



Kirtlington
C.E. School

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School Christian Value: Love

22nd September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the first newsletter of a new School Year.

Firstly, both Mrs Slater and I would like to thank you all for making us feel so welcome since the start of term. It has been wonderful to meet so many of you, and we're really looking forward to working with you. Your children have settled well into their new classes, and already we're impressed with their learning attitudes.

Rowan Class is buzzing with enthusiasm, and Mrs Brinkworth & Mrs Evans have worked alongside Miss Grocutt to ensure that the addition of Nursery to the school has gone incredibly smoothly. It's been such a pleasure to see the children settle in, and already the progress they are making is visible.

The children of Lime Class know each other well from last year but have also enjoyed the opportunity to welcome new friends. Already they have learned class routines, and I really enjoy hearing their excitement during Phonics sessions.

It is a real pleasure to have Mrs Langrish and Mrs Meager teaching Willow Class, and also to welcome Mrs Buckle. The children in Willow Class are keen to share their learning about Beowulf, and have told us a lot about the heroes and heroines they are planning.

Oak Class have enjoyed welcoming Mrs Clark to Kirtlington School, and have already stepped up in terms of taking responsibility. The Year 6 children have started as buddies for Rowan Class, and are loving showing them the ropes. We can't wait to see what they achieve this year!

With so much happening this term and with so many things to look forward to, we will update you via the School Newsletters, but do remember to look at the school Facebook page as well, to see what the classes have been up to.

We look forward to meeting you all as the term progresses, and please don't hesitate to contact us via the Office if you have any questions.

Paul Atkins

Rowan Class Update

Children in Rowan Class have had a wonderful first few weeks of school. They are settling in well and having fun. This week we have been busy learning about our school community, we went for a walk around school to meet the teachers and other adults who help make school a wonderful place. We have also enjoyed playing our new 'dream drum' and exploring the sounds it makes.



Lime Class Update

Lime Class have made a great start to the new academic year and in the new classroom. For our topic, we have looked at historically significant individuals who lived locally such as Winston Churchill, Stephen Hawking, William Turner and William Shakespeare. Then we sorted historically significant individuals into the following categories; Activist, Artist, Explorer, Monarch and Scientist. We decided that Rosa Parks was an activist, Vincent Van Gogh an artist and Christopher Columbus an explorer.

In RE, we have been learning about Hinduism. We learnt that most Hindus believe in one supreme God, called Brahman, who is in everything and is everywhere. However, they can worship different gods and goddesses as they all represent different aspects of Brahman. We made clay objects to show that different things can be made out of the same material and see that Brahman (God) can be in everything. We also coloured images of the gods and goddesses for our classroom display.



Willow Class Update



Willow Class have had a fantastic start to the term. The children are really enjoying learning about Anglo Saxons and this week we've been finding out about the Anglo Saxon invasion. They've had a lot of fun designing a shield and are really loving reading Beowulf- they are desperate to come back next week to hear the next installment!

We've also been testing out our times tables recall on TTRS.



Oak Class Update

Oak Class have had a marvellous start to term! We have particularly enjoyed our time at Forest School where we have worked together to build dens. In class, we have written our own autobiographies and are in the process of publishing them with photos and a front cover. Our new topic has been really interesting so far, learning all about Africa today and the history of Africa.



KSF AGM – Tuesday 3rd October – 8pm

Kirtlington School Friends (KSF) do a fantastic job fundraising for our school. We strongly encourage you to attend if you can, and to consider whether you might be able to help in some way this year. Whether that is as part of the committee, helping at events or suggesting ideas. Hannah Cole is stepping down as Chair of KSF this year and we are so grateful for all of her work over the last 5 years. If you feel you might be able to take on the role or share it in some way, please do talk to the committee. KSF are also looking to fill the secretary role.

Blenheim Christmas Mouse Competition

Blenheim Palace are inviting children to take part in their exciting new Christmas competition, 'Design a Blenheim Christmas Mouse Costume', running from this Friday 15th September until Monday 2nd October. Children are invited to design their own special Christmas themed costume for one of the little mice models who appear in the Palace over the Christmas season. The winner's design will be handmade into a perfectly crafted model by award-winning TV and film prop maker Clare Elliot (who has made models for Postman Pat, Wind in the Willows, Mars Attacks! and more) and they will also receive a bundle of other fantastic prizes as well to find out more, visit their website at <https://www.blenheimpalace.com/whats-on/events/christmas/christmas-competition/>.

Message from St. Mary's Church and Rise and Shine Cafe

Rise and Shine intergenerational cafe started again on Wednesday 6th September in Kirtlington Church. All ages are very welcome; as well as coffee, tea and home-made cakes there are healthy snacks for pre-schoolers, plus toys, activities, and a craft, a short storytime and some singing. 9.15 to 10.45 every Wednesday in term-time, free, though people are invited to contribute towards their coffee. This is a really good opportunity to meet other carers of young children in a very relaxed environment. For enquiries contact Joanna on joannaclifford.akeman@gmail.com.

High Flyers - news from the team

We are thrilled to welcome back all our young High Flyers! The children have been absolutely fantastic! They've settled in wonderfully, playing and having fun with their friends. The High Flyers team - Cheryl, Sandy & Niccie - have been working diligently to ensure every child feels settled and enjoys their time. You can book through our website: <https://www.highflyers.org.uk> or on our booking platform: <https://highflyersoxfordlimited.ipalbookings.com/>.

Parking reminder

Please avoid parking outside the school when dropping off and picking up. The road is extremely busy at this time of day – try to use the Village Hall car park and walk up to school.

Change of footwear

Please remember that children should have a pair of trainers and a pair of welly boots in school for use during outdoor play. On PE days, they should come in their school shoes and will change into trainers when they do PE.

Dates and reminders

Fri 29 th Sep	Harvest Service at St Mary's Church – 2:15pm
Tues 3 rd Oct	KSF AGM – School Hall – 8:00pm
Weds 4 th Oct	Flu vaccinations for Reception – Year 6
Mon 9 th Oct	Parents' Evening (Rowan, Lime & Willow Classes) 5pm – 7pm
Weds 11 th Oct	Parents' Evening (Rowan, Lime, Willow & Oak Classes) 3:30pm – 5:30pm (Oak Class 3:30pm – 6:00pm)
Weds 18 th Oct	Year 3 Multi Skills Festival at The Marlborough School
Fri 20 th Oct	INSET Day – school closed

23rd – 27th Oct **Half term**

Mon 6 th Nov	Individual School Photos
Weds 8 th Nov	U9 and U11 Cross Country at The Marlborough School
Thurs 9 th Nov	Willow Class Anglo Saxon Workshop
20 th – 24 th Nov	Road Safety Week
Tues 12 th Dec	School Carol Concert at St Mary's Church – 6:00pm
Tues 19 th Dec	iRock Concert – 9:30am

Weds 20th Dec **End of Autumn Term**

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>

Safeguarding

We have been made aware of two incidents in recent weeks where children playing in parks in nearby villages have been approached by a stranger in a car. Next week we will be reminding KS2 children about "Stranger Danger", and wanted to make you aware, so that you can reinforce these messages at home.

If you have urgent concerns about a child, please call 999. For other concerns, please contact the MASH team on 0345 050 7666

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/business/informationproviders/multi-agency-safeguarding-hub>

We hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Slater and Mr Atkins

Mrs Grace Slater and Mr Paul Atkins
Interim Co-Headteachers