Kirtlington C.E. School

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School value: Aspiration
Christian value: Hope

10th December 2021

Dear Parents,

Since my last newsletter, we have had a fun-packed two weeks of learning and enjoyment. We have faced a few challenges along the way, but school has continued to operate with the fantastic support from all parents, carers, children and staff.

Christmas Carol Concert

After receiving pleas from parents, myself and the team have come together to organise an outdoor carol concert. We hope to perform to you in the playground on Wednesday 15th December at 2.30pm. Rowan class will sing a couple of songs from their nativity and Willow and Oak Class will sing carols. Please ensure your child(ren) have warm coats, hats and gloves. We will still record the full nativity and carol concert, so that you are able to view in the comfort of your own homes.

Christmas Fayre

Due to possible cases of Covid-19 (PCR results awaiting), we have decided to postpone the Christmas fayre. After lengthy discussions with KSF and the staff, we have decided to hold the Christmas fayre on the last day of term at 1.30pm. The Winter Wonderland family light trial and café will now take place on 7th January which will help to bust those January blues! We hope you understand our reasons for these decisions.

Rowan class museum visit

Children in Rowan class enjoyed a trip to the Oxford Museum of Natural History. The children were very knowledgeable about dinosaurs, but now they are officially experts. All children thoroughly enjoyed the visit and came back to school full of interesting facts!

SCHOOL GAMES GOLD 2018/19

OUTSTANDING
OXFORD DIOCESAN BOARD OF EDUCATION

Ofsted Good Provider

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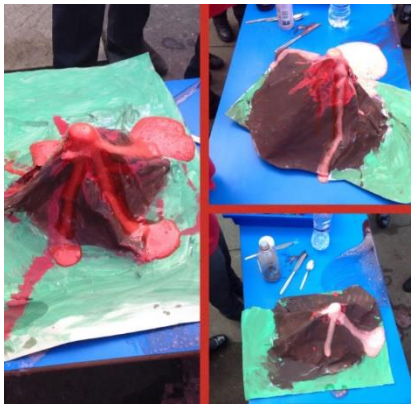
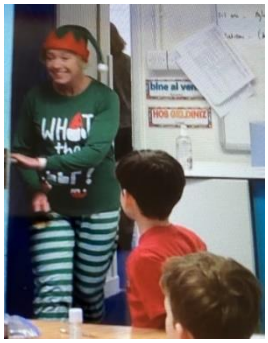
OXFORDSHIRE TEACHING SCHOOLS ALLIANCE

Volcanoes come alive with Willow class!
Willow class have been learning about different rock types and soils this term. Last week, they got to create their own volcanoes and watch them erupt using vinegar and bicarbonate of soda! What a great combination of science and geography!



A visit from an Elf Inspires writing in Oak class!

Children in Oak Class had a special visit from a Christmas elf. Unfortunately Mr. P. could not come up with any good questions for the elf so the children made up their own (more interesting questions). They then used those questions to 'hot-seat' the character 'Scrooge' from A Christmas Carol.



Pantomime - *Hiss! Boo! Hooray!*

We all had great fun at the Oxford Playhouse pantomime watching Robin Hood. The children's behaviour was impeccable, and they were an absolute credit to the school.

Christmas Jumper Day
Thank you to all who wore their beautiful, festive, Christmas jumpers today. We were glad for the warmth as the temperatures dipped today. All proceeds will go to 'Save the children'.

Music Lessons
Flute lessons will commence in Oak class every Wednesday 2.15 -2.55pm beginning on 5th January. Please bring your flute to school if you still have it at home.

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New Year staff changes
I am very sad to announce that Mr. Cole will leaving us at the end of this term. Mr Cole has been a wonderful support in Willow class and to some children individually. He has been offered a new position where he will begin teacher training and sports coaching. The staff and the children will miss him, but we wish him every success in his new career. Mr Cole has promised to come back and do some sports coaching with the school. We are currently advertising for a teaching assistant in Rowan class and in Willow class. Please check our school website for the details. https://kirtlington.oxon.sch.uk/our-school/staff-vacancies/

In January Mrs Vincent will reduce her hours to two days per week (Thurs/Fri) and Mrs Saville will work three days per week (Mon-Weds). Mrs Meager will continue as class TA. Mrs Meager and Mrs Langrish will teach in Oak class on Tuesday mornings 8.40-11am.

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Druce to the school to teach in Rowan class on Tuesday afternoons. Mrs Druce has many years teaching experience particularly in early years and key stage one. I have worked with her for a number of years in my previous school and highly recommend her!

Governor News - Parent Governor Recruitment
In the New Year we will be looking to appoint a 2nd parent governor to the governing board. Please take a look at the role description on the Governors page on the school website (https://kirtlington.oxon.sch.uk/our-school/governors/) and have a think over the holidays about whether you would be interested in putting yourself forward. The current Parent Governor is Zoe Cumming (parent of Rowan Beesley in Year 6). Please feel free to contact her for an informal chat about the role and to ask any questions you may have – zoe.cumming@kirtlington.oxon.sch.uk.

We also have 3 other vacancies for foundation governors, so if you can think of anyone in the local community who you think would make a great school governor, please give them a nudge too!

Breakfast club and After School Club - Questionnaire
High Flyers are currently exploring the potential to offer shorter afternoon sessions alongside the full session, as well as running on a Monday. Please could you fill in the attached questionnaire and return it to them if this would be of interest.

New Facebook Page Reminder
Keep liking and sharing so that we can continue share the good news and achievements from our wonderful children and school. https://www.facebook.com/Kirtlington-CE-Primary-School-103702855403042/

Free School meals
Should your circumstances change over the next few weeks or months, please see this link for further support. http://schools.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/free-school-meals

Dates and reminders

15th December 2021: Flu Vaccinations
15th December 2021: Outdoor Carol Service 2.30pm
17th December 2021: Rescheduled Christmas Fayre 1.30 – 3pm
17th December 2021: End of term 1.30pm
5th January 2022: School term starts
7th January 2022: Winter Wonderland Light Trail and Café
11th January 2022: Chance to Shine Cricket Day (all classes) PE Kits should be worn to school.
26th January 2022: Fresh Water Habitats Trust Workshop (KS2)

You can find more diary dates on our school website.

Finally, I would like to say how delighted I am to have been offered the permanent headship at Kirtlington. I thoroughly enjoy being part of a wonderful team with supportive children, parents, governors and wider community. I am very excited about the future for the school.

I hope we all get through the last week of term without any new challenges! I wish you and your families a peaceful, relaxing and happy Christmas.

Joy Baker
Headteacher