sports Captains Benjamin Horseman and Inés Piaget-Thompson met Commonwealth Gold Medallist and Olympian Montell Douglas as Chesterton received its Silver School Games Mark at Blessed George Napier School in Banbury. Montell gave a talk about what motivated and inspired her to take up competitive athletics (she was a 100m sprinter), and answered some questions on her life in sport. She told us that her ambition now is to become a Winter Olympian, as she is part of the Team GB bobsleigh training squad!

The School Games Mark recognises our commitment to participation in sporting events and competitions. Congratulations to Miss Gascoigne and thank you to all of our enthusiastic pupils and supportive parents who make it all possible.



### Year 2 Multi-skills

At the end of November, a group of our Year 2 pupils made their way to Bicester Sports Centre with Miss Jones and Miss Mansfield for a fantastic multi-skills event. The children, some who were representing the school for the first time, had a very enjoyable day trying out a number of different activities. The children certainly did themselves and Chesterton proud, coming 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>!

### District Cross-Country

Following their excellent individual performances at the Bicester event, Isabelle Goddard, Anabelle Meek and Inés Piaget-Thompson competed against the cream of North Oxfordshire at Sibford School. On a tricky course against plenty of competitive runners, the girls all did themselves proud (see below for results).

### Andy Reading Fun Run

On a beautiful day in December, lots of athletes from Year 1 to Year 6 turned out to compete in a 1 kilometre fun run at the Bicester Sports Association playing fields in Chesterton. As last year, it was very impressive to see so many pupils from Chesterton competing against athletics club runners. We had a number of great individual performances, with Inés Piaget-Thompson (1<sup>st</sup>) producing a storming run to get the better of two girls who had beaten her in the district event to win in 4 mins 1 second. Jessie Ward (Year 4) finished an impressive 9<sup>th</sup> and Year 1 Olivia Morgan-Griffin came in 13<sup>th</sup>. In the boys' race, Ben (7<sup>th</sup>) won the 'Baxter Battle' by one second from Luke (8<sup>th</sup>) with Benjamin Horseman only 4 more seconds back in 9<sup>th</sup>.



Congratulations to all our pupils and a special mention to our younger runners, who will hopefully be back next year! Unfortunately, there is no photographic evidence of either myself or Mrs Liversidge completing the adult 10k race, but I promise that we did make it to the finish (without St. John Ambulance assistance too!).



### Year 5/6 Sportshall Athletics

Given the cold weather this week, it was a good job that the athletics was of the indoor variety on Wednesday. Our team of 10 Year 5/6s, accompanied by Ms Bailey and Miss Norman, competed at a wide range of indoor athletics events. Comprising of 'field events' (such as speed bounce, target throw and long jump) team obstacle relays, these competitions are hugely exciting.

We are also looking forward to our second 'Chesterton Sportshall Showdown' which is hopefully taking place towards the end of the Spring Term. Mrs Leonard will be hoping to defend the title won by her team at last year's event.

Our hope is that children will enjoy taking part in these events and look to pursue their interest in a local club. If any parents would like information on any community clubs, please ask Miss Gascoigne or myself.

### Recent North Oxfordshire School Sports Partnership Events

Date	Event	Year/s	No. of teams/competitors	No. of Chesterton teams/competitors	Results	Certificate Winners
30 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Bicester Multi-Skills Festival	Year 2	5 teams	3 teams	1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup>	N/A
1 <sup>st</sup> Dec	District Cross Country Final	All years	Approx 60 athletes in each race	3 individual athletes	Isabelle Goddard 19 <sup>th</sup> (Yr 1/2 Girls) Inés Piaget-Thompson 7 <sup>th</sup> (Yr 5/6 Girls)	N/A
25 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Bicester Inclusion Athletics Festival	Year 5/6	10 teams	1 team	1 <sup>st</sup> place team in Speed Bounce 1 <sup>st</sup> place team in Target Throw	Connor Reeve (Passion)

### Chesterton are kitted out!

We were very excited recently when a delivery of new football kit arrived. Through Lyndsey Donaldson, mum of Manny and Joely, Safeguard Secure Systems kindly sponsored a complete kit which will be proudly worn by Chesterton teams for many years to come. Thank you Safeguard!



## CRAFTY CLUBS



The children have been working hard and having fun at some new after-school clubs. **Year 3/4 Sewing club** made their very own Christmas stocking. They did a fantastic job! They all managed to complete their finished products just in time for Christmas. A big thank you to Miss Mansfield for running the club and a thank you to Mrs Leonard, Mrs Whybrow, Mrs Simpson and Miss Jones in supporting the club and the children with their sewing.

At **Craft Club**, Year 5/6 turned their hands to crafty Christmas card making and festive origami with Mrs Thorne.

Year 5/6 and Year 3/4 have also had the opportunity to hone their culinary skills at Smart Raspberry **Cookery Club**. Brand new for 2017, **Atomic Science club** has just got underway for Year 5/6. Watch out throughout the year as new

clubs will start and existing clubs will become open to younger year groups.



## MUSIC AND MORE!



### Big Christmas Sing

On Tuesday 29th November, the school choir joined other primary school singers from across Oxfordshire to perform in the impressive surroundings of Oxford Town Hall. Following an afternoon rehearsal, some children were collected by parents and went for a quick bite to eat, while the remainder of the children made their way to the Wesleyan Memorial Hall for some well-earned refreshments with Miss Regan and Miss Gascoigne.

When the performance began, our children gave an excellent rendition of their song – Ave Maria, which included a wonderful duet from Thomas Grenfell and Phoebe Hutt (who stood in for another pupil at the last minute). The finale included two 'massed choir' songs - Tree Of Light and Good Time Christmas - before the audience joined in with the Twelve Days Of Christmas. All of our choristers – and Mrs Broadhead, who accompanied us on the piano – should be very proud of themselves.



### Chesterton On The Radio

After recording 'Winter Wonderland' and 'The Holly And The Ivy' back in November, the choir waited eagerly to hear their songs played out live during the Radio Oxford breakfast show in the run-up to Christmas.

A huge 'well done' to our talented singers and, of course, to the wonderful Mrs Broadhead who makes it all possible.

BBC RADIO  
OXFORD



## Singing Around The Tree



Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December was definitely a day of festive fun. Not only did we enjoy our school Christmas dinner, but we started the day with the very popular 'Singing Around The Tree'. The children entertained the audience with their full repertoire of songs, the choir reprised their fantastic performance of Ave Maria, we were treated to Phoebe Hutt's piano playing, Gemma Blake gave a clarinet rendition of Cliff Richard (especially for Mrs Liversidge) and our talented violin quartet of Phoebe Hutt, Emma Flintham, Mrs Meaney



and Mrs Hutt.

## Christmas in Church

On Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December, kitted out in Christmas jumpers, we made the short trip to St. Mary's Church for our Christmas service. Our singing, accompanied by Mrs Broadhead on the organ, was interspersed with readings from children in Upper School and an appearance from the Lower School staff. A particular mention to Jessie Ward, Taylor McDonald, Inés Piaget-Thompson and Luke Baxter who beautifully sang the first two verses of Once In Royal David's City.



## The Landlords' Cats

The lead up to Christmas is always 'performance season' in a primary school and it was no different this year at Chesterton. Parents and families enjoyed two performances of Lower School's 'The Landlords' Cats', which told the story of the first Christmas from a different 'purrerspective' (sorry!). It was lovely to see so many confident actors and singers and I'd like to give a special mention to Ollie Kirby and Josh Cresswell who took on extra lines at the last minute to fill in for absent co-stars. These productions require a lot of hard work – from teachers, teaching assistants, pupils and parents – but I hope that you agree that the results were well worth the effort.



## **AND FINALLY...**

*As a few spring bulbs start to risk appearing above ground and we start anticipating lighter mornings and evenings, there are lots of events coming up at Chesterton. With Book Week, educational visits, class worships, the pantomime and lots, lots more, I'd better not leave it too long before I write another newsletter!*

*Thank you as always for your support and I look forward to seeing you in school soon.*

**Best wishes, Mr. I. Horner – Headteacher**



**Our beautiful school grounds on a frosty winter's morning**

**This newsletter will also be available on the school website:**

**[www.chestertonprimaryschool.org.uk](http://www.chestertonprimaryschool.org.uk)**